

Mr. Speaker, Professor Turner has given back to his community four-fold. His vivid memories of the early days of UCR, the joys of building a new university, seeing it grow and become a formidable institution, and recruiting faculty members, some of who are still on the faculty, serve to give us a foundation by which we may judge the progress of our community and future generations.

Professor Turner has been and continues to be a shining example of a person with passion and principles, who has strived to improve the cultural and political direction of our nation. We have a vast system of public higher education in this country; a network of great state universities and colleges. Today we enjoy academic excellence in America as it is enjoyed nowhere else in the world. Professor Turner is one of those responsible for that part of America's incredible educational experiment known as UCR.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, today, Congress comes together to honor those veterans who selflessly made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. More than 42 million people have served the United States in war, and more than 1 million have died in battle or service. This moment of silence is a tribute to them, but does not fully express our gratitude for their bravery and sacrifices.

Next weekend, the National World War II Memorial will officially open. More than 16 million Americans served in the Armed Forces during World War II, and more than 400,000 died. The memorial will stand as a reminder of the commitment, bravery, and sacrifice of those who died, and those who survived.

At the same time, today, more than 100,000 service members are risking their lives in the dangerous operations taking place in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere. The daily and vivid reminders of their courage provide a window into the sacrifices of the past. These reminders should harden our resolve to work for a peaceful future in a just world.

Veterans have continuously defended our democracy and renewed America's promise through their efforts. No service to our nation comes with more peril or is more deserving of our gratitude. With our silence we pay them tribute. With our actions we can begin to repay our debt.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, each year, Memorial Day gives us the opportunity to honor the brave men and women who have so selflessly stood in harm's way to protect the fundamental freedoms of our great nation. Our soldiers have made so many sac-

rifices from the Revolutionary War, to the World Wars, to the modern day engagement in Iraq. All of our military personnel deserve our utmost respect, gratitude and care. The great sacrifices that they have made must not be forgotten.

Army Spc. Kyle A. Griffin of Emerson, New Jersey, is one such brave soldier whose sacrifice we must recognize. He laid down his very own life for liberty fighting in Iraq this past year, while defending the very freedoms and rights Americans enjoy today. He did not die in vain, but with a very noble mission in mind—to protect our nation and our citizens against those who wish to see us fail. We must always remember the valiant efforts of Spc. Griffin and continue to pay tribute to all soldiers who have paid the ultimate price.

In 1868 Major General John A. Logan established a "Decoration Day" on May 30 as a day of remembrance for the dead of the Civil War. General Logan ordered his posts to decorate the local cemeteries "with the choicest flowers of springtime" to honor the thousands killed during those four terrible years.

General Logan's original Decoration Day proclamation called us to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice, "We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance . . . Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic."

However, the remembrance and dedication General Logan meant to preserve through Decoration Day, seems to have gotten lost over the many years. A recent Gallup poll found that just 28% of Americans are able to explain why we celebrate our modern day version of Decoration Day—Memorial Day.

We may sometimes take for granted the many liberties we enjoy in America, but they have all been earned through the sacrifice paid by so many of the members of our armed forces. Many soldiers have died for our liberty and prosperity. They acted with patriotism and commitment to their country. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

I urge you to take this charge to heart and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country by stopping what you are doing at 3:00 p.m. on Memorial Day to participate in the National Moment of Remembrance. Consider what the world might look like if not for the service of generations of Americans in uniform. Take a moment to remember those who gave their lives, so that you may have freedom. But, don't just stop there.

Take time throughout the rest of the year to reach out to the members of our armed services who are fighting freedom's newest enemies. While we take this day to honor those who have given so much for our freedom in the past, our thoughts should also be drawn on a daily basis to the brave men and women of our armed services who are fighting for the cause of freedom and democracy around the globe today. Tell them that the citizens of our state and nation are grateful for their service, and thank them and their families for the daily sacrifices that allow them to serve.

We must always remember our fallen soldiers, our veterans and our military currently serving as we celebrate Memorial Day. They deserve the highest praise of all.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD BEDAL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard W. Bedal, a dedicated member of the Santa Cruz community, upon his retirement. Beginning his commitment to public service in 1970 as a Legal Clerk in the Superior Court Clerk's Office, Mr. Bedal has continued to serve the county of Santa Cruz for over 30 years. Mr. Bedal will be enjoying his retirement in the company of his family and wife, Martha.

In 1975, Mr. Bedal became a Judge Pro Tem in the Small Claims and Traffic Court before accepting the position of Assistant County Clerk in 1976. After spending 6 years supervising the Superior Court Clerk's Office, Mr. Bedal was elected in 1982 and then re-elected in 1986 and 1990 to the position of County Clerk-Recorder for the County of Santa Cruz. His public service took a new turn in 1994 when he was elected to the consolidated office of County Clerk-Recorder and Treasurer-Tax Collector, continuing to serve in this office until his retirement this year. Though a well deserved retirement, Mr. Bedal's long dedication to the county of Santa Cruz will be missed.

In addition to serving the county of Santa Cruz, Mr. Bedal also has been the President of the California Association of County-Treasurers-Tax Collectors, President of the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Cruz, President of the County Recorders' Association of California, and President of the Santa Cruz County Employee's Credit Union throughout his many years of service to his community. An avid biker, Mr. Bedal has also completed the California AIDS ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles and once even biked from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara to visit his daughter.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize Mr. Richard W. Bedal's accomplishments and contributions to our community. I am immensely grateful for his dedication and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF SYBILLE IRWIN

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional teacher at Bella Vista High School, in Fair Oaks, California. Sybille Irwin, after 32 years of dedicated service, has been chosen as the Fair Oaks Teacher of the Year.

Sybille Irwin is a German teacher who has single-handedly managed the German Program at Bella Vista High School. All German classes, German 1 through Honors German 5 are taught by Ms. Irwin. Her classes are rigorous and her standards are high. At the same time, she creates a classroom atmosphere of friendliness and fun. Over the years, her creativity, her organization and her passion for the language have resulted in many cultural events including the annual Oktoberfest celebration for the entire Fair Oaks community. She has organized trips to Germany

for her students as well as invited German students to spend the year in Fair Oaks. Sybille is advisor of two clubs and opens her classroom and her heart to students who need help.

Her colleagues and students consider Sybille as the ultimate professional educator. She is always willing to take on challenges and risks to help the school and her students. She is always willing to "wear another hat" when needed. She has been the WASC (School Accreditation) Coordinator, a Department Chair, a master teacher for student teachers and a district Site Leader. Additionally, when staffing needs dictated, she has taught French and English to help the master school schedule. She has always encouraged collaboration with colleagues from all departments and is consistently on the cutting edge of new techniques in teaching. For example, she was responsible for the initial introduction of portfolios and rubrics in the Bella Vista Foreign Language department before they became routine.

I am honored to recognize an individual who has committed her life to the enhancement, enrichment and education of our youth. Through her efforts, her professional expertise and her striking and energetic personality, Bella Vista has managed to maintain a thriving German program of which we are very proud. Please join me in congratulating Sybille Irwin for being named the 2004 Fair Oaks Teacher of the Year.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I join my fellow colleagues in recognizing the extraordinary contributions of our men and women in uniform who have lost their lives while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

As Memorial Day approaches, Americans are reminded of the sacrifices made by all our military service members. These courageous individuals spread the seeds of democracy to oppressed nations around the globe, helping protect and preserve the freedoms we all cherish. There's no question, our world is a safer place today because of their valiant efforts.

Today, another generation of American service members is fighting for peace and stability in the Middle East. Although they have seen great peril, these individuals, like their predecessors, continue to root out evil and terror wherever it hides. They bring honor and dignity to their mission, and they continue to make all Americans proud.

Mr. Speaker, many Americans have lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan—some of which were my constituents—Private First Class Nichole Frye, Staff Sergeant Warren Hansen, Private First Class Ryan Jerabek and Corporal Jesse Thiry. Their sacrifice is a stern reminder to us all that peace comes at a heavy price, and America will not soon forget their contributions to freedom. It is with solemn honor that I, along with the citizens of Wisconsin's 8th Congressional District, recognize today the efforts of our fallen warriors.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR L. LITTLEWORTH

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of our Nation's and California's eminent civic leaders and authority on water law. On May 27th, Arthur L. Littleworth was presented with the Frank Miller Civic Achievement Award for his contributions to the community. This annual award, given by the Mission Inn Foundation in Riverside, California, is a small step towards recognizing the enormous contributions by Art for his community, state and Nation.

Art Littleworth has always done the work of four men. His civic and professional engagements cannot help but serve as model to us all and include: senior partner at the law firm Best Best & Krieger, respected expert in water law, former board president of the Riverside Unified School District—playing a leading role in steering the district into voluntary integration of the schools in the mid-1960s, member of the task force that examined Riverside Police Department's use-of-force rules after the 1998 Tyisha Miller shooting, and first board president of the foundation that is honoring him. A dedicated leader, Art has willingly and unselfishly given of his time and talent to make our community and Nation a better place to live and work.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Art went to Yale University on a full scholarship earning a Bachelor of Arts with Honors in American History. He later entered the U.S. Navy and saw battle in the Pacific during the final months of World War II. Returning home he proceeded to earn a Masters in American History from Stanford University and J.D. from Yale Law School in 1950. That same year he joined Best Best & Krieger.

Art soon found himself representing a local group of ranchers in a federal case regarding Santa Margarita River water in 1958. The case would be in court for five years and have Art emerge as an expert on water law. His expertise grew to a point that the United States Supreme Court appointed him "Special Master," in 1987, in a water rights case between the States of Kansas and Colorado involving the Arkansas River. The Supreme Court unanimously approved his first major finding in this case which became precedent setting in determining damages and awarding prejudgment interest approved by Court, 533 U.S. 1. The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear his most recent ruling in this case this fall.

On the hometown front, Art's reputation also continued to grow as he served on the Riverside Unified School Board from 1958 to 1972, the last 10 years as its president. As president, Art Littleworth played a leading role in overseeing the voluntary desegregation of the district's elementary and middle schools. The feat made Riverside Unified School District the first large school district in the Nation to voluntarily integrate its white and black school children populations and brought the community together as one.

In 1976, Art took the helm as founding President of the Mission Inn Foundation to help the City of Riverside take over the bankrupt hotel and revive it to its historical beauty.

The foundation was able to improve the hotel to the point where it was able to be sold to a hotel developer a few years later. It now stands as a testament to the City of Riverside's progress and growth as a city.

Mr. Speaker, Art's tireless passion for water law and vital social issues has and will continue to contribute immensely to the betterment of the community of Riverside, the state of California and our Nation. I know that many community and national leaders are grateful for his service and salute him for his acceptance of the Frank Miller Civic Achievement Award—a fitting token of our appreciation and esteem.

RECOGNITION OF BENJAMIN F. WILSON AS THE IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, longtime resident of the District of Columbia Benjamin F. Wilson is the immediate past chairman of the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics who served as a member of the Board since June 29, 1990 and as its Chairman from October 1, 1991 until May 24, 2004 having been appointed by three different Mayors of the District of Columbia.

The District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics, a Charter independent agency, comprised of a three-member Board who are unpaid volunteers charged to carry out the agency's mission. The mission of the Board is to enfranchise eligible residents, conduct elections, and assure the integrity of the electoral process.

Since the Board's inception in 1955, he is the first chairman to serve continuously for a period of fourteen years without interruption in his service providing exceptional public service to the citizens of the District of Columbia. He is the longest serving Chairman of the Board in its 49 year history.

Mr. Wilson is to be commended for leading the Board while it carried out its mission of administering the electoral process which requires wisdom, courage, and the desire to remain focused on its vision of conducting free and impartial elections conducted in a fair, efficient, and accurate manner.

He has maintained the highest level of integrity in performing the duties of the Board displaying courage and stamina while protecting the public's interest from manipulation for personal or partisan gain respecting the rights of all and maintaining the highest level of integrity.

He has taken to heart the Board's mandate to administer an impartial electoral process for the citizens of the District of Columbia both in the conduct of elections and his commitment to assuring the integrity of our election system in the Board's role as the gatekeepers of Democracy.

Mr. Wilson has been at the forefront of the core of the Board's mission which is voter education, registration, and electoral advancement in the areas of support and technology. He has served on the Board while addressing