

oystering and crabbing. While we often define our Nation's history through military or political milestones, the Trail will serve to remind visitors that maritime-dependent commerce was a major factor in the growth of the United States.

"Eco-tourism" along the Coastal Heritage Trail has proven to be a huge success. There is an abundant variety of natural habitats and species to be found on the Trail. Whale and dolphin watching have become extremely popular, and bird lovers from throughout the country, and in fact around the world, are realizing what Southern New Jersey residents have known all along: our region is unmatched for observing migratory birds, ospreys, and bald eagles.

Today, I am introducing legislation to reauthorize the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route. This legislation would extend the authorization of the trail to provide additional funding over 2 years to continue the work begun in 1988. It would also initiate a Strategic Plan which would explore opportunities to increase participation by national and local private and public interests, as well as organizational options for sustaining the trail.

The New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail has helped New Jersey residents develop pride, awareness, experience with, and understanding of our coastal resources and its history. This reauthorization will allow the trail to continue and flourish.

I urge my colleagues in the House to support this legislation.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OF RICHARD PUCKETT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Richard Puckett, the operations manager of the Mid-Cumberland area of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Richard is retiring from the Corps after 42 years of service.

During his tenure Middle Tennessee communities saw vast improvements to recreational facilities available on Corps-managed lakes in the Mid-Cumberland region that I represent. Not only do these lakes and facilities improve the mental and physical well-being of our citizens, they also greatly benefit local economies. Richard, therefore, can take much credit for enhancing the lives of many Middle Tennesseans.

His professionalism and responsiveness to the public's needs have been admirable. It has been a real pleasure working with Richard and his staff over the years. The Corps of Engineers and the people of the Mid-Cumberland are going to miss him, but Richard deserves some recreational time of his own. Once again, I congratulate him on a great career and wish him the best in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST JONATHAN CASTRO

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a hero from my congressional district. On December 21, 2004, U.S. Army Specialist Jonathan Castro of my hometown of Corona, CA, was killed in Mosul, Iraq. Specialist Castro, along with 18 other American soldiers, died from injuries sustained when their dining facility was attacked. I would ask that the House of Representatives honor and remember this incredible young man who died in service to his country. Specialist Castro will be remembered as a hero who lived a life filled with compassion and a respect for all people.

Jonathan, son of Jorge and Vickie Castro, spent most of his life in Corona, CA. The summer after graduating from Corona's Centennial High School in 2001, he enlisted in the Army. He entered the military with the hope that it would enable him to pay his own way through school and would open his eyes to the world. He was assigned to the 73rd Engineer Company in Fort Lewis, WA, and was deployed to Iraq in October, 2004.

He is remembered not only for his caring nature, but also for his intelligence. He was a budding engineer with a talent for working with metals and wood, as well as having strong skills in computer-aided drafting. He demonstrated creativity and ingenuity during high school as he built his own electric guitar, as well as a full-sized electric car.

On December 1, 2004, in Mosul, Iraq, while sharing a meal with his fellow soldiers, the dining facility was attacked. This has been the deadliest blast to date at a U.S. military base in Iraq, with 22 people killed. Specialist Castro was only 21 years old. He is survived by his loving parents and seven brothers. Jonathan was decorated posthumously with the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

Jonathan, and men and women like him, contribute to the incredibly rich history of our country. I commend all our service members who volunteer to defend our ideals of freedom and democracy.

I extend my ongoing thoughts, prayers and deepest gratitude to the Castro family. I hope they know their son and brother's goodness and sacrifice will never be forgotten.

INTRODUCING SAME DAY VOTER REGISTRATION LEGISLATION

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Same Day Voter Registration Act of 2005. This legislation is simple and straightforward: it would allow every eligible citizen to register and vote on Election Day for Federal elections.

The right to vote is the most fundamental of American democratic values. Yet, last November we again heard disturbing reports of voter intimidation, disenfranchisement, machine

error, and fraud. If we truly value the right to vote, we must do more to restore public trust in the integrity of our election process.

We should also remove cumbersome voter preregistration requirements. My home State of Minnesota has allowed same day voter registration since 1974. The result: Minnesota is a national leader in voter participation. In 2004, 77.7 percent of eligible Minnesotans voted. Over 20 percent of those voters registered on Election Day.

Same-day voter registration has greatly contributed to consistently high voter turnout in Minnesota. I believe this law has also encouraged new voters, especially young people, to turn out in higher numbers.

Many of the States with low voter turnout also have preregistration requirements of up to 30 days. It is unknown how many Americans have been prevented from exercising their constitutional right to vote only because they were unaware of cumbersome preregistration requirements. My bill will ensure that everyone with the legal right can vote, even those who become engaged in the closing days of an election.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in making Same Day Voter Registration the law of the land.

RECOGNIZING FRANK WOODRUFF BUCKLES

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Frank Woodruff Buckles, a World War I veteran who lives in Jefferson County, WV, and cordially ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in wishing Mr. Buckles a happy 104th birthday.

Frank Woodruff Buckles was born in Harrison County, MO, in 1901. At age 16, Mr. Buckles enlisted in the U.S. Army and remains today one of America's few surviving Veterans of the Great War. Following the Armistice of 1918, Mr. Buckles helped escort POWs back to Germany, only to ironically become a POW himself while working for a steamship company in the Philippines during the Japanese invasion of 1941. As a POW, Frank Buckles took it upon himself to help his fellow prisoners by tending the sick and feeding the hungry. In fact, Mr. Buckles even convinced the Japanese, who were starving and torturing the prisoners, to allow him to plant a vegetable garden in the camp so the prisoners would have more rations. On February 23, 1945, General MacArthur got word of the prisoners and ordered the 11th Airborne Division to rescue them. With no casualties taken during the rescue, the prisoners were freed and their 3-year ordeal was finally over.

Following the war, Frank married Audrey Mayo and moved to the farm in Jefferson County, WV that his ancestors have owned since 1732. At age 104, Frank Buckles continues to work the farm, drive his tractor, and likes to read books in several different languages. Frank Buckles is an American hero and truly an inspiration to us all.

In honor of Frank Buckles and his many years of hard work, dedication, and commitment to his family, community, and country, I

ask my friends in Jefferson County and my colleagues here in Congress to join me in wishing him a happy 104th birthday.

HONORING KVBC CHANNEL 3 ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor KVBC Channel 3 on their 50th anniversary. Just as Southern Nevada has grown, so has Channel 3, the NBC affiliate serving fast-growing Southern Nevada in the Nation's 51st television market.

In 1954, the original Channel 3 studio began in a small building on Desert Inn and Boulder Highway. In 1979, Channel 3 moved into their current studios, a one-time roller rink, on Foremaster Lane and Las Vegas Boulevard.

Today, Channel 3 is the highest rated local nightly newscast, reaching a population of nearly 1.7 million people in Southern Nevada. In fact, every week, 4 out of 5 homes in Clark, Lincoln and Nye Counties tune in to Channel 3.

KVBC Channel 3 is owned by Jim Rogers, Chairman of the Sunbelt Communications Company. Mr. Rogers is a long-time Las Vegan and one of the largest contributors to education in the Nation. He is currently the Interim Chancellor of Nevada's University system.

Channel 3 is also home to many long-time employees and on-camera personalities such as Sue Manteris, Denise Rosch, Kendall Tenney, Jim Snyder, Nina Radetich, Beth Fisher, John Fredericks, Captain Gregg Deacon, Tom Hawley, Mitch Roberts, Rick Strasser, and General Manager Gene Greenberg who has been with Channel 3 for 28 years. Each of these individuals has been generous with their own time serving the community they love.

KVBC Channel 3 has always dedicated itself to bringing the news of the day to Southern Nevada residents, and stands firm in its commitment to be "Where News Comes First." I extend my best wishes to Jim Rogers and his entire team at KVBC Channel 3 on the 50th anniversary of the television station.

MEN'S HEALTH ACT

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, over the past 20 years Congress has devoted a great deal of time and money addressing the important issues facing women's health. We created an Office of Women's Health at the NIH and we have taken great strides to increase the number of women included in health studies. We have undoubtedly saved hundreds of thousands of women's lives, improved the quality of many millions more, and we have every reason to be proud.

However, we must now begin to focus on the crisis in men's health too. The simple fact is that every year hundreds of men suffer and

die needless—and entirely preventable—deaths.

In 1994, Congress established National Men's Health Week, the week leading up to and including Father's Day. Unfortunately, men's health is not getting any better.

I believe it is time for us to establish an Office of Men's Health. For that reason, I am introducing legislation today that will establish an Office of Men's Health at the Department of Health and Human Services to monitor, coordinate and improve men's health in America.

America needs a concerted effort to combat the problems facing men's health. This year, over 230,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and approximately 30,000 of these men will die. Of course, we cannot save all these men. Nevertheless, we could save a lot of them. While mammograms and Pap spears have dramatically reduced the death rate from breast and cervical cancers, the death rate from prostate cancer could be reduced by widespread use of a simple test called the PSA. But many Americans have never heard of it.

I am one of the thousands of men who have been saved by a simple PSA test. I was diagnosed with prostate cancer. During my annual examination, my doctor noticed a slight elevation in the readings of a Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test. However, it was only after a prostate biopsy that it was determined that I had cancer. Following the diagnosis, with my family, we decided that I should go ahead and have surgery. I am fortunate that my cancer was detected early, that I had a doctor who was familiar with PSA test results, and that I had healthcare coverage for my treatments. In my case, and in the cases of thousands of men, early detection and treatment have meant the difference between life and death.

However, prostate cancer is only a small component of the men's health crisis: men have a higher death rate than women do for every single one of the ten leading causes of death in this country. Men are twice as likely to die of heart disease—the number one killer—40 percent more likely to die of cancer, and 20 percent more likely to die of a stroke. At the turn of the last century, men and women had equal life expectancies. At the turn of this one, women outlive men by 6 years.

Admittedly, the largest part of the problem is that men do not take particularly good care of themselves. Only about half as many men as women have a regular physician. Overall, women are twice as likely as men to visit a doctor for regular check-up factoring out women's prenatal visits.

So if we got men to start going to the doctor would men start living longer? Well, it could not hurt. In a study published by the Commonwealth Fund, nearly 70 percent of men over 40 who visited the doctor were not even asked whether they had a family history of prostate cancer. Men making less than \$50,000 a year were even less likely to be asked. Forty percent of men over 50—who should be getting a prostate exam every single year—were not even screened by their doctors. Going to the doctor won't do anything about the fact that four times as many men commit suicide as women, that the victims of violent crime are 75 percent male, that 98 percent of the people who work in the most dangerous jobs in this country are men, and that 92 percent of people who die in the workplace are men.

What can we do about this? First, we can make men's health a public priority. Just as we support public service announcements aimed at getting women to get regular mammograms and do routine self exams, we must support the same kind of campaign to get men to get regular health checkups and do routine self exams. Testicular cancer, which is the most common cancer in men under 35, is curable if caught early enough. In addition, one of the best ways to do that is to teach boys and young men to check themselves out at least once a month.

As precious as life is, men—just like women—should have the benefit of as much of it as they possibly can. Because they live so much longer, women are in the unenviable position of seeing their husbands, fathers, and even their sons suffer and die prematurely.

So this year, let's spend some time figuring out what we can do to help men be better healthcare consumers and what we can do to give men the support and encouragement and resources they need to be the kind of fathers their kids need them to be and that they truly want to be.

I also hope that all my colleagues will help me by supporting my legislation to establish an Office of Men's Health.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PUSH POLL DISCLOSURE ACT OF 2005

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to increase the disclosure requirements for telephone "push polls." As many candidates for public office have learned through personal experience, these push polls are not legitimate telephone surveys, but campaign devices designed to smear a candidate under the guise of a standard opinion poll.

Imagine a voter, who has been identified as a supporter of candidate X, being asked in a survey if this support would continue if it was learned that candidate X was guilty of a terrible indiscretion or an outright crime. It doesn't matter whether the allegations are true because the idea that candidate X is somehow unfit for office has been planted successfully. This is a telephone push poll, or "smear" poll.

My legislation, the Push Poll Disclosure Act of 2005, combats this practice by exposing it to the light of day. Specifically, the bill requires that each participant in a federal election poll be told the identity of the survey's sponsor whenever at least 1,200 households are included. It also requires further disclosures when a survey's results are not to be released to the public. In this case, the cost of the poll and the sources of its funding must be reported to the Federal Election Commission, along with a count of the households contacted and a transcript of the questions asked.

The Push Poll Disclosure Act of 2005 is a simple bill. It will not hinder legitimate polling, nor will it burden polling firms with excessive regulations. What this bill does do, however, is regulate smear polls for what they are—campaign activities, and questionable ones at that. This legislation is noncontroversial and should be bipartisan, and its passage will make campaigns for federal office a little bit cleaner. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.