

and work. Laura Pearson is one of these individuals.

Laura has represented Ward 7 of the City of Riverside for 14 years and has faithfully represented her constituents who live in both rural residential and contemporary neighborhoods. Her ability to see all sides of an issue have enabled her to be an effective councilmember.

Laura served as the Chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee, Vice Chair for the Development Committee and as a member of the Utility Services/Land Use/Energy Development Committee. At the regional level, Laura served on the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency Board, City/County Animal Control Advisory Committee, Regional Water Quality Board and the Model Deaf Community Task Force.

In 1998, a former Riverside City employee broke into the Riverside City Council Chamber during a meeting and seriously injured several people including Laura. Despite this incident, Laura persevered and continued public service. Her courage and devotion demand our deepest respect and gratitude.

Laura is newly and happily married to Bill Densmore, a County Veterans' Service Officer and a City of Riverside Planning Commissioner. She is also a proud mother and grandmother.

Laura's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Riverside, California. She has been the heart and soul of many community initiatives and I am proud to call her a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for her service and salute her as she retires.

HONORING 2003 EAGLE SCOUTS FROM THE 5TH DISTRICT OF TEXAS

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the privilege of honoring the 2003 Eagle Scout recipients from the Fifth Congressional District of Texas. As a Congressman and an Eagle Scout myself, I would like to recognize the tremendous achievement of these young men and commend them for their hard work and dedication.

Of the millions of young men who join the Boy Scouts, only four percent achieve the highest rank of Eagle Scout. This rigorous program demands excellence in many areas and tests the Scout's commitment and strength of character.

Eagles Scouts personify the qualities of trustworthiness, loyalty, helpfulness, friendliness, courtesy, kindness, obedience, cheerfulness, thrift, bravery, cleanliness and reverence. By earning the rank of Eagle Scout, these young men join a distinguished group of outstanding Americans including former U.S. Presidents, astronauts, and Pulitzer Prize winners.

America's youth are the leaders of tomorrow. I commend these Boy Scouts for providing excellent examples of leadership, citizenship, and service to their communities and their peers.

I would like to extend my most sincere congratulations to the following recipients of the Eagle Scout Award. Their valuable contributions to society will no doubt continue as they continue their journey through life.

Andrew Ryan Holman—Troop 103

Cory Lynn Smith—Troop 391

Christopher William Jennings Bryan—Troop 890

Spencer Douglas Adams—Troop 890

Jonathan Dylan Shields—Troop 138

William Lawrence Love—Troop 64

Joshua Douglas Hughes—Troop 125

Cameron Blevins O'Bannon—Troop 861

Zachary Stephen Taylor—Troop 856

Michael Edward Flusche, Jr.—Troop 865

Randall Charles Roysdon, Jr.—Troop 339

Jonathan Kerry Van Zant—Troop 535

Wesley James Mullins—Troop 435

Graham Andrew Orr—Troop 435

Jordan Whitney Ashford—Troop 852

Jonathan Daniel Martin—Troop 856

Marshall Glyn Holland, Jr.—Troop 792

Sunray Roper Spinks—Troop 107

Eric P. Mendershausen—Troop 636

Caleb Peter Holzapfel—Troop 437

Joel Andrew Fletcher—Troop 890

Christopher Robert Darling—Troop 138

Brandon Kent Parsons—Troop 856

Curtis J. Aanerud—Troop 792

Jared Asher Forbus—Troop 730

Daniel Joseph Hale—Troop 865

Reagan Lewis Loggins—Troop 744

Matthew Glenn Higgins—Troop 744

Christopher G. Plummer—Troop 744

Alexander P. Jarrard—Troop 890

Mitchell Jacob George—Troop 890

Andrew M. Diaz—Troop 709

Jared Nathaniel Wilson—Troop 852

Eric Randall Johnson—Troop 890

Phillip Rowe Vorkoper—Troop 709

Troy Aleo Thompson—Troop 333

Chad Jacob Kriskche—Troop 707

Brandon Casey Hall—Troop 707

Andrew Jedidiah Floyd—Troop 138

Eric Bruce Swanfeldt—Troop 647

Ryan Lemuel Johnson—Troop 890

Kyle Pierpont Johnson—Troop 890

Michael Collin Zreet—Troop 890

Travis Eugene Hughes—Troop 647

Jonathan Collins Lloyd—Troop 343

Darren Leland Butler—Troop 798

Robert Alexander Harrell—Troop 890

Thomas Nicodemus Wilder—Troop 719

Wilson Rowden Steely—Troop 473

Jason Howard Hensley—Troop 543

Michael Curtis O'Rear—Troop 856

Rory August Gerken—Troop 70

Jeffrey David Nicholson—Troop 779

Michael Jones—Troop 33

Justin Minor Bosque—Troop 744

Ryan Keith Barley—Troop 707

Grant Richard Reddy—Troop 707

Scott Evans Holtzman, Jr.—Troop 890

Ryan James Koch—Troop 890

Lane Christopher Avery—Troop 852

Richard Baker Batten—Troop 707

HONORING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER AARON WEAVER

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a recently fallen soldier, Chief War-

rant Officer Aaron Weaver. Aaron was a member of the Army's 82nd Airborne Division and was stationed in Iraq.

A little over two weeks ago, Aaron got on board a Black Hawk medevac helicopter to go to Baghdad for a routine medical check up. Aaron had recently undergone a serious bout with cancer and critical surgery. In fact, he could have remained in the states while the doctors continued to monitor his progress.

Instead, Aaron volunteered for Iraq and requested and received the medical waiver necessary to deploy. He wanted to join his younger brother, Ryan and his comrades. He heard the call of duty and he answered it.

His brother, Ryan, was also stationed in Iraq. Ryan and Aaron had plans to meet when Aaron was to arrive in Baghdad, but that moment never happened. The medevac that Aaron was traveling in was shot down by enemy fire and all nine soldiers, including Aaron, were killed.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and his one year old daughter, Savannah.

Aaron, already a decorated war hero who fought in the streets of Mogadishu in 1993 to rescue his friends after their Black Hawk had been shot down, set the highest example of someone who is willing to risk their own life to save others.

His dedication to his country and fellow soldiers represents his tremendous sense of loyalty and selflessness. Aaron Weaver is a true American hero. Aaron will never be forgotten by his family, friends or the country he fought for.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR JOHN L. WINTERSTELLA IN APPRECIATION OF A LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF MONMOUTH AND MANASQUAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I have the opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual, John L. Winterstella, for a remarkable career of public service. Throughout his life, Mayor Winterstella has devoted himself to working for the people of his community, through serving not only as an elected official, but participating on a wide variety of boards and charities.

Mr. Winterstella began his career in the early 1970's working with the Environmental Commission and the Planning Board in the borough of Manasquan, the latter of which he continues to tirelessly serve. He was elected as a Manasquan councilman from 1977 through 1981, and was subsequently elected Mayor of the borough in 1984.

During his tenure as Mayor, John Winterstella has served on the Monmouth Community Development Block Grant Committee from 1984 until the present, served as the Commissioner on the Sewage Authority from 1990 to 1999, and also served on the Executive Board of the New Jersey League of Municipalities from 1990 to 1998. The Mayor served as President of that League from 1997-1998, and was enshrined in the League's Hall of Fame in the year 2000. In addition to keeping his busy schedule, Mayor

Winterstella has testified before the Senate and Congress on the topic of clean air and water reform, subjects close to his heart.

A career such as this merits strong praise, so Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my dearest gratitude to Mayor Winterstella for his indelible service to the people of Monmouth County and the borough of Manasquan. In addition, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a personal friend for a storied career that has positively shaped the lives of all people whom he has served.

HONORING SY AND ESTELLE
OPPER

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a couple with a truly outstanding history of community service and philanthropy. From their modest upbringing to the present day, Sy and Estelle Oppers have always been generous with their time and resources and giving with their heart. Sy and Estelle have come to embody the best qualities of community service and citizenship. As their friends, family and many admirers gather for the Shalom School Lighting the Way Gala in honor of their wonderful contributions to the Jewish community, I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting one of Sacramento's most respected couples, Sy and Estelle Oppers.

Sy and Estelle Oppers are lifelong Sacramento residents who were raised with great family support and strong family values. Sy and Estelle were both encouraged by their loved ones to lend a helping hand to those who are in need. In the years after, Sy and Estelle have worked hard to transform this valuable lesson from childhood into a lifelong commitment to improve the lives of those who are less fortunate. Perhaps, more importantly, Sy and Estelle have passed the important values that they learned from their respective families to their four children and seven grandchildren. The people of the Capital Region should take great comfort in knowing that the Oppers' trademark spirit of philanthropy and sense of humanity will continue to bless us for generations to come.

In 1946, Sy Oppers opened five plumbing stores, Harold's Plumbing Supply. The last of this successful chain of plumbing stores would remain open until 2000. In spite of the considerable time commitment that is required to run a successful business, the Oppers never allowed their busy schedules to interfere with their resolute dedication to community service.

Throughout the years, Estelle Oppers has been active in a number of Jewish organizations including: Hadassah, TDX, Sisterhood, Jewish Family Service and the Grandparents Club at Shalom School. In addition, Estelle has also lent her name and efforts to help fundraise for Cancer research, the Breast Cancer fund of San Francisco and the River Oaks Center for Children, a multi-service behavioral healthcare agency for abused children and their families.

As for Sy Oppers, he has served as president of the board for many Jewish organizations such as the Jewish Federation and B'nei Israel Congregation. Much like Estelle, Sy has

also been active in a number of fundraising efforts. Sy played an instrumental role in the construction of the Washington Neighborhood Center of Sacramento, a place that provides after school programs such as free tutoring, computer workshops, dance classes and fine arts programs for at risk children and teens. Currently, Sy serves as on the board of The Trust Fund for Jewish Elderly and on the Jewish Family Service Board.

Together, Sy and Estelle Oppers have supported a number of important causes. Locally, Sy and Estelle have long been strong supporters of the regional theaters. Sy and Estelle were major donors and participants in the purchase of the property and building for the Jewish Foundation, where the area's only Jewish Day School, Shalom School, is located. On a national level, in addition to being long time members of AIPAC, the Oppers have been closely involved with the fundraising efforts for City of Hope National Medical Center, a place that provides essential help to millions of people facing life-threatening diseases. The goodwill of the Oppers extends well beyond the boundaries of the United States. Over the years, Sy and Estelle Oppers have participated in a number of missions to Israel.

Mr. Speaker, as Sy and Estelle Oppers' friends and family gather to celebrate and pay tribute to their wonderful legacy of community service I am honored to pay tribute to two of Sacramento's most honorable citizens. The Oppers' continuous philanthropy is a true testament to the spirit of giving and helping those who are in need. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing Sy and Estelle Oppers continued happiness and success in all their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO CHUCK BEATY,
RIVERSIDE CITY COUNCIL

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

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

Chuck Beaty's career has been dedicated to education and community service. In 1961, Chuck received his B.S. in Education from the University of Kansas. While he was working towards his Master's in History and Political Science, at the University of Missouri, he taught American History and Literature at a local junior high school. After receiving his M.A. in 1965, Chuck became a high school social studies department chairman and teacher for 3 years.

In 1984, Chuck became Riverside's Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services and was responsible for several department managers. He was promoted to Deputy Superintendent 2 years later and was the District representative to Riverside's Task Force 2000. During this time he also served as the Acting Superintendent and was responsible for the

administration of a 31,000 person ADA school district.

After serving in the educational field for 32 years, Chuck was elected to represent Ward I of the City of Riverside. He retires after a decade of leadership and service to the community of Riverside. He is also a member of the American Historical Society, the Association of California School Administrators, the Riverside Association of School Managers, and the Social Studies Supervisors Association. One of his true passions in Riverside has been for the Evergreen Cemetery.

In 1998, a former Riverside City employee broke into the Riverside City Council Chamber during a meeting and seriously injured several people including Chuck. Despite this incident, Chuck persevered and continued public service. His courage and devotion demand our deepest respect and gratitude.

Chuck's tireless passion for education and community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Riverside, California. Chuck has been the heart and soul of many educational institutions and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he retires.

RECOGNIZING THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE NUCOR STEEL BAR MILL

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, as a former businessman, I can attest that one of the most important issues facing business today is how to remain profitable, productive, and efficient—while at the same time protecting the environment.

Many people would have us believe this is an "either-or" proposition. But I disagree. I believe strongly that many companies, large and small, are committed to preserving our natural resources. And recently, I had the opportunity to visit one, and see first-hand how it is successfully pursuing a strategy of operational and environmental excellence.

The Nucor Steel Bar Mill plant, located within my District in Jewett, Texas, is undertaking a modernization program that, when completed next year, will make it perhaps the most sophisticated facility in the industry. This three-phase, \$250 million initiative began in 1999, and includes new equipment, new technologies, and a new melt shop. It will improve the facility's operations at every level, and solidify Nucor's status as a world-class company. In the end, it will have a total annual economic impact on Texas of more than \$460 million.

But what is especially interesting about this modernization is that it will enable the plant to produce more steel and be more profitable, yet still provide even greater environmental protection. Specifically, Nucor-Jewett will increase its capacity from the current 750,000 tons of recycled steel per year to 1 million, and it will achieve that growth through the installation of pollution control equipment that actually supports rather than hinders the mill's prosperity.