

active member of the National Council of Senior Citizens, the National Association of Mature People, and the National Tenants Organization. A member of the Faith Missionary Baptist Church in West Haven for nearly fifty years, she has held various leadership positions within the congregation as well. All of this, and Annie still found the time to raise twelve children of her own and act as a foster mother to numerous other children. Through her compassion, love, and generosity, Annie has quietly touched the lives of many and left an indelible mark on our community.

Through all of her good work, Annie brings a very special gift to our community—that of hope and inspiration. That is why I am proud to stand today to join her twelve children; thirty grandchildren, fifty-nine great-grandchildren; and thirty-five great-great-grandchildren; family, friends, and the New Haven community in marking this remarkable milestone—the 100th birthday of Annie Sellers. Marking a century of life, this very special occasion reflects her extraordinary resilience and strength of spirit. She is a true community treasure—Happy Birthday, Annie!

CONGRATULATING OFFICERS AND
MEMBERS OF EMSWORTH BOROUGH
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the officers and members of the Emsworth Borough Volunteer Fire Department on the occasion of the Department's 100th Anniversary. The members of the Fire Department have unselfishly served the citizens of Emsworth for the greater part of the past century and now look forward to continuing their brave service in the 21st century.

The community of Emsworth cites the Volunteer Fire Department as "an organization that has become the backbone of the community." From its inception in 1905, the department has served as a valuable resource to the community. In 1995, the department expanded into providing service for Glenfield Borough, proving that its commitment to service includes not only its citizens, but its local neighbors as well.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Volunteer Fire Department of Emsworth. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute citizens such as the Emsworth Volunteer Firefighters who truly embody the spirit of public service and the meaning of bravery.

A VERMONT FILMMAKER OF NOTE

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to inform this body that Eugene

Jarecki, a filmmaker in Waitsfield, Vermont, has been awarded the Grand Jury Prize at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival. Mr. Jarecki won this prestigious award for his documentary, *Why We Fight*.

Mr. Jarecki provides a balanced view of what President Eisenhower warned was a danger to democracy: the "military-industrial complex." He interviews, for instance, supporters of the current war in Iraq such as *Weekly Standard* editor William Kristol and Richard Perle, Chairman of the Defense Policy Board; he also interviews those who warn of dangers which may emerge from the prosecution of that war, talking with Senator JOHN MCCAIN, news anchor Dan Rather, and USAF Lt. Col. (Ret.) Karen Kwiatkowski.

Sundance describes his film succinctly and accurately: "Why We Fight is an inside look at the anatomy of the American war machine, examining how a force so potentially counter to the balance of a democratic society influences American life. Amid the upheaval of the Iraq War, the film follows the personal stories of a group of characters in America's military family.

"Why does America fight? Time and again, why does she seem inclined toward war against an ever changing array of enemies? What are the forces—economic, political, ideological—that shape and propel American militarism? Where do they meet? And what role does the individual play?"

Writing in the *New York Times* this week in honor of the recently deceased Arthur Miller, fellow playwright (and Vermont resident) David Mamet wrote, "Bad drama reinforces our prejudices. It informs us of what we knew when we came into the theater. Good drama survives because it appeals not to the fashion of the moment, but to the problems both universal and eternal, as they are insoluble." Eugene Jarecki makes good films.

The balance in his film, along with the craft and care with which it was made, propelled Jarecki's work to its Sundance Award. As Vermont filmmaker Jay Craven noted, Jarecki's "film emerged as a top Sundance hit precisely because it articulates a view that goes far beyond the seasonal politics of elections to pose larger and enduring questions."

In this era when too often political "spin" substitutes for reasoned analysis and the study of history, Eugene Jarecki has shown us that the media have a vital role to play in educating us about our political and economic past, and about our future. Vermont is as proud of him as the judges at Sundance were; and we are happy that he is once again en route to sharing his cinematic work with the entire nation.

IN HONOR OF MR. GARY GARMANN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gary Garmann, a local architect that brought the beauty of form to the 17th District. Mr. Garmann passed away on January 24, 2005 at age 62. He is survived by his loving wife, Robin, his son, Rees; daughter Jodi; his parents Dorothy and Fritz Garmann,

of Silverdale, Washington and his brother Ken Garmann of Yelm, Washington.

Gary came to Santa Cruz in 1977, with a goal to expand his professional goals, and he made his presence known ever since. He helped rebuild the downtown region of Santa Cruz after the devastating Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989, by designing such buildings as LuLu Carpenter's and the Borders building downtown. These beautiful buildings now stand as local landmarks, and a testament to Mr. Garmann's talent as an architect.

Mr. Garmann's generosity and commitment to the community extended far beyond his ability to design beautiful architecture. He also selflessly donated his time to the Kuumbwa Jazz Center, where he sat on the board, as well as the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History. Mr. Garmann additionally assisted in the planning of the Santa Cruz homeless shelter, giving his time and energy to those most deeply in need.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my deepest sympathy to Mr. Garmann's family by celebrating his life and his contribution to society. His beautiful buildings, his generous spirit and his love for others, will stand as a testament to his character long into the future. Mr. Garmann is admired by all for his dedication both to his business and the community and he will be greatly missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JESSE
POOR

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Jesse Poor. Recently Mr. Poor retired as deputy commander of the Anniston Army Depot after 32 years of service. His record speaks for itself, and he is known throughout the community and in the Army for having done an outstanding job throughout his career.

Mr. Poor started at the Anniston Army Depot in 1972 as a trash collector. From those humble beginnings Mr. Poor advanced from factory worker all the way to the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University where he earned his master's degree. He later returned to the Depot to apply his experience and eventually rose to deputy commander.

During Mr. Poor's tenure the Depot exceeded its financial goals and increased its workload. He supported forward-thinking public-private partnerships, and in part because of his leadership the facility has distinguished itself within the Department of Defense as one of the most efficient of its kind.

The entire Calhoun County community owes Jesse Poor a deep sense of gratitude for his service, and I am honored to be able to recognize his achievements in the House today. Our community will remember his service for years to come.

CONGRATULATING OFFICERS AND
MEMBERS OF NORTH HAMPTON
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the officers and members of the North Hampton Volunteer Fire Department on the occasion of the Department's 50th Anniversary. The members of the Fire Department have unselfishly served the citizens of Hampton for half a century and now look forward to continuing their brave service in the 21st century.

The members of the North Hampton Volunteer Fire Department plan to celebrate their 50th anniversary with a dinner and dance event on Saturday, March 12, 2005 with cocktails beginning at 6:00, and dinner at 7:00 at the Hampton Banquet Hall.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Volunteer Fire Department of North Hampton. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute citizens such as the North Hampton Volunteer Firefighters who truly embody the spirit of public service and the meaning of bravery.

VERMONT'S GREAT JAZZ MASTER

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, Vermont's great jazz saxophonist, Big Joe Burrell, died on February 2 at the age of 80. He was born and spent his early years in Port Huron Michigan. The story of his start in music is legendary. Here is how Brent Hallenbeck recounted it in the Burlington Free Press:

As a shy 10-year-old, he approached his mother's boss and asked to borrow \$5 so he could buy a saxophone.

"Saxophone?" the man asked. "What are you going to do with a saxophone?"

"I'm going to play it," little Joe Burrell told him. And he did, mastering his instrument in the next few years. After serving in the U.S. Army during World War Two, his musical career took off. At an Akron dance he played the opening act for a B.B. King performance, and King thereafter asked Big Joe to play saxophone in his orchestra. He would go on to tour with King for almost two years before meeting up with another major figure in American music, Count Basie.

Basie invited Big Joe to play in his club in New York and would become the major musical influence in Big Joe's life. "Count Basie was the predominant influence on me until the day he died, and still is today," Burrell said in 2002.

Ten years of playing in Canada eventually brought him to Montreal, from where it was an easy journey to play a date in Burlington, Vermont. There he discovered his nephew, Leon Burrell, was a professor of education at the University of Vermont. The meeting was doubly fortuitous: Leon invited Big Joe to live with him, and he made Leon's home his own for many years. And Vermont gained its most well-known, most-well-beloved jazz musician.

Big Joe jammed with fellow musician Paul Asbell, and out of their collaboration was formed an ensemble called The Unknown Blues Band. The core of The Unknown Blues Band included Asbell, Chuck Eller on keyboard, Tony Markellis on bass, and Russ Lawson on drums, and of course, Big Joe. Not only did they make music, but they shaped a whole new generation of musicians. Big Joe, who played with BB King and Count Basie, Etta James and Little Richard, was a formative influence on Trey Anastasio, the guitarist for Phish. In fact, Burrell played guest appearances with Anastasio's band in recent years.

Last year, the Unknown Blues Band celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. The band was a Burlington staple, playing at gigs everywhere and most especially at a weekly performance at Halvorson's Upstreet Café in Burlington. Even as age seemed outwardly to slow him down, Big Joe kept performing at his customary high level. Café owner Tim Halvorson told the Free Press, "He'd shuffle in with his walker or a cane, but, boy, as soon as the music started and he got a glass of Canadian Club and he grabbed his saxophone, he was 30 years younger." As his nephew Dr. Leon Burrell said, speaking of his last performance just a month ago, "He went out doing what he did best. It's like a cowboy dying with his boots on."

Big Joe was a big man—not only in physical stature, but big in heart. He loved music, he loved people, and he loved playing in Vermont. Vermont loved him back. He was an emblem of the amazing power of jazz, our nation's preeminent form of music. He showed all who lived in the Green Mountain State how jazz can speak to each of us, directly, deeply; he showed us that the music born in the South and in the big cities of the Mid-west has flowed, like a mighty river, all through our nation. He was an important tributary of that river, and all of us in Vermont who love music will remember Big Joe for that, and for the wonderful performances he gave us, time and again.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. GEORGE
HAMILTON

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary businessman and exceptional American, George Hamilton, President of Dow Automotive and recently named one of the most powerful African Americans in corporate America.

Since 1988, Black Enterprise has published a list of the most powerful African Americans in corporate America. This year, Mr. Hamilton has been chosen by the magazine for this honor. The list is compiled from the 1,000 largest publicly traded companies and leading international corporations located in the United States. This year Mr. Hamilton is among 75 African Americans honored from 62 companies and twelve industries.

Mr. Hamilton joined the Dow Chemical Company in 1977 as a seller of plastics in the automobile industry. Since coming to the company, Mr. Hamilton has held a number of positions in sales, marketing, development and business operations. Prior to joining Dow Automotive in 2000 he served as North American Commercial Director for Engineering Plastics for the Dow Chemical Company.

While holding his position at Dow Automotive, Mr. Hamilton is also active within many engineering and automotive Boards. He is a proud member of the Society of Automotive Engineers and the Society of Plastics Engineers. Mr. Hamilton also sits on his company's Global Commercial Leadership Network, Corporate Contributions Committee as well as the CEO Council on Diversity.

This is a significant honor for Mr. Hamilton and I wish to congratulate him on his accomplishments and recognition as one of the 75 most powerful African Americans in corporate America.

HONORING SENATOR JOHN
VASCONCELLOS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding work of California State Senator John Vasconcellos. In the nearly four decades Senator Vasconcellos has served in the California State Legislature, he has worked tirelessly to promote policies which emphasize education and peace, both in government and in local communities.

Senator Vasconcellos was born in San Jose, California, in 1932. He was the eldest of three children born to a Portuguese father and a German mother. Notably, he became the only student in the history of Santa Clara University to serve as Student Body President, to be the Valedictorian of his class, and to win the Nobili Medal, which is awarded to the most outstanding graduate. After completing his undergraduate studies, Senator Vasconcellos served two years as a lieutenant in the United States Army before returning to Santa Clara University to enroll in law school.

In 1966, Senator Vasconcellos was elected to represent California's 13th district in the State Assembly, a position he would hold for 30 years. During that time, he served on many of the state's most important committees, including the Committee on Ways and Means, the Assembly Education Committee, and the Select Committee on Ethics. During his time as a State Assemblymember, he also spearheaded some of the most important and socially consequential legislation of his time. He was responsible for the creation not only of the first campus childcare program in the nation, but has been a steadfast supporter of student financial aid throughout his career. His commitment to education is demonstrated not only by his creation of the Cal Grant Program 25 years ago, which now serves over 60,000 students each year, but also by his advocacy of the personal and academic development of all children, as evidenced by his creation of the California Task Force to Promote Self Esteem and Personal & Social Responsibility.

After terming out of the California State Assembly in 1996, he was able to run for the open State Senate seat in his district and won. He continued to tirelessly serve the public and the cause of quality children's education in this capacity until his retirement in 2004. Though he no longer holds public office, Senator Vasconcellos continues to work for the improvement and accessibility of education, and has worked to establish a scholarship fund as