

A World War II veteran and committed public servant, Pat Castagna began working for the bed and breakfast 18 years ago, after spending 34 years as a community postman for the U.S. Postal Service. He was honored in that position in 1973 for "recognition of efforts beyond the call of duty in bringing credit to the postal service."

Now property manager of the Grandview Bed and Breakfast, Pat has kept the house, grounds, and office running smoothly. His work has contributed to making Grandview one of the best in the area, winner of the 1998 Bed and Breakfast Excellence Award from the South County Tourism Council.

After 84 years, Pat still finds time not only to continue performing his job, but to contribute to the community as well. He was cited for most consecutive years of community service for his work on the Westerly Town Council, helping plan the Columbus Day Celebration for 25 years and serving as a member of a committee to memorialize those who died serving our country.

The Outstanding Older Worker award reflects the characteristics of "leadership, learning, mentoring, and community service," and was created by Experience Works to honor America's senior workforce. The importance of this segment of the workforce should never be underestimated, and Rhode Island is proud to have people like Mr. Castagna still hard at work in our community. On behalf of my home State, I would like to thank Mr. Castagna and all older workers for their dedication to their jobs, and I would like to wish them all great success in the future.

RECOGNIZING PRESIDENTIAL  
FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2005*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the outstanding dedication to community service displayed by ten high school students who were recently awarded the Presidential Freedom Scholarship.

This year's recipients are Maruan Almada of Fort Lauderdale, Jenna Ali of Deerfield Beach, Charity Lamerson of Boynton Beach, Monique Shepherd and Edwin Morales of Boca Raton, Shaina McGehe of West Palm Beach, Aaron Grossman of Royal Palm Beach, Jarrod Matthei of Pompano Beach, Joshua Miller of Parkland, and Stacey Blase of Palm Beach Gardens.

These ten fine young individuals have taken a leadership role in local community service projects and devoted significant time and energy to improving our district. They have each contributed more than 100 hours of service in the last 12 months alone.

Mr. Speaker, today we recognize these ten Freedom Scholarship recipients for their tireless efforts and leadership in working to improve the lives of others in our community. I wish these fine young men and women the best of luck in their future endeavors, with full confidence that their dedication to service will continue to both improve lives and inspire others.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF ROBERT F.  
NOLAN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS  
RETIREMENT

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2005*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to rise today to join family, friends, and community members in extending my sincere thanks and appreciation to my good friend, Chief Robert F. Nolan, who is celebrating his retirement after thirty-four years of dedicated service. His retirement marks the end of a distinguished career in law enforcement with the Hamden Police Department.

Recent times have brought a renewed public respect for our Nation's law enforcement officials and the very real dangers they face. From the tragic events of Columbine to the devastating attacks of September 11th to the catastrophic destruction of Hurricane Katrina, the skill, dedication and commitment of our law enforcement officials has been tested. From these tragedies lessons have been learned and higher expectations have been made for those who dedicate their lives to protecting our communities. In these times, we have looked to our police officers for guidance and reassurance.

Chief Nolan began his career as a patrol officer with the Hamden Police Department in 1971. In his over three decades of service with the Department, he served in many positions with the utmost of distinction and integrity. Throughout his career, Chief Nolan has always dedicated himself to ensuring the protection and safety of the Hamden community. Attending countless training exercises, workshops, forums, with both local and federal agencies, the Chief always availed himself of the most advanced law enforcement training available. His unparalleled leadership and dedication to law enforcement earned him the appointment of Chief, a rank which he has held for the last seven years.

I have perhaps never been so proud of our law enforcement officials than in the days immediately following September 11th. Chief Nolan along with twenty-two of his officers went to New York City to assist authorities at the police command center. It has been through outstanding efforts like these that the Chief has earned the respect and esteem of his Department, the citizens of Hamden, and all that have had the opportunity to work with him. Every community should be so fortunate.

With all of his work at the Department and in the community, Chief Nolan still made time to be of great assistance to myself and my staff. He has been an invaluable resource to us all and I want to extend my deepest thanks and sincere appreciation for all of his many years of support and friendship.

Chief Robert F. Nolan has demonstrated an unparalleled commitment and has left an indelible mark on the Town of Hamden—he will be missed. As he celebrates his retirement, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join his wife, Shirley; daughters, Dawn and Robyn; his three grandchildren, family, friends, and colleagues in wishing him the very best for many more years of health and happiness.

AVTEX BOILER HOUSE IMPLOSION

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2005*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, September 19, 2005, was an historic day for Warren County in Virginia's 10th District. On that Monday, the largest and last major building in the American Viscose (Avtex) plant complex on Kendrick Lane in Front Royal, next to the South Fork of the Shenandoah River, was imploded. The site is now being prepared for redevelopment as a 165-acre technology-oriented business park, 240-acre nature conservancy park, and 35-acre community soccer complex.

The event marked the end of an era for the Front Royal and Warren County area which began over six decades ago. From 1940 to 1989, the Avtex plant was a hub for this community, employing more than 2,500 people manufacturing rayon, polyester and polypropylene fibers for the defense, space and commercial industries. But its closure in 1989, not only eliminated a great number of jobs, it left the site unsuitable for reuse.

Following its closure, the facility was identified by the Environmental Protection Agency as a Superfund site. However, before the EPA could begin its work on cleaning up the site, asbestos and lead-contaminated buildings had to be removed. Since 2000, the Army Corp of Engineers has been partnering with the Environmental Protection Agency, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Economic Development Authority of Front Royal and Warren County and the FMC Corporation, a former owner of the site, in the Avtex cleanup efforts. These partners have done an amazing job of cleaning up this site and preparing for a new use.

Clean-up can be very costly. That's why securing federal assistance for the effort has been a priority for Senator JOHN WARNER of Virginia and myself for many years. However, the initial funding of \$12 million ended up being insufficient to cover the full cost of demolishing the buildings and removing the asbestos. In 2003, Senator WARNER and I were able to help provide an additional \$11 million in federal funds to finish the effort. It would have been unacceptable to leave the project half-done.

Monday was a very emotional day for many who had dedicated years of service to our nation at the Avtex site. While the occasion was tinged with sadness for many former Avtex employees who were on hand for Monday's ceremony, they are hopeful that their former work site can once again be an economic center for the region.

Former Avtex employees were recognized for their contributions over the years with yellow ribbons. Louise Bowers, an 83-year-old town resident, worked at the rayon plant for 46 years, over half of her life. Her father, the late Noah Martin, had a part in the history of this site having hauled sand used in the construction of the plant.

Mrs. Bowers went to work there in 1940, one of 19 young women hired that day. During World War II, she wound motors for the spinning room. She ended up in the "double-deck" or the lower part of the plant, where the syrup-like viscose liquid was poured through platinum "jets" or thimbles, forming tiny filaments

of rayon yam. She said the men worked upstairs and the women worked downstairs.

It was through her job at Avtex that Louise met her husband, John C. Bowers. He worked at Avtex for 39 years. Much of his work was in the "staple" department, where sheets of fluffy rayon were baled. Like his wife, it was a bittersweet moment to see the boiler house imploded.

For Lloyd W. Ebaugh Sr., 92, of Woodstock, his work at Avtex over 32 years provided a good living for him and his wife, Catherine, to raise their twin daughters. Avtex was the lifeblood for other communities from Winchester to Woodstock to Edinburg to Luray, across the mountain, all around. It was the major industry in the area. His wife was saddened by Monday's implosion noting that "it represented the end of a lot of things, wonderful and good things."

Also on hand for Monday's implosion was William K. Sine, 76, of Front Royal, who earned his living at Avtex for more than 29 years. His was the next to the last shift worked before the plant closed for good on November 9, 1989. "It was a good experience," Mr. Sine said. "I know a lot of the guys I worked with up there, most of them are dead now."

The implosion of the last significant remaining building was a milestone for everyone involved—the town, the county, the Economic Development Authority, and all the federal partners. As the U.S. representative for this area, I was pleased to be able to participate in this historic occasion—the end of the Avtex plant but the birth of a new economic generator for the people of Front Royal, Warren County and the surrounding areas. The people of Warren County are to be commended for their resolve to see this project through to its completion.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF PUBLIX

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2005*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 75th Anniversary of Publix supermarkets.

Publix was founded by George W. Jenkins in 1930 in Winter Haven, Florida. Since then, Publix has more than 125,000 associates in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. With more than 800 stores, it is one of the fastest growing employee-owned Fortune 500 companies.

In 1940, George Jenkins mortgaged an orange grove he had acquired during the Depression for a down payment on his dream store—Florida's first supermarket. He built his "food palace" of marble, glass and stucco, and equipped it with innovations never seen before in a grocery store. Such innovations included air conditioning, fluorescent lighting, electric eye doors and frozen food cases. People from all over traveled hundreds of miles to partake in the Publix experience.

In 1951, to help build and supply the stores, a 125,000-square-foot warehouse and headquarters complex was completed in Lakeland. Five years later, Publix recorded its first million-dollar profit year.

George Jenkins' reputation grew along with the business and he was elected president of the Super Market Institute in 1961. In 1970, Publix achieved another high mark, recording nearly \$500 million in sales, a figure that would double in four short years. In 1979, Publix had a record-breaking year with 15 new store openings.

Publix turned 50 in 1980, and celebrated by kicking off a decade of technological innovation. In keeping with the company's affinity for using technology to make shopping more pleasurable, Publix introduced checkout scanning statewide.

Publix marked another milestone in 1991 when the company crossed the state line to open a store in Savannah, Georgia. It was named in the top ten Best Companies to Work for in America in 1993, and is consistently recognized in the grocery business for superior quality and customer service by an American Customer Index survey.

The company has received numerous awards during its 75 year history including Diversistar Award for excelling in promoting workplace diversity practices; named by Child magazine as one of the Top 10 Family-Friendly Supermarkets; "Outstanding Business" award for recycling efforts from Recycle Today, Inc.; and the Governor's Business Diversification Award for Business Expansion.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Florida's 22nd District, I wish to commend the efforts of the Publix CEO, Charlie Jenkins, Jr. and everyone at Publix for their mission to provide quality food and their continued efforts to offer excellent customer service.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF  
FREDERICK DOUGLAS "FRITZ"  
POLLARD

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2005*

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Frederick Douglas "Fritz" Pollard. This past August, Fritz, a native Hoosier, was inducted into the National Football League Hall of Fame alongside gridiron legends Dan Marino, Steve Young, and Benny Friedman. Fritz Pollard was a pioneer for African-American athletes in the NFL during the pre-civil rights era of the 20th century.

Fritz Pollard was born in Chicago in 1894; the son of a former soldier in the Union army. Upon his high school graduation, Pollard attended Northwestern, Dartmouth, and Harvard universities prior to his enrollment at Brown University in 1915.

As a young freshman halfback, Pollard led the Brown football team to victory over Harvard and Yale with Pollard producing 531 yards of total offense and six touchdowns in just two games. As a tribute to his success on the field, Pollard was named the first African-American All American running back in 1916. Pollard also became the first African-American to play in the Rose Bowl that same season. Pollard was later recognized for his stellar college career in 1954 when he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

Pollard's professional football career began in 1921 on the early Akron Pros roster. He later went on to play for the Milwaukee Bad-

gers, the Hammond Pros, and the Providence Steam Roller.

In the NFL, Pollard electrified the game while enduring the hatred of crowds because of his race and the indignities of dressing and eating in isolation from his teammates due to Jim Crow laws and customs. He often suited up for football games in seclusion at a nearby cigar store or in automobiles. While on the field, Pollard always had to remain alert for flying rocks and at times even needed to be escorted from the field for his safety. This was in addition to the acts of discrimination he faced at hotels and restaurants.

Beginning in 1934, the NFL banned African-American players until 1946. Pollard fought this segregation by forming independent African-American touring football teams: the Chicago Black Hawks and most notably the New York Brown Bomber, to showcase African-American talent to the fans and to the NFL.

Fritz Pollard's talents extended far beyond the football field. He owned a coal company, ran a weekly newspaper, formed his own New York-based public relations firm, founded F. D. Pollard & Co., one of the nation's first Black run securities firms, a talent agency, headed a movie studio in Harlem, and produced the first black motion picture.

Today, Hoosiers still pay tribute to Pollard for the trail that he blazed for equality. The Indiana Black Expo, Inc.'s Circle City Classic football game annually showcases the talents of collegiate football players, coaches, musicians, administrators, faculty, staff and boosters to ensure that the name Fritz Pollard and his legacy are not forgotten. Frederick Douglas "Fritz" Pollard didn't live his life to make a living, but rather to make a difference. Pollard forged a trail followed by the 69 percent of today's NFL players who are African-American and the just over 70 percent of the NFL's players from other racial and ethnic minority groups. Pollard charted the course followed by the six African-American Head Coaches currently in the NFL, the 11 coordinators and the upwards of 170 minority Assistant Coaches.

Fredrick Douglas "Fritz" Pollard's induction to the NFL Hall of Fame shed a light on the early history of the NFL and Pollard's pioneering roles as the first African-American coach. To this day we in Indiana are proud to have called him our own.

TRIBUTE TO THE WORCESTER  
WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2005*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Worcester Women's History Project. During their 10 years of exceptional service, the Worcester Women's History Project has raised awareness of the important and vital role of women in the history of Worcester and our Nation.

The Worcester Women's History Project, since its creation in 1994, has raised awareness of the importance of Worcester, site of the first National Woman's Rights Convention in 1850. In conjunction with that goal, the Worcester Women's History Foundation has educated the local community on the rich history of women and their courage in organizing