

politicized by this White House instead of being used to protect Americans at greatest risk of terror attack.

Other realities:

Our country takes urban security funds created for places like New York and diverts them to Louisiana;

Our Nation provides more homeland security dollars per capita to Wyoming than to New York;

And sadly, protecting our homeland security is more about politics than security.

We haven't caught Osama bin Laden, the Taliban is returning to Afghanistan, and Congress is not providing the funds to our first responders to protect our targeted cities—our Nation's homeland security is a sad reflection of our great country.

RECOGNIZING ANTHONY WARREN  
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF  
EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Anthony Warren, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 337, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Anthony has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Anthony has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Anthony Warren for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. ARMED FORCES  
AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

**HON. THELMA D. DRAKE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, this morning we woke up to the news that Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the vicious terrorist who has beheaded innocent civilians and murdered women and children in furtherance of his perverted view of peaceful religion, was killed by a U.S. precision guided air-strike.

I would like to take this moment to thank the men and women of our Armed Forces and the intelligence community for their tireless efforts in striking the sword of justice deep into the heart of the terrorist threat. I want them to know that their work has saved the lives of Americans and Iraqis.

While there is the possibility that someone will attempt to rise and take Zarqawi's place, I am hopeful that confusion and fear will now reign supreme amongst the terrorists and that Iraq's newly formed government can use this to their advantage and continue moving Iraq forward. There is still work to do, and we must

remain vigilant. The global war on terror is not about an individual, but about combating a perverted ideology that hates freedom, democracy, justice and equal rights for all.

Again, I congratulate our military and the Iraqi people for this success and hope that Zarqawi's death will lead to peace and stability in Iraq.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF SAM  
PIERSON

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and accomplishments of Sam Pierson, who passed away on the 25th of January. Sam was an admired and cherished member of the Lewisville, AR, community, and I would like to take a few moments to recognize his achievements.

Mr. Pierson was born on February 10, 1931, in Bebee, OK. As a dedicated law enforcement officer, Sam served as the Lewisville city marshal in 1968 and the Lafayette County deputy in 1980. Sam then served as the Lewisville chief of police from 1985 to 1998 and most recently as the Lafayette County sheriff from 2001 to 2002. He was extremely respected among his colleagues, and was a member of the Arkansas Sheriff's Association and the National Association of Chiefs of Police.

In addition to his remarkable achievements in public service, Sam Pierson also served his country. He was a veteran of the Korean war, where he was wounded and received a Purple Heart. He was also a member of the Oklahoma National Guard 45th Division and a member of the American Legion.

I am deeply saddened by the death of Sam Pierson. His passing will leave a void in Lafayette County, the city of Lewisville, and in the lives of his family and many friends. While Mr. Pierson may no longer be with us, his spirit and legacy will live on forever in the lives he touched.

My most heartfelt condolences go out to his wife, Maebell Pierson; their 3 sons, George and wife Mary Ann Pierson, John and wife Billie Joe Pierson, and Joe and wife Sheila Pierson; their 3 daughters, Kay and husband Hoppy Higgins, Linda and husband Wayne Etue, and Samantha and husband Michael Henry; his 3 brothers, Jimmy Milligan, Doug Milligan, and Charles Milligan; his 4 sisters, Daisy Neff, Georgia Cox, Vadia Ross, and Barbara Muntz; his 15 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends.

OGLALA SIOUX TRIBE ANGSTURA  
IRRIGATION PROJECT REHABILITATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT ACT

**HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Oglala Sioux Tribe Angostura Irrigation Project Rehabilitation and

Development Act. This legislation authorizes much-needed efficiency improvements to the irrigation facilities at the Angostura Unit, a Federal Bureau of Reclamation dam on the Cheyenne River in South Dakota. These improvements will restore critical water resources and promote economic development on the nearby Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

This bill provides important resources to the citizens of South Dakota and the Lakota people of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. It authorizes funds to carry out the Bureau of Reclamation's recommended improvements to the irrigation facilities at the Angostura dam. The dam provides substantial economic benefits to many South Dakotans. It provides irrigation to 12,218 acres of land which benefits ranchers and agricultural producers in the area, and it supports an important recreational boating and fishing industry which is enjoyed by many of our citizens.

Until now, however, the Angostura dam has failed to provide any of these economic benefits to the members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe who live just 20 miles downstream of the dam on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The Oglala Sioux Tribe has long relied on the resources provided by the Cheyenne River, which forms part of the northern boundary of its reservation. Long before the dam was constructed as part of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River Basin Project, the tribe relied on the river as an important economic resource. Since it was completed, however, the dam has taken an enormous toll on the tribe. The dam curbed the Cheyenne River's natural flow, reducing water quality on the reservation, diminishing natural riparian habitats, adversely impacting fish and wildlife and forcing important tribal agricultural enterprises to shut their doors.

The bill implements the Bureau of Reclamation's preferred alternative in its revised water management plan for the Angostura Unit, which calls for improved efficiencies in irrigation operations that will free up additional water resources for both existing water users and the tribe. In addition, the legislation would authorize the creation of a trust fund to compensate the tribe for the devastating economic impacts and loss of natural resources caused by the operation of the dam. The fund will be used to promote economic and infrastructure development on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and enhance the education, health and general welfare of the Oglala Lakota people.

I hope that my distinguished colleagues will take up and pass this legislation quickly. It will allow all of us in South Dakota to better use our natural resources, while keeping our solemn commitment to deal fairly and honorably with the Oglala Sioux Tribe and the Lakota people of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. I ask for your help and support in moving it forward.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH OLVERA  
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF  
EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph Olvera, a very special

young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 337, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joseph has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph Olvera for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRESS SALUTES BRIGADIER  
GENERAL MARK H. OWEN

**HON. DAVE WELDON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Brigadier General Mark H. Owen, Commander of the 45th Space Wing in Florida and Deputy Department of Defense Manager for Manned Space Flight Support to NASA. I congratulate him on his new assignment as Deputy Director, Strategic Security, Deputy Chief of Staff, Air, Space and Information Operations, Plans and Requirements, Headquarters United States Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, DC.

For the past 2 years, Brigadier General Owen has served as the Director of the Eastern Range, responsible for the safe and secure access to space of America's manned and unmanned space vehicles.

During this time, he was responsible for the processing and launch of U.S. Government and commercial satellites from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

The Eastern Range encompasses a 15 million square mile area, that includes a network of radar, telemetry tracking and telecommunication hardware operating at sites up the East Coast and in the Atlantic Ocean including detachments at Antigua Air Station and Ascension Island.

General Owen earned his commission upon graduation from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1979. To date, he has received seven promotions and served in a variety of space and missile assignments involving missile combat crew operations, satellite command and control, space lift and test range operations and major space systems acquisitions.

During the early years of his service, his assignments included the Phillips Laboratory at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico; the Space and Missile Systems Center at Los Angeles Air Force Base, California; the National Reconnaissance Office and the Office for the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition in Washington, D.C.

General Owen has also served in staff positions at Headquarters Air Force Space Command and in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space, as well as the Office of Secretary of the Air Force.

His command experience includes leading a squadron in Colorado and California, and serving as commander of the 91st Space Wing, Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota and the 45th Space Wing, Florida.

Brigadier General Owen's education accomplishments include two undergraduate degrees, one in biology/pre-med from the U.S. Air Force Academy and the other in electrical engineering from the University of New Mexico. He earned two Master degrees, one in systems management from the University of Southern California and the other in national security strategy from the National Defense University, National War College. Other education accomplishments include Squadron Officer School, Marine Corps Command and Staff from the Marine Corps Institute, Defense Systems Management College, Program Management, distinguished graduate from Air Command and Staff College and National Security Management Fellow from Syracuse University.

Brigadier General Owen's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster, Combat Readiness Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

I am honored to rise in support of General Owen's service to our Nation and I am proud of his commitment to the cause of liberty and freedom. I wish him every success as he continues to serve this great Nation in the United States Air Force.

TRIBUTE TO EMIL EISDORFER

**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Emil Eisdorfer, a constituent of mine as well as a friend to the Bronx community for his years of public service.

On June 8, 2006, Mr. Eisdorfer will be honored by the Beth Jacob-Beth Miriam School in recognition of all the hard work and his dedication to the Bronx community. He has taken the word community service above and beyond in an effort to serve not only his community but my constituents as well.

Mr. Eisdorfer was born in a small town in Ukraine called Mukachevo, known for its rich Jewish history up until World War II when the Nazi's genocide machine took the lives of many of his relatives, including his grandparents.

Mr. Eisdorfer's life is a real example of the American Dream. Immigrating to the United States with his wife in 1974, Mr. Eisdorfer, using his knowledge of watch making opened a small business in the Pelham Parkway neighborhood of the Bronx. While he worked to provide for his wife Elena and his two kids Jacob and Sharon, he never forgot where he came from and how he got to America. He used his standing in the Bronx community and knowledge to assist arriving immigrants from the former Soviet Union in job placement and counseling.

In addition to helping immigrants here in the United States, Emil also used his 30 years of experience in business, economic development, and retail sales to help create the Business Improvement District, in the Bronx. Emil was always willing to help around the community.

Additionally, Emil served on numerous community boards including Vice Chairman of

Community board 11 and President of the Jewish Community Council of Pelham Parkway. Under this role he helped expand the council's membership, funding, and improving its services to the community.

Emil currently works as a staff-member in the New York City Council, while his two children finish up their advance degrees.

Needless to say, the work of this man has no boundaries. I am pleased that Beth Jacob-Beth Miriam School is honoring Emil, and I join with them in extending my appreciation to him for his service to his community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MAYOR  
EMERITUS VINCE WHIBBS

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart but also with a tremendous sense of pride that I rise today to recognize and remember a beacon for civil service, Mr. Vince Whibbs. Vince left us Tuesday, May 30th. He was 86 years old. Vince was an incredible man and his absence will leave a void in Pensacola that will not soon be filled. Vicki and I grieve with the rest of the area at the passing of such a pillar of society. Our thoughts and prayers remain with Anna, his wife of 63 years, their seven children, 26 grandchildren, and 22 great grandchildren.

Mr. Whibbs was a native of Buffalo, New York and attended the University of Buffalo before becoming an "office boy" for the Pontiac Motor Division of General Motors in 1940. As the Nation was in the grips of World War II, Vince left Pontiac to attend the Army Air Force Pilot Training where he became a fighter pilot and eventually became a flight instructor for the Army Air Corps.

He left the military as a captain in 1946 and returned to the Pontiac Motor Division, rising to the position of zone manager. In 1958, Pensacola was unknowingly blessed when Vince moved his family to the area to take over a local Pontiac dealership.

Friendly, outgoing, and charming, Vince had a love for Pensacola that was overshadowed only by his love of God, country, and family. He was constantly giving back to the community through his involvement in local organizations including the Chamber of Commerce, the Pensacola chapter of the Navy League, the Fiesta of Five Flags, the United Way, Rotary Club International, Junior Achievement and Project Alert.

Mr. Whibbs also gave generously of his time, serving the community in multiple leadership roles, earnestly working to make Pensacola an even better place to live. In 1963, he was elected to the City Council where he served for two years. In 1974, he was selected to head the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce.

In 1978, he was appointed to a two-year term as mayor of Pensacola but did such a great job that he ended up serving through June of 1991. Mayor Whibbs was Pensacola's longest-serving mayor and even after he left the position in 1991, maintained the title of mayor emeritus. During his tenure, Pensacola experienced tremendous growth including the building of the current City Hall, the expansion