

had their first two children, Hillene and Linda. Of all their children, Hillene had the ability to do what the opposition could rarely accomplish; knocking her father out of a game. Preacher was pitching when Hillene's birth was announced, at which point he collapsed on the mound.

His finest season as a Padre came in 1942 when he established records for most complete games pitched, batters faced, and innings pitched. During this season, Preacher finished every game he started.

In 1943, Preacher was traded to the Pittsburgh Pirates and at the end of the season, he faced a turning point in his career. While his arm was as strong as ever, his oldest daughter was beginning first grade and America's involvement in World War II made domestic travel difficult. When Bobbie indicated that the family would not be traveling to Pittsburgh that season, Wally chose his family and his beloved Louisiana over baseball. He turned down a contract worth \$10,000 to earn 35 cents per hour in a wartime synthetic rubber factory.

After settling in Westlake, Louisiana, Wally and Bobbie had three sons and he resumed his life of hunting, fishing, and gardening while working in a nearby Firestone factory. He devoted himself to his family after his retirement from Firestone in 1965 and remained active as an outdoorsman until his death in 1999.

Today, Wally is survived by his beloved Bobbie, five children, numerous grandchildren. The legacy of Wally "Preacher" Hebert will long be remembered throughout the San Diego community and I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to his life and long list of accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING THE POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the Polish National Alliance which is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year.

Founded in 1880 in Philadelphia to unite the needs of the people of Poland who had emigrated to the United States, the Alliance has remained faithful to that mission.

The PNA was founded to provide financial, social and leadership opportunities for a new group of Americans.

Since its founding, the PNA has contributed countless volunteer hours and raised significant charitable donations for community service projects and to encourage patriotism.

The PNA continues to support ethnic heritage programs that benefit its members and the community at large.

The PNA is one of 75 fraternal benefit societies that belong to the National Fraternal Congress of America.

The influence of Polish immigrants is a prominent part of the heritage of our community.

Let us remember their contributions and let us honor the women of the PNA who, for gen-

erations, have maintained the traditions and customs of their ancestors and who have given much service to the communities in which they lived.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Polish National Alliance now celebrating 125 years of service. This great nation is far better due to the contributions made by their members over the past century and a quarter.

RECOGNIZING JOHN GURNEY OF SONOMA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John P. Gurney who is retiring this month after 12 years as the Chief of Police for the City of Sonoma, California.

How a police department in a small town interfaces with the community has always been central to Chief Gurney's policing philosophy. During his tenure in Sonoma, Chief Gurney successfully integrated the concept of community policing into the department by redirecting resources from administration to patrol officers. He established the Sonoma Police Department Community Advisory Council to provide public, input and feedback on department policies, programs and training. He then facilitated a department-wide workshop identifying community expectations and developed a strategic plan to meet those expectations. A departmental mission and value statement was developed to incorporate the community's vision.

He also established the Sonoma Valley Interagency Council for Youth and Family. This organization consists of government and non-profit youth and family service organization and is charged with reducing the risk factors to our youth and their families. In acknowledgment of his work with young people, he received the 2001 Sonoma County Office of Education's Youth Award.

On a countywide basis, Chief Gurney also participated in the development, acquisition and implementation of a \$12 million Computer Aided Dispatch, Records Management and Mobile Computing/Field Reporting system and chaired the Oversight Committee for this project.

Professionally, he has served as President of the Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chiefs Association, Chair of the Santa Rosa Training Center Advisory Committee, member of the California Peace Officer's Association, law enforcement representative to the California Judicial Council Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee, member of the California Police Chief's Association, the California Police Chief's Association representative to both the Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Statewide Public Safety Advisory Committee and the Commission on Peace Officer and Standards and Training Advisory Committee.

As a member of his community, Chief Gurney served on the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Boys and Girls Club, and was in the inaugural class of Leadership Sonoma Valley.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Gurney and his wife Phyllis own a small vineyard in Sonoma and they intend to enjoy the good life upon retirement. It is appropriate that we commend him for his many years of public service and wish him well on his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DR. EDWIN AND MRS. MARY ELLEN HENDERSON

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a family from Virginia's Eighth Congressional District whose recognition is long overdue. For every person of national recognition there is a local leader that accomplishes much under the shadow of their more recognized peers. Two of these people are Dr. Edwin and Mrs. Mary Ellen Henderson, civil rights pioneers from Northern Virginia who have worked for social justice for nearly 50 years. The couple, who were married for 65 years, worked tirelessly for the education of African American children. They also chronicled the early civil rights struggles in letters to the editor published around the country and energized their community in Northern Virginia to join the Nation's civil rights movement.

The Hendersons viewed education as one of the primary sources of human progress, and they both served their communities as teachers. Mary Ellen filled the difficult position of teaching the fourth, fifth, sixth and sevenths grades in the local segregated schoolhouse. The two-room facility overflowed with children, and it was heated by a potbelly stove and that lacked running water. Despite these difficult conditions of segregation, Mary Ellen taught with vitality and enthusiasm. Not satisfied with her inequitable surroundings, Mary Ellen worked to improve the conditions around her. By her own measure, she launched a study into the disparity between white and black schoolhouses, focusing on the learning environment and resources. Mary Ellen's work led to the formation of an interracial committee in Fairfax County, and ultimately the decision of the school administration to build the first new school for African American children in the area.

Dr. Edwin Henderson also dedicated his life to education. He focused his efforts on the promotion of interscholastic athletics and was certified as the first African American man to teach Physical Education in public schools. An avid basketball player himself, Edwin is credited with introducing the sport to the Washington, D.C. area as well as promoting athletics within the surrounding African American community. He organized the Interscholastic Athletic Association for black schools, the Public School Athletic League, and the Eastern Board of Officials for African American athletes. In addition, Edwin authored several books that spread awareness about the emergence of black sports. His groundbreaking works included "The Official Spaulding Handbook," "The Negro in Sports," and also "The Black Athlete: Emergence and Arrival." Edwin was a powerful force behind the positive recognition accorded to these athletes. As a result of his efforts, Edwin was admitted as a

charter member to the Black Athletes Hall of Fame.

The Hendersons also endeavored to improve the rights of African Americans in their community. In 1915, their hometown of Falls Church, Virginia, proposed to segregate all African Americans to a designated living area. The couple vehemently challenged the law by uniting people under the Colored Citizens' Protective League (CCPL). The CCPL succeeded not only in defeating the segregation ordinance, but also in advancing numerous civil rights endeavors. The organization later became the first rural branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in which the couple was highly active.

The Henderson's contributions were extensive and continued to be felt throughout Northern Virginia. Although they coveted no recognition for themselves, these extraordinary individuals not only affected their community, but also helped shape the Nation. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor these great Americans today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was in my congressional district yesterday participating in events in support of the 179th Airlift Wing of the Ohio Air National Guard, which has been slated for closure by the Department of Defense. As a result, I was absent from the floor during yesterday's rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted against the Watt amendment to H.J. Res. 10, in favor of tabling each of the two appeals of the ruling of the chair on the motion to recommit H.J. Res. 10, in favor of final passage of H.J. Res. 10, in favor of ordering the previous question on H. Res. 334, in favor of H. Res. 334, against the Baird amendment to H.R. 2985, against the Jo Ann Davis amendment to H.R. 2985, against the Hefley amendment to H.R. 2985, against the motion to recommit H.R. 2985, and in favor of final passage of H.R. 2985.

RETIREMENT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL RICHARD V. REYNOLDS

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to United States Air Force Lieutenant General Richard V. Reynolds for his 34 years of distinguished and honorable service in the U.S. Air Force and to our country.

On August 1, 2005, General Reynolds will be retiring from his current position as Vice Commander of the Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force, Ohio. The command conducts research, development, test and evaluation, and provides acquisition management and logistics support necessary to keep Air Force weapon systems ready for war.

This high level of research and development is critical to our Nation's defense, and requires

effective leadership and experience. It is those qualities that General Reynolds has demonstrated during his service at Wright-Patterson AFB, and throughout his military career.

General Reynolds received his commission as a Second Lieutenant at the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1971. During his career, he has served as a pilot training instructor, a combat-ready bomber air crew commander, and as an experimental test pilot. He has also commanded the 4952nd Test Squadron and has served as a program director for several strategic and tactical aircraft acquisition programs, including the B-2 Spirit.

In addition, General Reynolds was the Air Force Program Executive Officer for Airlift and Trainers at the Pentagon, commanded the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards AFB California, and, prior to his current position, was Commander of the Aeronautical Systems Center located at Wright-Patterson AFB. He is also a commanded pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours in 60 types of aircraft.

Throughout his distinguished career, General Reynolds has received military awards for his service, including: the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Air Force Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters.

In closing, I commend General Reynolds for his honorable and distinguished service to our country over the years, and I send my best regards to him and his family as he embarks on this new chapter in his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I was detained and unable to cast a vote on H.R. 2985, the Legislative Appropriations Act for FY06, on June 22, 2005. I was in Brownwood, Texas attending the funeral of Lance Corporal Mario Castillo, a Marine from the 11th District of Texas. Please let the RECORD reflect that had I been here, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE WORK OF THE SENTINELS OF FREEDOM

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Sentinels of Freedom for the work they do in support of our troops.

This group of business and community leaders in the San Ramon Valley have worked together to help a wounded soldier returning from Iraq. This group, led by Mike Conklin of San Ramon, California has created a scholarship that will provide housing, a handicapped-equipped van, education, and job training and placement for a soldier who lost both his legs in Iraq. For the next four years, a team of mentors will help with his transition from the military back into civilian life.

I am deeply supportive of the tireless work Mr. Conklin has done in support of the brave

men and women of our Armed Services. Along with the Blue Star Moms, SBC Communications, Shapell Industries of Northern California, the community of San Ramon, California, the United States Army and Walter Reed Army Hospital, the Sentinels of Freedom have developed a great program to support our troops. This group is a tremendous inspiration and an example of the best spirit and values the American people have to offer.

Please join me in thanking the Sentinels of Freedom and encouraging communities and businesses around the country to follow their lead. The brave men and women returning from Iraq and Afghanistan give so much for our Nation and deserve nothing less than our complete support as they transition back to civilian life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on June 22, 2005, due to a death in the family, I was unable to be present for rollcall vote No. 293, on agreeing to the Watt amendment to H.J. Res. 10; for rollcall vote No. 294, on moving to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair; for rollcall vote No. 295, on moving to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair; for rollcall vote No. 296, on final passage of H.J. Res. 10; for rollcall vote No. 297, on ordering the previous question to H. Res. 334; for rollcall vote No. 298, on agreeing to H. Res. 334; for rollcall vote No. 299, on agreeing to the Baird amendment to H.R. 2985; for rollcall vote No. 300, on agreeing to Representative JO ANN DAVIS's amendment to H.R. 2985; for rollcall vote No. 301, on agreeing to the Hefley amendment to H.R. 2985; for rollcall vote No. 302, on agreeing to the motion to recommit H.R. 2985; and for rollcall vote No. 303, on final passage of H.R. 2985.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 293, "yes" on rollcall vote No. 294, "yes" on rollcall vote No. 295, "yes" on rollcall vote No. 296, "yes" on rollcall vote No. 297, "yes" on rollcall vote No. 298, "no" on rollcall vote No. 299, "yes" on rollcall vote No. 300, "no" on rollcall vote No. 301, "no" on rollcall vote No. 302, and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 303.

COMMENDING THE FEDERAL TRIO PROGRAMS

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an important group of Federal Education Programs known as the TRIO programs. In short, TRIO programs help to support and prepare low income students for post high school education.

TRIO is funded through the Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill that this body passed earlier today. I was proud to vote for this bill that included full funding for all TRIO programs. Two of the TRIO programs,