

dispatch system and a supplemental communication device. It would require it to work in all buildings and in all parts of the city, something that the radios, unbelievably, do not now do. The supplemental communication device would allow firefighters to transmit an audible emergency distress signal when a firefighter is in need of immediate assistance, and DHS would work with the city of New York in their planned upgrades of the emergency 911 system and any interoperability initiatives with other public safety communication systems.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

IN HONOR OF THE GLENDALE SALVATION ARMY'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise may to congratulate the Glendale Salvation Army for 80 years of providing outstanding social services to the City of Glendale and surrounding communities.

Established on June 1, 1925, the Glendale Salvation Army has a firm vision of maintaining a multi-program facility while serving a multi-ethnic neighborhood. The Glendale Salvation Army provides spiritual social services and excellent community outreach.

The Salvation Army participates in several outstanding programs that bring hope to the hearts of those that walk through their doors. Meals on Wheels provides hot, nutritious meals to those unable to leave their homes or prepare their own food. Volunteer drivers deliver the meals and socialize with the recipients. The Lord's Kitchen is a growing partnership with nine Glendale churches that help Glendale's homeless and low-income families with food and rental or utilities assistance. The Nancy Painter Home is a partnership with the City of Glendale and U.S. Housing and Urban Development. The home provides hope for families trapped in a cycle of homelessness. Six families with children may live in the facility for up to 2 years while they put their lives back together. The Salvation Army is also supportive of Silvercrest which is a 78 unit senior low-income housing complex. In addition, the organization supports an outstanding after school tutoring program for middle school students. These are just some of the exemplary services that the Glendale Salvation Army provides to meet the specific needs within the community. Each program remains faithful to the Army's vital mission.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in congratulating the Glendale Salvation Army for 80 years of exemplary public service, and for its immense commitment to the City of Glendale and its residents.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN H. MARCUS, WISCONSIN 2004 BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stephen Marcus, a Milwaukee business leader and philanthropist, who was recognized this month by the Harvard Business Club of Wisconsin and the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel as the Wisconsin 2004 Business Leader of the Year.

Mr. Marcus joined the family business in 1962, after graduating from the University of Michigan Law School. By 1980, Steve Marcus was President of the theater, restaurant and hotel business. He became chairman in 1991, succeeding his father Ben.

Marcus Theatres is the ninth largest theatre circuit in the United States. The family's investments, under Stephen Marcus' leadership, extend from southern Wisconsin to southern California.

To be a truly successful business leader, you must be a leader in your community. You accept chairmanships to raise funds that help your community thrive. You sit on boards that fund and approve grants to organizations that reach people in need and lift them up. You give of your time, your energy, your resources and your leadership skills. Steve Marcus is that kind of leader and he is the kind of person that makes a difference. For these and many other reasons, I am pleased to congratulate Steve Marcus for being named the Wisconsin Business Leader of 2004.

RECOGNIZING MIKE RIPPEY OF AMERICAN CANYON, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Napa County Supervisor Mike Rippey of American Canyon, California as the Sierra Club honors him with the Earl Thollander Award for his outstanding environmental achievements.

Mike's keen interest in the environment has led him to a lifetime dedicated to environmental preservation. After earning his Bachelor of Science degree from California State University, Humboldt and his Masters Degree from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, Mike returned to Napa County where he has made numerous invaluable contributions to our community.

Mr. Speaker, Mike is known to be a soft-spoken man, but his actions resonate throughout the community. After garbage companies threatened to turn the Napa County into San Francisco's dumping grounds in the 1980's and 90's, Mike quickly took action. A passionate and dedicated man, Mike worked tirelessly to fight the garbage companies, spearheading an opposition group that raised awareness of the potentially hazardous landfills. His activism was met with overwhelming success. He was not only able to stop the creation of these landfills, but also encouraged

the garbage companies to implement recycling as a method of reducing unnecessary waste.

He has also served on multiple environmental boards across Northern California including the CalFed Task Force-Bay Area Water Forum and the Bay Conservation and Development Commission. Mike also chaired the Napa County Local Agency Formation Commission working to prevent urban sprawl.

Mr. Speaker, from 1992 until 2004, Mike served on the Napa County Board of Supervisors. During his tenure, Mike played an integral role in the creation and implementation of the Napa River Flood Control Project. Each year heavy winter rain has caused the Napa River to flood, destroying many homes and hundreds of acres of land. Instead of constructing man made channels to re-direct the flooding river, Mike helped design an environmentally sound alternative to allow the river to flow naturally without damaging homes or land.

Mike's most recent accomplishment has been the creation of the new solar powered Sheriff's office which is the only law enforcement building in the country to have been awarded a National Leadership in Energy Efficiency Gold Certificate.

Mr. Speaker, it is necessary that we take this time to thank Mike Rippey for his service and dedication to protecting our environment and ask that you join me in wishing him the best in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO SACRED HEART PARISH—100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to acknowledge the Sacred Heart Parish of Jersey City, New Jersey on the celebration of its 100th anniversary. Sacred Heart's role in serving the community began before the parish was approved and continues to this day with the St. Martin de Porres Soup Kitchen.

The Parish consists of a campus of buildings that include the Dominican Priory, the Church, the School and the Parish Hall. While those buildings define the physical presence of the parish in the neighborhood and Jersey City community, the most important and lasting features of the parish are the people of Sacred Heart.

Sacred Heart Parish was approved by Bishop O'Connor on February 14, 1905. The Church building was designed by Ralph Adams Cram who was guided in the Dominican tradition by Father McNicholas, O.P. and Spanish Gothic was the basis for the church design.

The long history of Sacred Heart School is a story of deeply rooted faith, passionate work and a belief that the spirit inspires all undertakings. It encompasses the response of a parish, the Sisters of Charity, dedicated teachers and volunteers. It is a story of children educated in knowledge and values. And, it is a story of a good seed planted and sown and brought to fruition.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues agree that the Parish of Sacred Heart and the surrounding community have every right to be

proud of the lasting contributions that Sacred Heart has made to the residents of Jersey City. I am pleased to congratulate Sacred Heart on its first 100 years.

PROTECTING THE PURPOSE OF
THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, for the past six weeks, Democrats have attacked Majority Leader TOM DELAY's character, leadership and intentions.

Although Democrats continue to smear Congressman TOM DELAY, they forget that they are responsible for preventing the Ethics committee from investigating the charges directed at Mr. DELAY. Since the beginning of the 109th Congress, House Democrats have refused to allow the Ethics Committee to meet to address this issue.

Four Ethics Committee Republicans have pledged that as soon as Democrats permit the Ethics Committee to function again, they will vote to form an investigative subcommittee to review various allegations concerning travel and other actions by Congressman DELAY.

Majority Leader DELAY has said all along that he wants to appear before the Ethics Committee to address recent accusations. Unfortunately, Democrats prefer to attack his character for political purposes rather than officially investigate these allegations. Democrats should stop playing politics with the House Ethics Committee, and should give Congress-

man DELAY the opportunity to defend himself through the Congressional ethics process.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11th.

THANKS AND GRATITUDE TO
HIPOLITO ACOSTA, DISTRICT DI-
RECTOR, USCIS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today to extend my thanks and gratitude to Hipolito Acosta for his service to Houston, Texas and the United States as District Director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services office during the last three years and his 24 years serving our country.

A native Texan, Mr. Acosta was born in Presidio, Texas and started his career with USCIS as a U.S. Border Patrol Officer in Marfa in 1975. Throughout his career he has received numerous awards as well as international recognition for his leadership in customer service and enforcement duties. He is a four-year Navy Veteran and a former member of the Illinois National Guard. He is also one of the most highly honored legacy INS officers, including six Commissioner Awards and the prestigious Newton-Azrak Award for courage and heroism displayed in the line of duty.

His domestic career included front line and leadership roles in the fight against alien smuggling in key positions such as Criminal Investigator in Chicago, Special Agent with the El Paso District and Border Patrol Sector, and

as Supervisory Special Agent in Brownsville, Texas. High profile investigations and successful undercover operations involving thousands of smuggled aliens from Central America, Europe and the Middle East were trademarks of his investigative career.

In 1989, Mr. Acosta was selected as Assistant Officer in Charge of INS operations in Manila, Philippines, assuming command of the office in February 1991. During his tenure in the Philippines, Mr. Acosta developed relations with host country government officials, to include the Office of the President and was one of six U.S. diplomats to receive high recognition by President Corazon Aquino. While in Manila, he developed the first ever citizenship program for thousands of Philippine World War II veterans. He was highly recognized as the driving force in the citizenship program abroad with the naturalization of over 7,000 applicants.

Following his tenure in the Philippines, Mr. Acosta was appointed to Officer in Charge in Monterrey and Ciudad Juarez. Later, as District Director for the INS Mexico City Office, he was responsible for overseeing sixteen different offices in Latin America and the Caribbean with operational jurisdiction over 42 countries, including a pre-inspection station in Aruba and refugee office in Havana, Cuba. In 2002, Mr. Acosta returned to Texas and assumed leadership of the INS Houston District and then became the first District Director of the U.S. Customs and Immigration Service in Houston.

I commend Mr. Acosta for his service to the United States and congratulate him on his retirement.