

to support the White Lake Township Library. I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking the citizens of White Lake Township, Library Board members and employees of the library for their outstanding service to the people of Michigan, and wish them well in the next 30 years.

HONORING MR. DONALD G.  
WALDON

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2005*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Donald G. Waldon on the occasion of his retirement as the Administrator of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Development Authority. I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this Nation to recognize his many accomplishments. He is truly a man who embodies the American principles of hard work, dedication to one's family and service to one's community.

Don is a native of Columbus, Mississippi but grew up in Mobile, Alabama. He graduated from Mississippi State University in 1961 with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering and completed post graduate studies in science and engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1963 and Texas A&M in 1964. He is a 1994 graduate of the University of Oklahoma's Economic Development Institute and the recipient of the Southern Industrial Development Council's 1994 Robert B. Cassell Award for Best Research Thesis.

Don joined the Army Corps of Engineers in 1961, where he worked in Mobile until 1966, conducting feasibility studies for water resource projects such as ports and waterways, including some early ideas for the Tenn-Tom Waterway. In 1966 he went to work for the Office of Management and Budget of the Executive Office of the President where he advised OMB and White House officials, including the President, on major budgetary, policy and legislative matters involving natural resources.

Don worked for OMB until 1974 when he was appointed as Deputy Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of the Interior, a position he held until September, 1975. His duties included management responsibilities for all land and water resource agencies within the Department of the Interior, which at the time had a budget of nearly \$2 billion and approximately 12,000 employees. He had oversight over reclamation projects and the development of oil fields, coal mining on public lands, the Alaska Pipeline, the measures taken under the Nixon Energy Initiative, and served on a number of White House task forces, involving energy.

In 1975, on the advice of Tenn-Tom project Administrator Glover Wilkins, Don entered an exchange program inside the Federal Government and came to the Tenn-Tom on a 2-year basis, but ultimately stayed for 30. In 1979 Don resigned from the Federal Government and remained with the Tenn-Tom, taking the position of Deputy Administrator. When Glover Wilkins retired in 1984 Don was appointed to the post of Administrator, a position he has held ever since.

As Administrator of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Development Authority

Don has worked tirelessly to promote the development of the Waterway, exploring economic and trade opportunities, and addressing potential barriers to the Waterway's beneficial use. Under Don's leadership the Waterway has resulted in approximately \$5 billion in expanded industry. The Waterway has had a tremendous impact on the local communities, not just with industrial development, but by bringing in recreation and tourism dollars as well.

Apart from his leadership of the Tenn-Tom Waterway Authority, Don is active in a variety of organizations devoted to the development of our waterways. He is President of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Development Council, Vice-Chairman of the National Waterways Conference, Inc., Director of the Inland Rivers, Ports and Terminals, Inc. (a national trade group representing inland ports), Executive Committee member of the U.S. Maritime Administration's Heartland Intermodal Partnership, Vice-President of the Alabama-Tombigbee Rivers Coalition and an Advisory Board Member of the Mississippi Water Resources Research Institute.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor Donald G. Waldon for his many accomplishments and his enduring impact on his country, community, friends and family. He is a man of great dignity and character who takes pride in the accomplishments of those he has helped over the years. Don is an inspiring role model for all of us and I join his friends and colleagues in wishing him God's richest blessings in his retirement.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON  
H.R. 3, SAFE, ACCOUNTABLE,  
FLEXIBLE, EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION  
EQUITY ACT: A LEGACY FOR USERS

SPEECH OF

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 29, 2005*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman YOUNG and Ranking Member OBERSTAR for their leadership in bringing SAFETEA-LU to the floor. It is an important bill that will help ease congestion throughout the country.

In particular, I applaud their efforts regarding hybrid vehicles in High Occupancy Vehicle lanes. Allowing hybrids in HOV lanes will increase demand for the vehicles, improve air quality, and over time reduce our reliance on foreign oil sources.

Section 166 of SAFETEA-LU allows vehicles meeting certain fuel efficiency and emissions standards to use HOV lanes. The bill, specifically section 166(b)(5)(B)(i), is written to allow states to establish a program that addresses the selection of vehicles under the HOV provision. As long as states meet the minimum standards set out in the bill, they can adjust which vehicles will be authorized to use HOV lanes.

This intentional flexibility will allow California to implement a state law letting hybrid vehicles that get more than 45 miles per gallon in highway driving and meet California emission standards to ride in HOV lanes.

The bill also allows states to choose which HOV lanes will be eligible for use by these ve-

hicles. I call on California to study the issue carefully, so that only HOV lanes that can handle the increase in traffic be eligible for hybrid vehicles.

Again, I thank the chairman and ranking member for their leadership.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
LARNELL EXUM ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2005*

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to LTC Larnell Exum, Deputy Chief, Army House Liaison Division, Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison, who retired September 1. Lieutenant Colonel Exum's illustrious career as an infantry officer embodies all of the Army's values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage and spans 20 years, during which he has distinguished himself as a soldier, leader, and friend of the United States House of Representatives.

Lieutenant Colonel Exum demonstrated his outstanding tactical and operational expertise in numerous command and staff positions overseas and in the continental United States. Continually serving in positions of ever-increasing responsibility, the highlights of his career include serving as a Company Commander with the 101st Airborne Division, Air Assault, at both Fort Campbell, KY, and in combat in Kuwait and Iraq during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm and then as Aide-de-Camp to the Undersecretary of the Army.

As the Deputy Chief of the Legislative Liaison in the House Liaison Division, his last assignment in the United States Army, Lieutenant Colonel Exum demonstrated the outstanding dedication and leadership skills that have characterized his distinguished career. In particular, he excelled at building relationships with Members of Congress and their staffs.

He escorted over 45 worldwide fact-finding missions for congressional delegations, traveling with over 135 Members to 25 countries. These ventures served to educate Members on subjects as diverse as the global war on terror, Army transformation, magnetic levitation trains, and future transportation technologies.

I traveled with Lieutenant Colonel Exum on several times and was thoroughly impressed with him on each occasion. He is one of the finest people I have worked with during my 17 years in Congress.

From 1986 to 1989, Lieutenant Colonel Exum distinguished himself as one of the top company grade leaders in Alpha Company, 1/22 Infantry Battalion, Fort Drum, NY, serving as a Rifle Platoon Leader and Mortar Platoon Leader in a light infantry battalion. He then was assigned to Alpha Company, 2/187 Infantry Battalion, both at home station and in combat operations in Kuwait and Iraq for Desert Shield and Desert Storm, when he was decorated for valor in combat.

Due to his fabulous reputation as one of the bright young officers in the Army, Lieutenant Colonel Exum was selected as the Aide-de-Camp/Military Assistant for the Under Secretary of the Army. He performed magnificently in this position and was subsequently

given the rarest of opportunities, a second company level command, which he maintained for all Army soldiers assigned to the Military District of Washington with duty at Fort Meade, MD.

In 1995, Lieutenant Colonel Exum was assigned with the Office of the Chief of Staff of the Army and served there until 1996. During his year of service, he was the Protocol Staff Officer. His actions had a direct, positive impact on the public persona of the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army by coordinating events for the "Big Four" senior Army leadership with foreign dignitaries, senior U.S. Government officials, and senior military leaders.

He then transitioned from active duty to become an active Guard Reserve National Guard officer. His contributions to the National Guard while serving as the Security Clearance Adjudications Officer and Reserve Incentive Program Manager from 1996 to 2001 were without measure and positively impacted the lives of individual soldiers and the readiness and training of the Guard Bureau as a whole.

After serving as the Chief of the Inquiries Branch in the National Guard Bureau Legislative Office, he was then hand-picked to represent the National Guard Bureau and the Army as the first National Guard officer to serve in the House Liaison Division of the Secretary of the Army's Legislative Liaison office for many years.

Lieutenant Colonel Exum is a natural at building and maintaining credible relationships with Members of Congress and their staffs, which was invaluable as the Army faced many challenges associated with its budget and real world combat operations in the Global War on Terror. Members knew they could count on Lieutenant Colonel Exum for his sage counsel, professional advice, and unwavering integrity.

Lieutenant Colonel Exum's faithful service, leadership, loyalty, and dedication to duty uphold the highest traditions of military service, and he has repeatedly stood for the defense of this Nation, her citizens, and their freedom. His devotion to the defense of liberty epitomizes the words soldier, patriot, and American. Lieutenant Colonel Exum is a role model for his two children, Tyler and Taylor, and is a devoted husband to his wife, Tina.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my gratitude and that of the entire Nation to Lieutenant Colonel Exum for his service to the United States and his hard work in defense of freedom.

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IN RECOGNITION OF RON FOWKES

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2005*

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor a good friend and public servant, Ron Fowkes, as he retires from his position as Council President for the Village of Milford, Michigan.

As a public servant Ron has demonstrated a deeply rooted commitment to the values of family, faith, democracy, and hard work. Before serving on the Village Council, Ron served on the Milford Parks and Recreation Commission, which included terms as vice-chair and chairman. He also served on the

board of directors for the Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce; the American Eagles Flying Club; River Bend Playscape steering committee; and founding board member of the Village Tree Board.

Mr. Speaker, Ron Fowkes has made a significant impact on his community over the past decade—from securing funds to plant more than 200 trees in the Milford community to leading the effort to renovate playgrounds and park facilities. His commitment to God, family and country has been a source of inspiration to the many lives he has touched.

I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Ron Fowkes. His wife Barbara and daughters Aimee and Victoria, and his many friends today can feel a rightful sense of pride and appreciation for Ron, and I offer my congratulations and appreciation for all he has done for his community and his country.

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RECOGNIZING AGOSTINO LOPORTO

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2005*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Mr. Agostino Loporto of Citrus County, Florida, a Purple Heart recipient from World War II.

Inducted into the military on March 1, 1941, Mr. Loporto went to boot camp at Fort Dix, NJ, and received additional training at Fort Benning and Camp Gordon. Shipped overseas in late 1943 to Liverpool, England, Mr. Loporto was in the Battle of the Bulge on D-Day.

Attached to the 4th Infantry Motorized Division in Belgium, Mr. Loporto was wounded in his shoulder by shrapnel in the Black Forest. He was taken to a hospital in Belgium and was transferred to a hospital in England when the Belgian hospital was hit by a B2 German bomber. Mr. Loporto received 4 months of medical treatment and was discharged from the military on November 4, 1945.

Mr. Speaker, true American heroes like Agostino Loporto should be honored for their service to our Nation and for their commitment and sacrifices in battle. I am honored to present Mr. Loporto with his long-overdue Purple Heart. He is truly one of America's greatest generation.

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SALUTING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE LITTLE LEAGUE WESTERN REGION

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2005*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the Little League Western Region, and its contributions to the youth of the Inland Empire, through its Western Regional Tournament. Little League is the foundation of good values and sportsmanship. Some of us may be bigger than others, or faster, but in team sports, as in life, it is the effort that counts! Through perseverance and teamwork, one can succeed!

Here in the Inland Empire, we like to be known for historic firsts. Did you know that

San Bernardino was the first site of Little League, west of the Rocky Mountains? Did you know San Bernardino had the first team from the West to advance to the World Series in 1951? So, when you play here, you are a part of history! This is a special place!

We should stop to honor those who have made this facility possible. The Western Regional Headquarters was constructed in 1969. The property on which the headquarters was placed was made available to Little League Baseball by the City of San Bernardino. Al Houghton Stadium and the Thomas C. Boyle Administration Building were built first, and the balance of what is here today has been gradually added. Warner Hodgdon, a local businessman, contributed heavily to the swimming pool, which is now such an important part of the Headquarters. Local firms pitched in with donated building materials, equipment and labor to gradually complete the complex. Many District Administrators and other local people labored hard and long. Western Regional Headquarters as it stands today has been a "labor of love."

On the grounds of the Headquarters Complex is a Junior Olympic size swimming pool. For other recreation and practice there are table games, batting cages, practice fields and a recreation hall. There is also a Senior Division field.

The Western Regional Tournament is the culmination of hard work by parents, fundraisers, volunteers, and the business community, as well as these talented players. Twelve teams, and 10 days of play! An audience of 50,000 to 60,000! A Tournament Committee of over 125 volunteers from 11 Western States! Recognition of all teams at the Inland Empire Sixty Sixers home game! The involvement of Team 14, a group of local businessmen and women who volunteer to host a team and take the players to other Southern California events! An annual Golf Tournament!

In addition, Little League Leadership Training Clinics are offered for League Officials, District Administrators, Managers/Coaches, scorekeepers and volunteer umpires. Included in the training sessions are two one-week Umpire Schools along with weekend rules clinics.

And so, I salute the young people who participate, and those who support the game. Play ball!

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EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF HURRICANE KATRINA, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. JIM KOLBE**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 2, 2005*

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of southeastern Arizona, my deepest sympathies go out to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. While we are saddened by this tragedy, our compassion in this time of adversity will prevail. I am confident the spirit of community and generosity will be seen from across the country as we begin to clean up and rebuild from this horrible disaster. Whenever Americans get knocked down, they always get back up. Southern Arizona is ready to do its