

small businesses and ensure that these companies are paid for work already performed in the Grand Canyon National Park.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF BLANCA ALVARADO

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the achievements of Santa Clara County Supervisor Blanca Alvarado. She continues to be a leader in local government and a national leader in the area of juvenile detention reform.

Blanca served 14 years as a San José City Councilmember representing San José's East Side before being appointed to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors in 1995, filling the position I vacated when I was elected to Congress. I heartily recommended her appointment and have supported her in her good works ever since.

The daughter of a miner, Blanca has always been involved in public life, whether it was helping her parents in union and political activities, hosting a women's radio show called "Merienda musical," working for the Department of Social Services or acting as the local president of MAPA, the Mexican American Political Association.

I first met Blanca in the mid-1970's when we served together on the Housing Service Center board of directors before either of us had stood for public office. I found her then to be a caring person committed to her community and especially to the needs of the poor. Those qualities have continued throughout her life—both in her public and private efforts.

As a City Councilmember and Vice-Mayor, Blanca actively worked to build neighborhood organizations and developed community plans and partnerships to renovate impoverished neighborhoods.

Blanca's devotion to children is illustrated through projects such as the The East Initiative. The Initiative recognizes the importance of securing early access to parent support, health care, and social services for all children and their families. Blanca, as a member of the First Five Commission, lobbied for a school readiness program in the local school district. When the school district was not in a position to join with First Five in creating a school readiness program, the Commission partnered with the community and focused on the neighborhoods surrounding Cesar Chavez, San Antonio, and Arbuckle elementary schools. First Five allocated \$750,000 in the first year of the East Initiative alone.

Blanca also leads the county-wide effort to eliminate inappropriate and unnecessary incarceration of youth, especially youth of color who are over-represented in the juvenile justice system. Because of her efforts, the county has become a national model in juvenile detention reform. Since the movement began in July 2002, law enforcement, the Probation Department, the Juvenile Court, community partners, and many other participants have committed to shifting their efforts from incarceration to community-based approaches for

treating troubled youth, to allow troubled young people to turn their lives around and to have productive, hopeful futures.

One of the projects Blanca is most remembered for is her leadership in the conception—and development of the Mexican Heritage Plaza, opened in 1999 and now one of the largest Latino cultural centers in the Nation. Twelve years in the making, and built over a site once picketed by San José native son Cesar Chavez, the Plaza is a 55,000 square-foot cultural center with state of the art theatrical venues, a Smithsonian-affiliate gallery space and luscious thematic gardens that serve as a regional resource for cultural programming and education.

In addition to her years of friendship, I wish to thank Blanca Alvarado for a lifetime of public service and her determined efforts to achieve social change. "Si se puede!"

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CITIZENS BANK IN HARTSVILLE

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th year of existence of the Citizens Bank located in Hartsville, Tennessee. The bank will celebrate its anniversary on October 1, 2005.

Citizens Bank was established in 1905 with \$10,000 in capital. The bank's loan officers had a maximum loan authority of \$300, enough to buy a small farm 100 years ago. They started keeping daily statements in 1923.

Citizens Bank never succumbed to the Great Depression; however, the bank did close twice during its century of history—once during the flood of 1927 and again during a storm in 1929 that left 18 inches of snow on the ground.

Originally, the bank rented space in downtown Hartsville, before building its own space by the Trousdale County Courthouse. In 1984, the bank built its current facility on Highway 25.

I wish President Wilson Taylor, Vice President Betty Sue Hibdon, Customer Representative and Public Relations Coordinator Gloria Dalton and all the employees who represent the heart of Citizens Bank much success with their celebration and the start of another century of service.

HONORING SERGEANT PAUL KARPOWICH OF FREELAND, PENNSYLVANIA, WHO WAS KILLED IN IRAQ IN DECEMBER 2004

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 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 life of Sergeant Paul Karpowich, of Freeland, Pennsylvania, who was killed in action in Iraq in December 2004.

Sgt. Karpowich was 30 years old when he suffered the loss of his life while trying to liberate the Iraqi people and afford them the same opportunities we enjoy in a land ruled by democracy.

The victim of a suicide bomber whose treachery claimed the lives of 20 people, Sgt. Karpowich was one of 15 military personnel who were killed. The remaining five victims were civilian employees of Department of Defense contractors.

Sgt. Karpowich was remembered by many as a "soldier's soldier." He joined the U.S. Army immediately after graduating from Bishop Hafey High School. He completed basic training at Fort Benning, GA and then went on to Fort Bragg, NC, where he graduated from paratrooper school, after which he joined the 82nd Airborne Division.

Sgt. Karpowich served as a drill instructor with the 98th Division's 1st Battalion, 417th Regiment, 1st Brigade.

He had recently been notified that he was about to be promoted to Master Sergeant, the second highest enlisted rank in the Army, when the bomb blast ripped through a mess tent in a forward operating base at Mosul, Iraq, where Sgt. Karpowich and hundreds of others were gathered.

The first Hazleton area resident to give his life in the Iraq War, Sgt. Karpowich's awards and decorations included the Army Commendation Medal, the Expert Infantryman's Badge, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Global War on Terror Medal.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the life of a true American patriot whose courage and bravery transcended human frailty and shone like a beacon to inspire others.

Sgt. Karpowich well understood the importance of those objectives and willingly put his life in harm's way to help others enjoy the same liberties as we do. The world is a better place today because of the sacrifices made by Sgt. Karpowich and others like him.

ACKNOWLEDGING SANTA CLARA COUNTY ON ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF EFFORTS

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge those in Santa Clara County, California who have offered assistance to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Their efforts stand as a testament to the American spirit of generosity.

The local governments of Santa Clara County have responded with munificent offerings to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The San José City Council and Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors each authorized \$500,000 for the Santa Clara Valley American Red Cross to provide services to hurricane victims who arrive in the area. The San José Fire Department deployed firefighters to assist in the region devastated by Hurricane Katrina and stand ready as needed.

Local universities opened their academies and housing to those displaced by the hurricane. In fact, Santa Clara University admitted 75 students from New Orleans-based institutions Loyola University and Tulane University

after the hurricane forced the campuses to close. The San José Recovery Center is providing interim shelter and services for evacuees at a former student housing complex at San José State University. So far, the Center has served sixty-six people.

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority responded as well by providing free bus passes to individuals and families, assuring mobility to access the medical services, education, and jobs.

United by the Santa Clara County CADRE (Collaborating Agencies Disaster Relief Efforts), many local community organizations have provided ongoing evacuee support. The Volunteer Center of Silicon Valley forwarded 900 housing offers while coordinating occupational opportunities for evacuees. Local businesses and individuals have also contributed generous cash, food, and supply donations to the recovery effort.

I commend the many individuals, organizations and agencies of Santa Clara County that contributed to the relief effort. I know that these donations and others from across the country have made a meaningful impact on the lives of the thousands of Gulf Coast residents still living in a state of uncertainty.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, the House has voted to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), a historic measure first passed in 1994. It marked when our country finally recognized that domestic violence is not a private family matter, but a national problem that requires a national response. Since VAWA passed, victims of domestic violence have more options to leave abusive relationships, local communities have developed critical programs to assist victims, and our criminal justice system has become better trained in prosecuting these unique crimes.

However, it is always the incident that happens in your backyard that will highlight the scope of a problem, such as domestic violence. In 2003, the state of Washington State became the focus of a national tragedy. Many have read in the papers the heartbreak story of how, on April 26, 2003, Crystal Brame was shot in a grocery store parking lot by her husband, David Brame, chief of police for the city of Tacoma. Crystal Brame died one week later, and David Brame committed suicide at the scene.

In response to this tragedy, people in the state of Washington swiftly formed a statewide task force of domestic violence, law enforcement, and criminal justice system experts to determine the best practices for law enforcement agencies, focusing on prevention, training, enforcement, and response. Crystal's death and the state's response, illustrated that despite the progress since VAWA passed in 1994, tragedies of domestic violence live in our communities today, and that we must continue to work towards new solutions.

I think we can do a better job helping people like Crystal, whose abuser happened to be in a profession that responds to crimes of domestic violence. I have hopes that my col-

leagues will help put a stop to such tragedies and work with Mr. Norm Dicks, Mr. Adam Smith, and Mr. Dave Reichert, and me to commission a study by the Department of Justice to learn more about such incidences and the best response to officer-involved domestic violence. Ending domestic violence is an ongoing effort, and I have seen great improvements to this end. I would like to see an even stronger commitment so that other communities can prevent tragedies—like that of Crystal Brame from happening in their backyard.

HONORING THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 40th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Humanities and to offer my congratulations to its chairman, Bruce Cole.

In 1965, Congress discovered that the most successful democracies consist of the most informed, the most curious, and the most creative citizens. When the 89th Congress created the National Endowment for the Humanities, it declared that "Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens."

For 40 years, the NEH has promoted "wisdom and vision" by advancing the study and understanding of history, literature, languages, archaeology, philosophy, and other humanities subjects, throughout the United States.

As Chairman Cole has so profoundly observed, "The humanities are the study of what makes us human: the legacy of our past, the ideas and principles that motivate us, and the eternal questions that we still ponder. The classics and archeology show us whence our civilization came. The study of literature and art shape our sense of beauty. The knowledge of philosophy and religion give meaning to our concepts of justice and goodness."

Today, the role humanities play in education is increasingly important. Of all the learning disciplines, they tap and expand the human imagination the most. In a world of exploding options for individuals and families, it is imperative that history provide reference points, and when there is no experience to serve as guide, that the imagination be stimulated, and perspectives applied and values brought to bear. Without reference to the guide posts of the humanities, society loses its soul. It becomes rudderless in the seas of societal change.

TENNESSEANS COME TOGETHER TO AID THE LOUISIANA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, Tennesseans have a long tradition of volunteerism. In times of need, the Nation is able to count on our state.

In the aftermath of a truly devastating hurricane season, we've seen our state and our

country come together to assist the gulf coast region. Tennesseans are opening their hearts and homes to evacuees and assisting with what will be a very long recovery. Our own Nashville Symphony will host a benefit concert on October 4, 2005 for the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra (LPO) as it struggles to survive. Nashville area businesses and the community have come together to reunite the LPO in our city for a benefit concert.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Executive Director Alan Valentine, his team at the Nashville Symphony, and the many local businesses and supporters who've come together to aid the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra.

TRIBUTE TO LAXMAIAH MANCHIKANTI, PH.D

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize one of my constituents, Laxmaiah Manchikanti, Ph.D of Paducah, Kentucky. Dr. Manchikanti has been practicing medicine in my Congressional District for the last 24 years. I have known Dr. Manchikanti for several years and have found him to be a man of incredible integrity who is devoted to helping others. He is an active member of the community as well as a forceful leader in the field of pain management. Dr. Manchikanti, an immigrant from India who is a naturalized citizen of the United States, exemplifies the fulfillment of the American dream.

Dr. Manchikanti is a well known physician with interests in many aspects of medicine, both in patient care, as well as academics. He specializes in anesthesiology with a sub-specialty in interventional pain management and is well known in the circles of interventional pain management. Apart from his interest in the clinical practice of anesthesiology and interventional pain management, he is also proficient in administrative medicine, patient advocacy, the economics of healthcare, medical ethics, and various other aspects of the profession.

Dr. Manchikanti is an avid clinical researcher with numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals with original contributions, along with book publications. He is also an internationally known teacher who has conducted multiple seminars. As President and founder of the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians (ASIPP), Dr. Manchikanti has participated in the development of various guidelines, published on the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) web-site. Apart from this, he also functions as a consultant to companies which assess evidence including ECRI (formerly the Emergency Care Research Institute), which is in charge of the AHRQ web-site and others. He also serves as a member on the Carrier Advisory Committee of Kentucky.

Because Dr. Manchikanti is a specialist in pain management, many of the drugs he prescribes have the potential to become addictive. During a conversation I had with Dr. Manchikanti a few years ago, we discussed Kentucky's efforts to combat prescription drug abuse through the Kentucky All Schedules