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LVT has done a superb job of representing their community and involving students in promoting visual arts. I am proud of Lewisville and LVT Channel 15 who continue to keep their public up-to-date on hometown news and to provide quality family entertainment.

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT McKEOWN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a devoted public servant who served some of the communities I represent for several decades. Scott McKeown lost his life in the recent Metrolink crash in Glendale, California. He spent 20 years with the City of Glendale and just recently celebrated his first year of service in the City of Pasadena's telecommunications department.

His exceptional attitude was an inspiration to all who knew him and his compassion and positive outlook were infectious. He had a passion for trains, especially locomotives, and instilled this love for the "iron horse" in his children. Scott McKeown is survived by his wife and two young children.

Working in the public sector is challenging and rewarding, and Scott embodied the spirit of public service through his longstanding service in our community. The tragic train crash last week was indeed a sad day for our community, and Mr. McKeown will be sorely missed.

HONORING MICHAEL MAYBERRY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Mayberry, Chief of Police in Henderson, Nevada. Chief Mayberry is retiring from the force after 30 years of dedicated service. He graduated from UNLV with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. Chief Mayberry also graduated from the 180th session of the FBI National Academy and the 29th session of the Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar in Quantico, Virginia.

Chief Mayberry began his career with the Henderson Police Department in 1976 as a reserve officer. In 1978 he was hired as a full time patrol officer and has had numerous assignments since that time. He has been a field training officer, detective, investigations division commander and support division commander. Chief Mayberry was named acting police chief in August 1999 and appointed police chief on May 2, 2000.

Southern Nevada is a well known tourist destination which is visited by millions of people throughout the world. This creates a unique security environment which requires unique and capable police officers. Mike's proven leadership during these difficult times goes a long way to explain why he truly deserved the title Chief of Police.

Under Chief Mayberry's tenure, the Henderson Police Department has become the most technologically advanced police department in the United States. On March 23, 2002, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, CALEA, accredited the department for its professional excellence.

Mike, I wish you all the best. It was a privilege to work with you during those years where our services overlapped. However it is a greater privilege to call you my friend.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Michael Mayberry is a dedicated officer who has worked diligently for the Henderson community. I ask my fellow colleagues to stand with me today and honor all police officers across the country, like Chief Mayberry, who have dedicated so many years to building a better community, which in turn contributes to a better Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, of March 8, I was delayed and missed Rollcall votes 53, 54.

I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position on Rollcall votes 53 and 54.

It was my intention to vote: "yea on Rollcall 53; and "yea" on Rollcall 54.

At this time I would ask for unanimous consent that my positions be entered into the RECORD following those votes or in the appropriate portion of the RECORD.

IN HONOR OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLEVELAND POST OFFICE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the 200th Anniversary of the Cleveland Post Office, which embraces the legacy of Northeast Ohio's mail carriers. For two centuries, these fearless messengers have braved everything from freezing January snow to the blazing heat of July, to snarling dogs, in order to deliver the mail throughout our Greater Cleveland community and across our nation.

Joseph Briggs, a Cleveland postal employee, revolutionized the postal system when he convinced postal officials to adopt a policy of free home delivery. On July 1, 1863, as our nation was divided by the Civil War, 450 mail carriers began Free City Service Delivery in Cleveland, Ohio. Encouraged by the positive response, officials expanded this service to other areas.

As our nation's frontier rolled westward, so did the United States Postal Service. The Service grew alongside every new and growing city and town, delivering mail from faraway places to our mailboxes. They journeyed down dusty trails, winding rivers, city streets and country roads—wherever cities came to life, so did a new post office.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of every past and present employee of the Cleveland Post Office and their outstanding legacy.

The mail carriers hold in their hands the important information we need—from lifechanging announcements to everyday correspondence. This centuries-old exchange of news, emotion and ideas, sealed in a Postal Service letter, not only communicated the events of our nation's history, but still serves to facilitate change and shape the direction of America.

TRIBUTE TO THE FORT COLLINS VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 1781

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I am continually grateful to the men and women who are currently serving in the U.S. military, and I am also mindful of the great sacrifices that have been made by our veterans. Sacrifices that have secured and maintained our freedom.

Recently, a local group of veterans received a special honor. In Fort Collins, Colorado, VFW Post 1781 received the prestigious Diamond Jubilee Award. The post earned this distinction in celebration of their 75th Anniversary.

VFW Post 1781 has maintained their post continuously since January of 1930. In fact, a copy of the original charter still hangs on the post's entryway next to a large display case filled with war memorabilia.

The post currently has 388 members and about 150 women in the ladies auxiliary. Post 1781 has been extraordinarily active; the chapter has not seen a drop in membership for 20 years.

This group carries on the VFW tradition of community service, working with other national organizations. Constructive community service is a founding VFW tenet with volunteerism benefiting education, the environment, health, and civic projects. For example, the VFW's citizenship education program is designed to stimulate an interest in America's history and promote patriotism.

In addition, the post and canteen are offered at no cost for veterans' memorial services.

The post is a place where many members spend their time with fellow veterans relaxing when they are between other routines, such as giving flag etiquette presentations or standing on the corner of College Avenue and Mulberry Street holding Support Our Troops signs.

In addition, the post contains a section of their building that is loaned to the Disabled American Veterans hospital ride program.

Except for monthly meetings, which are open to those with home membership at Post 1781, the rest of the building is available to VFW members from anywhere in the nation.

I applaud these retired military service men and women, not only for their service to our country, but also for their service in the local community.

On behalf of a grateful nation, I offer my warmest congratulations to the Fort Collins

VFW for their achievement of the Diamond Jubilee Award. May God bless our precious veterans and their families.

HONORING CONGREGATION MISHKAN ISRAEL AS IT CELEBRATES ITS 165TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join Rabbi Herbert Brockman and the many friends and families who have gathered to celebrate the 165th Anniversary of Congregation Mishkan Israel. Marking its 165th anniversary, Mishkan Israel is the oldest continuing congregation in New England and the 14th oldest synagogue in the United States. This milestone is a very special occasion, not only for the administration and members of the congregation, but for our community as well.

First established in 1840 by a group of Bavarian Jews fleeing economic and social oppression, services, conducted in German and Hebrew, were held over the Heller & Mendelbaum Store in New Haven, Connecticut. A short time later, the congregation purchased the Third Congregational Church building which remained its home until 1897 when the temple on Orange and Audubon Streets was dedicated. With the continued growth of the congregation, the synagogue made its final move in 1960 to its present home on Ridge Road in Hamden.

The strength and continuity of a congregation is dependent, not only on its membership, but on its leadership as well. Since its earliest days when it was the first synagogue to be dedicated by Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise, who later became the leader of American Reform Judaism, Congregation Mishkan Israel has had a strong tradition of active leadership. Generation after generation, the rabbis who have come to Mishkan Israel have shared a passion for social justice—both here at home and throughout the world. In the 1870s, Rabbi Judah Wechsler opened the Torah to women, first allowing female confirmants to read from the sacred text; Rabbi Edgar Siskin became the first rabbi to be appointed to Yale University's faculty and helped to found Yale Hillel; and in the decades of the civil rights movement, Rabbi Robert Goldburg was an active champion of social justice protesting communism and inviting a myriad of speakers from Norman Cousins to The Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. to address the congregation. Today, Rabbi Herbert Brockman upholds this legacy. Under his leadership, Mishkan Israel has opened its doors to the Urban Youth Center, a program for inner-city middle school children and sponsored the settlement of seven Russian Jewish emigrant families in New Haven.

In addition to its active leadership, members of Mishkan Israel have long been known for their endless contributions to the community. Volunteerism has always been strong force within the congregation and, through their compassion and generosity, the congregation has touched the lives of thousands over the years. Whether tending to the ill, volunteering at the local military hospital, purchasing Lib-

erty Bonds during World War I, or participating in the Pe'ah Project, which provides over a ton of vegetables from a congregant-run garden to area soup kitchens—the members of Mishkan Israel have shown a unique dedication to enriching our community.

Our houses of worship play a vital role in our communities—providing people with a place to turn to for comfort when they are most in need. In over a century, there have been many who have worshiped within their halls and many who have found peace and strength in the outstretched arms of Mishkan Israel. Throughout its history, Mishkan Israel has been an invaluable institution in the Greater New Haven Jewish community. It is with honor and the deepest thanks and appreciation for all of their good work that I stand today to pay tribute to Congregation Mishkan Israel as they celebrate their 165th Anniversary. Their contributions have left an indelible mark on our community and a legacy that will live on for generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL SARDONE

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Michael Sardone for his 21 years of dedicated public service to this Congress and the Federal Government. His career epitomizes professionalism and commitment to public service.

Mr. Sardone has served as an indexer and editor for the Congressional Record Index office, under the auspices of the Joint Committee on Printing and now a part of the GPO, since his appointment by former Senator Matthias of Maryland in 1984. His detailed knowledge of congressional history and process has earned him the respect of both his colleagues and Hill staffers. As an editor for the Congressional Record Index, he has also served as editor and project manager for the Congressional Directory and has spearheaded the production of indexes for both the House and Senate Journals.

Mr. Sardone is a Maryland native. He grew up in the Wheaton area of Montgomery County and graduated from Frostburg State University with a degree in political science. He met his wife, Ginny, at the Index office. She now works for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. They have one son, Matthew.

As he embarks on new endeavors, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending gratitude for his hard work and dedication to the Congress and the Nation.

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS RECOGNIZED AS A "STORMREADY" COMMUNITY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend North Richland Hills, located in the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for its

recognition as a "StormReady" community by the National Weather Service (NWS).

North Richland Hills was recognized as a "StormReady" community because it met all of the criteria set forth by the NWS. For a community to be so honored, it must: establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center; have more than one way to receive severe weather forecasts and warnings, and to alert the public; create a system that monitors local weather conditions; promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars; and develop a formal hazardous weather plan which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.

This is a noteworthy accomplishment because less than one percent of all cities and towns in the United States are categorized as "StormReady." The City of North Richland Hills cares deeply about its citizens and their safety. Severe weather is extremely common in North Texas where storms and tornadoes are frequent and set in with little warning. "StormReady" communities bring extra peace of mind to citizens.

North Richland Hills' "StormReady" status sets a wonderful model for other towns in Texas to improve their communication and safety skills which are needed to save lives and property. I am proud of North Richland Hills and its citizens who continued to better the community by doing the best in preparing for the worst.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS SAN ANTONIO COUNCILMAN RON SEGOVIA

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize San Antonio City Councilman Ron Segovia's tremendous contribution to his community in my Congressional District of San Antonio, Texas.

Councilman Ron Segovia attended Harlandale High School in San Antonio, where he was a member of the ROTC. He studied at San Antonio College, and graduated from the Police Academy in 1975.

He served for 28 years as a San Antonio Police Officer, working in such special programs as DARE, SWAT, Crime Prevention, and Gang Resistance Education and Training. He was a part of the School Services program, which provided outreach and information to public school students.

Ron is also a successful small businessman. He owns Ron's Jewelers, which has been a fixture of the community for 22 years. He has used his role as a business owner to act as a benefactor and support educational programs in the community.

As a lifelong San Antonio resident he has given so much back to the community, as a protector, civil servant, and businessman.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have had this opportunity to recognize Councilman Ron Segovia.