

CORPUS CHRISTI'S CALALLEN
HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM,
2005 4A STATE CHAMPS

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Corpus Christi's Calallen High School Varsity Baseball team on winning the 2005 4A State Championship last weekend, winning the championship game 10–3. This is the second time the Wildcats have dominated Texas high school baseball, the first being in 2000.

The Cats' won their first victory against the Wichita Falls Riders—an impressive 12–2 game, with seven hits and a grand slam by sophomore Ryan Duke. The game was called in the fifth inning, by way of the 10-run “mercy rule.” But mercy was the last thing the Wildcats showed their next opponents, the Waco Midway Panthers.

Calallen earned the title through sheer power at the plate, with 13 hits and 10 runs, all scored by the fourth inning. Leading the Cats at bat in the championship game were Seniors Jonathan Vest, Luke McCall, Wes Callihan, Randy Haughton, and Sophomore Ryan Duke.

Wildcat pitchers Seniors Chip Nance and Brandon Key, and Sophomore Ryan Duke provided the other power station for the Cats on the mound. Nance boasted nine strikeouts in six innings and held the Midway Panthers to five hits, earning MVP honors in the championship game.

South Texas is proud of these young men as is their coach, Steve Chapman, to whom the victory came as no surprise. With such talented players and excellent coaching, it seemed only right that this would be the year. Besides receiving an impressive ring to commemorate their victory, these boys have learned the endurance, discipline, self-sacrifice, and determination that it takes to be the champions.

In high school sports, as in life, the way to winning is hard work and a can-do spirit every day, both in practice and on the field. Sports teach young people many things, most importantly how to be gracious in defeat and in victory. That will be as important as how they play the game of life.

I congratulate the Wildcats, for their hard work which paid off handsomely. The following roster of players earned the title of Champions: Chip Nance, Wes Callihan, Jonathan Vest, Tyler Marrou, Cameron Lucky, Ryan Miller, Brandon Key, Corey Schick, Steven Vidaurri, Bucky Bryan, Randy Haughton, Sean Hoelscher, Paul Flores, Ryan Duke, Jared Verret, Daniel Alonzo, Luke McCall, Matt Brynestad, Kyle Plumley, and Jacob Kaup.

The Coaches who led them to victory are: Coach Steve Chapman, Asst. Coach Rudy Salinas, Asst. Coach Jon Irvine, Asst. Coach Micheal Watson, and Asst. Coach Jose Luis Lopez.

HONORING THE NETCONG FIRE
DEPARTMENT

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Netcong Fire Department, in the Borough of Netcong, New Jersey, a patriotic community that I am proud to represent. On June 11, 2005, the good citizens of Netcong celebrated the Fire Company's Centennial Anniversary with special festivities and a parade.

For one hundred years, the Netcong Fire Department has been protecting and serving the residents of their community and surrounding towns. Featuring 48 fire companies mostly from Morris, Sussex, and Warren Counties, the firefighters on the parade committee have been planning the event for the past several years. Fritz Grogan, the parade's Grand Marshal, rode in a 1922 Brockway. He has 55 years of experience serving in the department, including a two-year term as chief in the late 1960s. Well over 1,000 people marched in the parade, and the event drew a crowd from all over New Jersey.

The Netcong Fire Department was formally created in 1905. It was badly needed, especially after a fire on Nov. 16, 1903. The blaze was so bad that even some buildings in neighboring Stanhope were set on fire by flying sparks, although none were destroyed. A history compiled by the department says its first piece of equipment was a two-wheeled hose cart pulled by the members. Equipment was housed at the Mansion house stables on Main Street and Maple Avenue, and the first firehouse opened in February 1906.

Currently the fire department, led by Fire Chief Michael Pellek, has about 100 members, half of whom marched in Saturday's parade. Last year the department responded to 113 calls, including one fatal fire, and this year it has already responded to 50.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the volunteers of the Netcong Fire Department on the celebration of 100 years of a rich history in the protection of one of New Jersey's finest municipalities.

TRIBUTE TO DISTRICT STAFF
MEMBER, KATHY OLSON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very able district staff member, Kathy Olson, who is leaving our employ at the end of the month.

There is not one of us in this esteemed body who fails to appreciate what a key role our staff members play in helping us to serve our constituents. As you know, people often seek our assistance when all else has failed. By the time they reach their Member of Congress, they are frustrated, discouraged, and sometimes angry. It is always heartening when we can intervene to solve those serious and longstanding problems.

Often, it takes a tremendous amount of knowledge and research to find the one key that will enable us to resolve an issue for a constituent. With her high level of knowledge and understanding, Kathy is an unqualified expert on Social Security and Medicare. Through her keen intellect and tireless work ethic, Kathy has garnered a sound grasp of the most complicated of issues. I not only value her for the unselfish assistance that she has provided my constituents, but I also rely heavily on her expertise and counsel in dealing with Social Security and Medicare issues.

Kathy has taken constituent service to a high level of excellence. Although her professionalism and mastery of the issues are indeed outstanding, it is her inherent goodness and concern for others that has made her so effective. Kathy begins every case with a sympathetic ear and a sincere desire to help ease the pain for those who call my office.

There are countless examples that demonstrate her effectiveness, but the one that resonates most with me was when an agency referred a homeless and destitute woman to me who had exhausted all alternatives. In her eighties, this constituent had no Social Security benefits because she had no record of her birth. She didn't know her real name. She didn't know who her mother and father were. She spent a life of being dependent on abusive people who manipulated her. She had lived a life of hopelessness, and her declining years promised only more despair.

After months of frustrating research and chasing down tenuous leads, Kathy found the woman's identity and established a case that qualified her for benefits that would allow her to live the rest of her life in relative comfort and free of fear. Although the woman was deeply grateful for having a life of misery put behind her and a sense of hope restored, she was most appreciative of the photo of her mother that Kathy found during her exhaustive research. The woman had never seen a picture of her mother. Kathy not only assisted in giving her a life of dignity, she was able to give her a sense of self that most of us take for granted.

Kathy's demonstrated ability to work well with others and to get things done led me to ask her to take on an extra load to manage my academy selection process. She already had a very full agenda, but she cheerfully took on the new task and made many valuable improvements in how I select nominees. My selection committee consists of retired military officers with the ranks of major, colonel, captain, and general; men who expect top performance. Each member of the selection committee has shared with me their admiration for Kathy's professionalism and enthusiasm in coordinating a very complicated process.

After almost six years of serving constituents in the Second Congressional District of Oregon, both for my predecessor, Congressman Bob Smith, and for me, Kathy has chosen to leave the office to devote more time to her family. Her husband, Brian, and daughter, Alyssa, have been most understanding as Kathy's demanding job has taken so much of her time. They are rightfully proud of the great work that she has done and very pleased to have her able to spend more time with them in the near future.

Mr. Speaker, I am indeed sad to see Kathy Olson leave our team. Her unselfish service has helped countless families in the Second

Congressional District over the years, and it is only fitting that she now devote full attention to her own.

As you can tell, Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of the great and unselfish work Kathy Olson has done on my behalf, but I am most proud to join many, many others in calling her a friend. I know that I reflect the feelings of all of her fellow staff members in wishing her continued success and happiness.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROSTATE
CANCER RESEARCH AND PRE-
VENTION ACT REAUTHORIZATION

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today in support of the "Prostate Cancer Research and Prevention Act." This important piece of legislation will reauthorize through 2010 important programs at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) which will help increase awareness and surveillance of prostate cancer, address the serious issues of prostate cancer screening, and help unlock the mysteries of prostate cancer through research.

Prostate cancer is the second most common type of cancer found in American men. The American Cancer Society estimates that there will be about 232,090 new cases of prostate cancer in the United States in 2005 and that approximately 30,350 men will die of this disease. It is the second leading cause of cancer death in men, behind only lung cancer.

While these statistics remain alarming, the death rate for prostate cancer is actually decreasing in all racial and ethnic groups. While 1 man in 6 will still be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime, only 1 man in 33 will now die of this disease. More men, especially African-American men and others in high risk categories, are being made aware of the risk of prostate cancer and being encouraged to take steps to ensure early detection.

This awareness and action is critically important when dealing with all cancers, but especially cancer of the prostate—which grows slowly and without symptoms and is all too often undetected until in its most advanced and incurable stage. That is why reauthorizing the "Prostate Cancer Research and Prevention Act" is so important.

Reauthorizing the "Prostate Cancer Research and Prevention Act" will allow the CDC to continue to comprehensively evaluate the effectiveness of various screening strategies for prostate cancer and to further expand public information and education programs about the issues regarding the disease. It will also allow the CDC to continue to make grants to States and local health departments to ensure that this information is being thoroughly spread, especially among communities and groups where the risk is highest. The bill also extends the authority of the National Cancer Institute at the NIH to conduct and support basic and clinical research to expand the understanding of the cause of prostate cancer and to ultimately find a cure for the disease. Reauthorizing these important programs will help continue the rising trend towards aware-

ness and action and hopefully result in even fewer untimely deaths.

The American Cancer Society, the Men's Health Network and the Dean and Betty Gallo Prostate Cancer Center at the Cancer Institute of New Jersey join me in supporting this reauthorization of the "Prostate Cancer Research and Prevention Act." These organizations know first hand the important roles education, awareness and research play, and I applaud each of them for their dedication to battling this disease.

As National Men's Health Week draws to a close and we prepare to celebrate Father's Day on Sunday, I encourage each of you to reflect on the serious health threat that prostate cancer continues to pose for men across the country—including the men closest and most important to each of us, and urge my colleagues in the House to support the "Prostate Cancer Research and Prevention Act."

IN HONOR OF JAMES H. GILLIAM,
SR.

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. James (Jim) H. Gilliam, Sr., the founder and first chairman of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League.

After a 13-year career with the Housing Authority of Baltimore City, Maryland, Jim came to Delaware in 1965 to serve as the Director of Neighborhood and Housing Services for the Greater Wilmington Development Council. Jim's determination soon lead him to become the Director of New Castle County's Department of Community Development and Housing, where he would serve with distinction until his retirement in March 1990. Regardless of retirement, he had much left to accomplish.

In 1999, with one million dollars in start-up funds and the assistance of more than 70 community and business leaders, Jim formed the Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League. In only nine-months, the Wilmington chapter of the National Urban League was formed; the fastest an affiliate has ever been organized. The formation of this wonderful organization was only the beginning of Jim Gilliam's many successes at the Urban League.

The Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League envisions a community where African Americans and other people of color from a wide array of income levels, backgrounds and experiences directly benefit from and contribute to a multi-racial alliance that is committed to principled advocacy, action-oriented public policy research and the coordination of public, private, and non-profit resources.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to once again commend Mr. James Gilliam. Under his skilled leadership, the Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League has been a tremendously successful community organization, and I have no doubt he will maintain the organization's commitment to excellence.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF TROY L.
LOINING

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Troy L. Loining who will assume the position of "Officer in Charge" at the United States Coast Guard Station in Annapolis, Maryland on June 17, 2005.

Chief Loining enlisted in the United States Coast Guard in 1989 and began serving our great Nation aboard the United States Coast Guard Cutter Northland out of Portsmouth, Virginia. In 1999, serving as an Executive Petty Officer aboard the United States Coast Guard Cutter Adek based out of Sandy Hook, New Jersey, Chief Loining was awarded the George Ban Cleaves Award after he was selected as the "District One Enlisted Person of the Year."

Still serving aboard the Adek, Chief Loining was awarded the "United States Coast Guard 911 Medal," for his service on September 11, 2001 when all personnel in New York Harbor were immediately called upon for assistance and defense. Under new heightened levels of security, Chief Loining continued his defense of the United States while reassigned to the United States Coast Guard Cutter Line. In 2002, he received his official certification as "Officer in Charge."

Mr. Speaker, I am truly pleased that the United States Coast Guard has chosen Chief Troy L. Loining to assume the position of "Officer in Charge" in Annapolis, Maryland. Please join me today in honor and recognition of a person who has willingly served and defended his country.

HONORING ST. JOSEPH PARISH ON
CHURCH BUILDING CENTENNIAL

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Joseph Parish on their Church Building Centennial. The official celebration will take place at St. Joseph Parish in Joliet, Illinois on October 16, 2005.

St. Joseph Parish, Joliet's fifth Catholic church, was founded in 1891 by Slovenian immigrants. The first pastor, Reverend Francis Sustersic, arrived from Slovenia on May 12, 1891. The original church, which was blessed on October 16, 1891, was born of the love, labor and sacrifice of Slovenians, whose men toiled in the local steel mills. They provided a house of worship for their families and for their descendants who would preserve their Catholic Slovenian heritage.

The parish grew quickly and a second St. Joseph Church was consecrated on October 15, 1905, as an official place of worship under the Archdiocese of Chicago. The second church was built with Indiana Bedford limestone at a cost of \$130,000. It was the first stone and steel structure and the largest and grandest church in Joliet. In 1949, St. Joseph Church became part of the newly established Diocese of Joliet.