

President Floyd Donaldson, Breakfast Chairman Oliver Gilliam, Breakfast Co-Chairman Clorius L. Lay, Master of Ceremonies Alfred Hammond, Melvin Ward, and all other members of the service club for their initiative, determination, and dedication to making Northwest Indiana a better place for all who live and work there.

SALUTING THE TENNESSEE ARMY
NATIONAL GUARD'S 168TH MILITARY
POLICE BATTALION

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute an outstanding group of men and women—the Tennessee Army National Guard's 168th Military Police Battalion of Lebanon, TN. On Sunday, February 5, the 168th will receive the Valorous Unit Award at a special presentation at the Armory in Lebanon.

The Valorous Unit Award is one of the Nation's most prestigious military awards. It is presented to units of the Armed Forces of the United States for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the United States while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing force. To receive this award, a unit must have performed with marked distinction under difficult and hazardous conditions in accomplishing its mission so as to set it apart from, and above, other units participating in the same conflict. Its equivalent in individual awards is the Silver Star.

I know all Tennesseans, and all Americans, join with me in thanking the 168th for their bravery, their commitment and their selfless service while in Iraq.

The 168th received its award for performance of duties from May 20, 2003 through January 31, 2004. While they performed many duties, some of their key accomplishments during their service were to establish law and order operations in all of east Baghdad, establish Iraqi police stations, train Iraqi police officers and establish an Iraqi police academy. The battalion coordinated numerous offensive operations and patrols within its area of operations under very austere conditions. They were responsible for confiscating numerous weapons caches, counterfeit money, and ammunition. And they frequently provided escort and security service to convoys in the region.

During their service, the 168th Battalion and its subordinate units receive numerous Bronze Stars, Purple Hearts, and Army Commendation Medals for Valor. Their service was one that required heroism and courage on a daily basis.

I am honored to serve as the Congressman for Lebanon and privileged to represent these men and women in Washington. We are all blessed to live in the greatest country in the history of the world. And we are particularly blessed that men and women, like the members of Tennessee's 168th Military Police Battalion, willingly put their lives on the line every day so that we may continue to enjoy freedom here at home.

Words cannot adequately thank the members of the 168th for their exceptional service. But I want to take this moment, and this occa-

sion of their Valorous Unit Award presentation, to salute them on behalf of all Americans for their heroic service to our country and to freedom around the world.

HONORING ST. XAVIER UNIVERSITY
ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor as a community St. Xavier University and to celebrate its 50th Anniversary. St. Xavier is located in Chicago's Mount Greenwood neighborhood.

When founded in 1846 by the Sisters of Mercy, St. Xavier was a Catholic institution grounded in the tradition of the liberal arts. As one of 18 colleges and universities sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, St. Xavier has evolved into an institution that seeks to provide its students with the meaning of scholarship, the support of the community, and the spirit of moral and ethical sensibility.

Although a Catholic university of approximately 5,700 students, St. Xavier welcomes students of all faiths and religious backgrounds. Because of its rich traditions and commitment to excellence St. Xavier has become one of Chicago's premier collegiate institutions for students studying nursing, business, as well as education.

It is my honor to recognize this school and its many achievements both academically and athletically. In addition, I commend St. Xavier University for fostering the intellectual and cultural growth of the administration, faculty and students who all play a vital role in the success of the university's existence in today's society.

TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF GUADALUPE,
ARIZONA ON THE 31ST
ANNIVERSARY OF ITS INCORPORATION

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to the Town of Guadalupe, Arizona, a community in my district which I proudly represent, on the occasion of the 31st Anniversary of its incorporation. Named after the patron saint of Mexico, the Virgin of Guadalupe, this culturally-rich community is home to about 5,500 residents.

Guadalupe was founded by Yaqui Indians around the turn of the century when they fled their traditional homeland along the Yaqui River in Sonora, Mexico to avoid persecution and enslavement by the Mexican government under Porfirio Diaz. When the Yaqui people fled as refugees, many were able to find a home in the Salt River Valley's agricultural economy. One of the villages was in south Tempe, just north of the present Guadalupe site. A missionary Franciscan Friar, Lucius Zittier, petitioned President Woodrow Wilson for 40 acres of land so the Yaqui could permanently settle. The site, undesirable as

uncultivable, is located in the center of the present community, known as "La Cuarenta," or "The 40," as some still call it today.

Guadalupe also became home to many Hispanic families over the years, and it has become a stopping point for Mexican immigrant workers. As the community has grown, it has demonstrated its resilience in the face of difficult economic times, poverty, and racism.

Many young men of Mexican and Yaqui descent answered the call for military service and defended our country. Dozens of Guadalupe veterans' names are on the rolls of those who served, and many paid the ultimate sacrifice.

In the early 1960s, Guadalupe Organization, Inc., was formed and it began to identify and address the community's needs. Many services taken for granted in other communities were not provided in Guadalupe and residents began to get organized. A new voting precinct in Guadalupe was formed, and U.S. Sen. Carl Hayden was instrumental in securing home mail delivery for residents. As the Guadalupe Organization advocated for community betterment and educated residents about civil awareness, many small victories were achieved for the community. The organization prevented a freeway from being built through the center of Guadalupe, opened a dental clinic with volunteer dentists, fought discrimination against Guadalupe students, and most notably, led the charge for incorporation.

Neighboring cities had mostly rebuffed Guadalupe and its residents until property values soared. To stop annexation attempts and preserve their community's rich culture, the Guadalupe Organization began incorporation efforts and the Citizens Committee to Incorporate Guadalupe was formed. It was led by Mr. Andres "Andy" Jimenez, who served as president of the group. Election results of Feb. 4, 1975, which showed an 83 percent voter turnout, approved the plan of incorporation, and the Town of Guadalupe was born.

Since then, the Town of Guadalupe has been a leader in demonstrating concern for its residents and passing progressive policies. The Town Council was the first in Arizona to ban smoking in public places. It declared a paid Cesar Chavez Holiday for Guadalupe town employees. The town has also donated land for construction of educational and recreational entities.

Maricopa County Community Colleges also have established a branch of South Mountain Community College in Guadalupe with its rental fee subsidized for many years by the Guadalupe Organization. Guadalupe had one college graduate in 1960 and one in 1967. Now graduates at all levels, from high school to Ph.D., call Guadalupe their home.

As you can see, Guadalupe is a community rich with the traditions of three cultures, deeply devoted to the welfare of its residents, and the prosperity of its community. As the former director of the Guadalupe Organization, I feel a special bond to this community and take great pride in its progress. This bond is felt by many, as children follow in their parents' footsteps, opting to make a home in Guadalupe as they begin to make a life of their own. Ironically, the current Mayor of Guadalupe is Ms. Bernadette Jimenez, daughter of Andy Jimenez, who led the Citizens Committee to Incorporate Guadalupe.

In honor of the success of this community and its residents, I ask my colleagues to

please stand and join me today in paying tribute to the Town of Guadalupe, Arizona, on the occasion of the 31st Anniversary of its Incorporation.

SUPPORT FOR JOHANNA'S LAW

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw attention to a disease affecting women throughout the United States. According to the American Cancer Society, ovarian cancer accounts for 3 percent of all cancers among women and over 22,220 new cases are expected to be diagnosed this year in the U.S. Unfortunately, the death rate for this disease has remained steady in the last 50 years.

I am a proud cosponsor of Johanna's Law which would create a national public education campaign to increase awareness of gynecologic cancers, including ovarian cancer. The legislation will also provide grants to local and national organizations to increase such awareness among women and health professionals. Johanna's Law is named after Johanna Silver Gordon who died of ovarian cancer in 2000.

It is essential that ovarian cancer, like all gynecologic cancers, be detected in the earliest stages of the disease because it is more easily treatable at that time. Unfortunately, as the cancer progresses, it becomes more difficult to treat and is generally fatal in later stages. Johanna's Law would help women to recognize their symptoms and encourage regular check-ups, thereby preventing many of these cancers from becoming terminal. The best hope of survival is early detection.

I would like to highlight language in the FY2006 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill, which addresses key goals of Johanna's Law. Specifically, this report language directs \$100,000 for a national education campaign concerning gynecologic cancer, with an emphasis on early detection. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services', HHS, Office of Women's Health will work together to coordinate these education and outreach efforts.

As a member of the Labor-HHS Subcommittee, I am proud of this important first step in helping to educate women and health care professionals about gynecologic cancer. I look forward to working with my colleagues to continue our public education efforts and pass Johanna's Law in the 109th Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDGE HILDA
R. GAGE

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the extraordinary career and accomplishments of the Honorable Hilda R. Gage as she retires this year. I am honored to recognize her service to Michigan and Oakland County as Judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals and the Oakland County Circuit Court.

Judge Gage has long been an influential woman in both Oakland County and Michigan. Elected to the Oakland County Circuit Court in November of 1978, she presided there for three terms before she was appointed to the Michigan Court of Appeals by Governor Engler. She is retiring this year after a combined total of 37 years of service in Michigan courts.

While presiding, Judge Gage has been honored by many associations for her exemplary service. She is widely regarded as a very influential woman not only in the State of Michigan but nationally as well. In March 2002 she was recognized by *Corp!* Magazine as one of "Michigan's 95 Most Powerful Women" and has been honored by the Women's Bar Association in December, 2000 for her contributions to the practice of law, improving the legal system, and her dedication to the community. Additionally, she was given the Roberts P. Hudson Award in October 1991, by the State Bar of Michigan for Outstanding Contributions to the Bar. This is the highest honor bestowed by the State Bar.

Judge Gage is also credited with many "firsts" throughout her judicial career. She was the first female chairperson of the National Conference of State Trial Judges in 1986 and holds the same distinction for the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission in 1991. She also chaired and helped to originate the State Bar of Michigan Judicial Conference, holding the chair of that conference from its inception in 1982 through 1984. This conference was the first organized body in which the circuit, probate, and district judicial associations meet on a regular basis. Finally, she was the first recipient of the Award of Judicial Excellence, given by the National Conference of State Trial Judges and American Bar Association in August of 1994.

Judge Hilda Gage has served Oakland County and the State of Michigan with honor and pride for the duration of her career and I am honored to thank her for her commitment to justice and integrity.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE BOARD OF
COOPERATIVE EDUCATION SER-
VICES, BOCES, MONROE COUNTY,
NY

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, BOCES' 50th anniversary. Enacted in 1948, New York State Legislature and the New York State Education Department sought a way to offer districts an even stronger cooperative network. In 1955, school board members from several eastside Monroe County school districts petitioned the State Education Department for a BOCES to serve their area. On January 5, 1956, Monroe BOCES was established.

Boards of Cooperative Educational Services, or BOCES, are public education collaborative that function as extensions of local school districts. A BOCES helps school districts provide quality programs and services that are more economical to offer coopera-

tively, sharing costs with other districts. The function of a BOCES is to provide shared services to the component school districts, providing efficiency, effectiveness and equity for students.

Monroe BOCES provides support for thousands of individuals, from newborns to adult students, to help them achieve success and improve the quality of their lives. BOCES coordinated more than 86 programs and services that helped students of diverse backgrounds and abilities discover their learning potential in an environment that benefited all students. More than 5,500 students from the 10 suburban school districts in eastern Monroe County attended BOCES programs. BOCES also served school districts by helping their students meet the State learning standards in specialized areas.

BOCES programs and services provide valuable hands-on learning opportunities for students that they might not experience otherwise, opportunities such as career and technical training, workplace preparation and internships, as well as a network of services for transitioning to the workforce.

An organization such as Monroe BOCES will sustain itself and continue to coordinate innovative educational enrichment programs, from the arts to technology, to help students reach beyond classroom walls.

It is my honor to recognize and congratulate Monroe County BOCES on its continued success and 50th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH MATTHEW
GONDOLA

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to the life and work of an outstanding individual whom I feel fortunate to call my friend, Mr. Joseph Matthew Gondola. He was recognized on Sunday, January 15, 2006, on the occasion of his retirement after 42 years of service to the United States Postal Service, USPS.

Joseph Gondola is the youngest of seven children, having five sisters and one brother. Over the course of his childhood, he overcame frequent hospitalization, where he received treatments for medical ailments ranging from septic poisoning to the dreaded disease, polio. Through it all, Joseph persevered and he did not allow his health problems to prevent him from accomplishing his goals.

Joseph attended Central High School in Paterson, where he began his academic growth. This experience was translated effectively to Montclair State College where he received his bachelor of science and master of arts degrees, both cum laude. From that point, he continued his pursuit in higher learning at Seton Hall University.

At age 31, Joseph was appointed Clifton postmaster by Representative Charles Joelson, NJ-8th, making him the youngest postmaster for that size postal district. Over the course of his term, he served the USPS as officer in charge in Jamestown, PA, and Newark, NJ. He has hosted and chaired many safety committee meetings in his Clifton office, and served on several review boards. He is