

Catholic priest instead of a lawyer. However, just months before completing seminary, he left to pursue law school. Since then, he has tried cases in every county in the state of Wisconsin, and has served as a Milwaukee County Court Commissioner for over 50 years.

Mr. Frinzi has received many high honors during his career, including the Justinian Society's Justinian Man of the Year Award, the Italian Community Center's Theodore Mazza Community Service Award, the Milwaukee Ethnic Council's Vision for Milwaukee Award, the Fraternal Order of Eagles' Italian Person of the Year Award, and UNICO National's Dr. Anthony P. Vastola Gold Medal Award for service.

In 2002, because of his tremendous accomplishments as an Italian American, Mr. Frinzi was knighted by the Italian government, receiving the title Cavaliere all'Ordine del Merto della Repubblica Italiana, or Knight of the Order of Merit.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating an outstanding Italian American jurist, community leader, and prominent Milwaukee citizen, Mr. Dominic Frinzi, on his achievements as he takes on the role of president of the National Italian American Bar Association. We in Milwaukee are truly blessed to have him as our neighbor and look forward to his many additional civic and professional contributions in the years to come.

HONORING CANDY GARDNER

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Candy Gardner, a longtime resident of San Antonio, whose family has woven itself into the fabric of our city over their four generations of residence. As leaders of the Temple Beth-El, they have worked tirelessly to improve the lot of the members of their congregation and those throughout the city. And, Candy has been no different as she has volunteered in a number of different capacities at Temple Beth-El and in San Antonio. In recognition of her efforts, on May 18, 2005 the Honors Committee of the Temple Beth-El Sisterhood will name Candy the 2005 Or Tamid for her countless hours of hard work in the Temple and our community.

A beautiful tradition stretching from the beginnings of Western civilization, Judaism is a faith built on works. It is the duty of every Jew to make a more perfect world not only for their family and immediate world but the larger community as well, and Candy's actions have been guided by this credo. Candy has devoted countless hours to the Sisterhood as the VP of Advancement of Judaism, VP of Human Relations, and President. She has also served as the committee chair for Publicity, Program, Docents, Oneg Shabbats, Yearbook, and Needlework Group. Moreover, in addition to her responsibilities as the Courtesy Chair and the Women's Torah Study Chair, Candy proofs the Bulletin, the publication of Temple Beth-El, and the Yom Kippur Book of Remembrance, and even leads docent tours of the Temple which is fitting since she rewrote the docent guidebook after the congregation moved back into the finished building.

However, I do not want to create the impression Candy limits her efforts to the Temple as she has served as President of the Any Baby Can Alliance, San Antonio Chapter of ORT, and School Class Acts. Also, she has been vital in fostering the arts in our city as a Friend of the McNay Museum, and a member of the San Antonio Symphony League. Of course, Judaism has long advocated for and supported the enrichment of our existence that art can provide, and her efforts have aimed to ensure San Antonio would not be without this vital sustenance.

As dedicated as Candy has been to building and strengthening the institution of Temple Beth-El, she has also worked to deepen her own understanding of Judaism and also to help others better know the Tanakh. Her devotion to continuing education embodies another central tenet of Judaism, that of constant investigation and reexamination in order to better understand the tradition as it has developed and progressed through the centuries. I laud this dogged pursuit of knowledge and enlightenment since it can strengthen the impulse to invest one's life in helping others. Candy's life is certainly living proof of this dynamic.

Of course, Candy is a wife, a mother, and a grandmother, the latter a job she considers the best of all. I imagine her family is proud that her years of dedication are being recognized as she receives this award. I am also proud to know that San Antonio is home to a person relentless in her mission to make it a better place.

IN HONOR OF PAIGE PETERSON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Paige Peterson, an 11-year-old girl who passed away November 8th, 2004 after a long and valiant battle with cancer.

Like most 11-year-old girls, Paige Peterson loved to dress-up, dance, ride horses and spend time with her family and friends. But, unlike most little girls, Paige spent years battling neuroblastoma, an aggressive and deadly cancer.

Sustained by her extraordinary faith and spirit, Paige breathed life into the community of young cancer sufferers as a spokesperson for the Children's Hospice & Palliative Care Coalition. In her own words, she was proud to be a "guinea pig" in several clinical trials with the hope that one day one of these trials would find a cure for neuroblastoma.

Driven by her desire to proffer the message that "kids get cancer too," Paige met with First Lady Laura Bush, Congressman SAM FARR, Senator BARBARA BOXER, Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN, and hundreds of other individuals and organizations across the country. In the end, she left behind a legacy of compassion and courage and a challenge to Congress to enact healthcare policies which honor the unique needs of children with life-threatening conditions and their families, thus enabling children like Paige to live well and die gently surrounded by those they love.

Mr. Speaker I wish to honor this young girl for her strength and courage in battling this ill-

fated disease and speaking about her experience in order to generate positive change for future young cancer sufferers. Her attitude and goodwill have proven to be an example for us all. I join Paige's mother Suzanne Peterson, her father Scott Peterson, and members of the Children's Hospice & Palliative Care Coalition in honoring and remembering this heroic girl for her achievements.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GIVEN KACHEPA FOR BEING NAMED ONE OF AMERICA'S TOP TEN YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Given Kachepa, a Grapevine High School senior, for being named one of America's top ten youth volunteers by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. He was selected from a field of over 20,000 youth volunteers from across the country.

Given is an advocate for victims of human trafficking. An orphan at age 9 in his native Zambia, he was recruited two years later to sing in a boy's choir on an overseas tour. He was promised a salary and education, and that the money raised from the tour would be used to build schools in Zambia. None of these promises, however, were met.

For over a year and a half, Given and his fellow choir members performed six or seven times a day, sometimes with little food. After being saved by U.S. immigration authorities, Given used his own experience to help with the widespread human trafficking problem. He has educated the public through the media, and spoken about human trafficking at conferences, along with local and national law enforcement agencies.

I am proud to recognize Given for this high honor; he is well deserving of the award. The future of America is in good hands with leaders like him.

FASTER AND SMARTER FUNDING FOR FIRST RESPONDERS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1544) to provide faster and smarter funding for first responders, and for other purposes:

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, H.R. 1544, the Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act is critically important for the entire country, but it is also good for rural America. I am pleased to share my support for this bill, which streamlines and prioritizes homeland security spending and should result in better stewardship of America's tax dollars committed to public safety.

Last year, the 9/11 Commission made clear to Congress that homeland security assistance should be based strictly on an assessment of risks and vulnerabilities.

H.R. 1544 fulfills the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission by providing priority assistance to first responders facing the greatest threat; by streamlining terrorism preparedness grants; and by requiring specific, flexible, and measurable goals for State and local government terrorism preparedness.

As a member of the Congressional Rural Caucus, I am especially interested in how rural areas will be treated under this legislation.

Currently, rural America does not receive its fair share when it comes to the distribution of homeland security funds. H.R. 1544 will ensure that rural Americans have a seat at the table when federal spending decisions are made. For the first time, tax dollars will be distributed to first responders based on risk, regardless of whether the potential dangers are in urban, suburban, or rural communities.

Under this legislation, each State shall develop a 3-year Homeland Security Plan. The State must solicit comments from local and county governments—including those in rural areas—and evaluate risk factors, threats, populations, and all critical infrastructure. Risks to Missouri's Fourth Congressional District might include agriculture and agribusiness, natural gas pipelines, Bagnell Dam, Truman Dam, the Lake of the Ozarks, and the Missouri River, among others.

H.R. 1544 allows for rural Missourians to prevent, prepare for, and respond to future terrorist attacks under a risk-based formula. Additionally, this measure maintains a State minimum for funding to ensure that each State can reach at least a minimal level of preparedness.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 1544 is supported by every major first responder organization and by the State of Missouri. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this important, risk-based legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, Monday, May 16, 2005, I was unavoidably detained and thus missed rollcall votes No. 171, No. 172, and No. 173. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 171, H.R. 627, to designate the Linda White-Epps Post Office; "yea" on rollcall No. 172, H. Res. 266, supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day; and "yea" on rollcall No. 173, H.R. 2107, modifying the authorities for the use of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Maintenance Fund.

MARKING THE 50TH YEAR OF ST. ANTHONY'S "FREE FISHERMAN'S BREAKFAST"

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated group of sportsmen, merchants and citizens who have reached an

important milestone as they celebrate the 50th year of the Free Fisherman's Breakfast. On May 27, 2005, from 6 a.m. until 2 p.m., volunteers will serve pancakes, sausage, bacon and eggs, hash browns, coffee, milk and juice to more than 5,000 people at Clyde Keefer Memorial Park in St. Anthony, Idaho.

Volunteers join together each year to continue the tradition which began near the opening of fishing season in May of 1955. The St. Anthony Chamber of Commerce and the Sportsmen's Association came up with the idea to try to draw fishermen into town on their way to their favorite fishing hole. The idea grew from just coffee and doughnuts to a full free breakfast, served faithfully each year despite rain, wind, snow and floods.

Informational booths were added in the park for guests to enjoy as they wait in line to be served. Many local, state, and national elected officials take advantage of the opportunity to visit with friends and supporters. Each year fishermen come from all over the state, as well as adjoining states, to renew old friendships and make new ones. An outstanding community member is honored each year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate everyone who has been involved in the "Free Fisherman's Breakfast" over the years and join them this month as they commemorate its 50th anniversary. I have enjoyed socializing at this event in the past and will be looking forward to it in the future. I wish the City of St. Anthony well as they continue this great hometown tradition.

CONGRATULATING CHARLOTTE AMALIE HIGH SCHOOL ON REGAINING THEIR ACCREDITATION FROM THE MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the principal, Ms. Jeanette Smith-Barry, and her team of dedicated individuals at the Charlotte Amalie High School in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, on the occasion of their re-accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. Their tireless efforts, hard work, dedication and faith have paid off and will truly make a difference in the future of our youth and of our Territory.

At a time when school districts around the country are faced with budget cuts and higher standards, our schools have to do more with less. The school's accreditation team comprised of administrators, parents, community and business leaders set a goal of obtaining re-accreditation by graduation date 2005 and achieved it.

Charlotte Amalie High School (CAHS) is the first of four public high schools in the U.S. Virgin Islands to regain the accreditation that was lost in 2002. Now their students will be able to compete as equals for college and university entrance as well as entry into the U.S. Air Force which will not consider any student from an unaccredited school.

Mr. Speaker, this year's graduation which will take place on June 5, 2005 will be a dou-

bly joyous and celebratory occasion for the CAHS Class of 2005 who will receive their diplomas and also be able to finally and proudly say once again that they received them from an accredited high school.

It is in appreciation of their efforts that I use this opportunity to commend the CAHS students, faculty, parents, administration, and their private sector supporters for their successful efforts in developing and executing a successful strategy for regaining accreditation. They are an example to all of us who strive to improve our community.

I am proud of their success and wish the entire CAHS family and the Class of 2005 continued success as they continue to "Excel Always."

IN MEMORY OF SENIOR BORDER PATROL AGENT TRAVIS W. ATTAWAY

HON. HENRY BONILLA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fallen hero—senior Border Patrol Agent, Travis W. Attaway of D'Hanis, Texas. Travis met an untimely death while serving our country and securing our Texas borders in the McAllen sector.

On September 19, 2004, days of harsh rain and a rising Rio Grande tragically interrupted what otherwise was a routine three-man patrol operation near Free Trade Bridge in Los Indios. When rushing waters capsized the 19-foot patrol boat, Travis and two other agents were ejected into the river's strong current.

At the young age of 31, Travis has marked history as a true American hero. He sacrificed his life to protect the citizens of this great nation. Today, we honor his memory and the memory of all our Fallen Law Enforcement Officers for National Police Week 2005.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF CITY LAS VEGAS, NV

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2005

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the founding of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada.

Mr. Speaker, while all Americans have heard of Las Vegas, many may not be aware of the rich history we have in Southern Nevada. For instance, the City was named by Spanish traders traveling from New Mexico to California. These traders dubbed the area "Las Vegas" which means "the meadows".

The first settlement in the Las Vegas valley by Westerners was a fortified mission colonized by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Over the last century, Las Vegas has become the entertainment capital of the world, with world class hotels, gaming, entertainment, and outdoor activities for visitors of all ages.

In the 1990s, the population of Las Vegas boomed, making it the fastest growing metropolitan area in the country. A record-setting 40