

freedom to worship God as I choose. By not being afraid to voice my opinion. By becoming an active member of my community—doing volunteer work, serving on boards. By paying taxes and holding the government accountable. By working to improve the way of life for my descendants. By registering for the selective service and being ready to serve our country. And by being a dedicated, informed voter.

Living within the confines and routines of a typical teenager's life, freedom might seem like a rare commodity. But the simple act of putting a pen to paper, of committing my voice to a recording for the Voice of Democracy audio essay profoundly represents the many freedoms I take for granted every day.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TIMOTHY BURRIS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Timothy Burris, who retired on January 3rd of this year, after 26 years of dedicated service to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, his last 8 years serving in the Laughlin Substation as Detective.

Tim began his career in 1979 as a patrol officer in Las Vegas, and started the Bicycle Patrol Unit there. He moved up to work in the Detective Bureau, an assignment he has maintained for the last 15 years. Tim also served on the International Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigators Association and before joining Metro, he served 3 tours in Vietnam in the U.S. Navy as a crewman on the U.S.S. *Kawishiwi*, affectionately referred to as the "Special K" by the crew.

Demonstrating that his job is something he does, not who he is, Timothy's fondest memories are not necessarily the ones from being on the force, but rather memories of his family. The detective has 3 sons that he is very proud of; Timothy, 30, a high school art and theater teacher; Matthew, 27, a member of Metro's Mounted Patrol Unit; and James, 12, a middle school student and promising young bow-hunter.

Tim has spent much of his career downplaying his efforts while serving on the force. When approached with a recommendation for an award or medal, with his typical humble demeanor he will tell you that he doesn't see the need for medals or honors. He feels that he is just doing his job. That unassuming attitude is exactly what makes Tim so loved and respected.

His fellow police officers describe him as a real professional and a long-time solid police officer of the highest caliber. His outstanding record shows that he is the go-to-guy on any difficult case. His knowledge and experience will be greatly missed in southern Nevada.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Timothy Burris on the floor of the House today. I congratulate him on a great career and wish him the best in retirement.

IN HONOR OF NOT THIS TIME VETS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Not This Time Vets, a Santa Cruz County organization dedicated to ensuring the well being of veterans, both from previous and current conflicts. The organization was created in response to the indifference and hostility Vietnam soldiers faced as part of the Nation's criticism of the war. A non-profit organization, Not This Time Vets is committed to honoring the service and sacrifices of veterans in Santa Cruz County as well as show appreciation for citizens currently serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other parts of the world.

Not This Time Vets has demonstrated its appreciation to our veterans by drawing attention to their honorable service as well as advocating on their behalf in regard to preserving veterans' benefits and programs. For the estimated 18,000 veterans in Santa Cruz County, Not This Time Vets works to pay tribute to military service through organizing celebrations, informational events and advocating for effective veterans' support policies. On May 21, 2005, Not This Time Vets sponsored a parade in Santa Cruz, which drew an estimated crowd of 2,000 people. Those in attendance enthusiastically showed their support for veterans of all eras. While Americans may differ in their view of current and previous conflicts, we all need to honor the young men and woman serving this country, past and present. This is a universal point of agreement that Not This Time Vets keeps front and center.

Mr. Speaker, we know military service is a valuable and difficult sacrifice. Organizations like Not This Time Vets provide important services to our communities and veterans by providing a forum through which recognition, respect and appreciation can be demonstrated to those who have served our country. While no gesture could ever remove the scars inflicted by war, Not This Time Vets hopes to heal those physical and emotional wounds by publicly recognizing their service and bringing to light the tribulations they still endure. I applaud Not This Time Vets for the services they have provided to veterans in our community and their intentions to spread their message of healing and appreciation throughout the country.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF RICH DEVOS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard (Rich) DeVos, a great American business leader, on the special occasion of his 80th birthday. Rich co-founded Amway Corporation, a direct selling company, based on the principle of helping people live better lives. By providing individ-

uals around the world the opportunity to be entrepreneurs, Amway has become an industry leader, and is now a subsidiary of Alticor, Inc.—a Michigan-based company with international presence and annual sales of \$6.4 billion.

Now retired from the company, Rich serves as Chairman of the Orlando Magic, which he and his family acquired in 1991. Rich continues to be a source of inspiration and motivation to others by sharing accounts of his personal challenges and achievements through speaking engagements and writings. Remarkably, Rich did not stop upon reaching his American Dream, but rather continues to encourage others to believe in themselves and pursue their own dreams. Rich DeVos was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan on March 4, 1926. He and his wife, Helen DeVos, have four children and fifteen grandchildren.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT GARY HOOD

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Sergeant Gary Hood who retired on January 3, 2006, after 24 years of service on the force.

Sgt. Hood began his career with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (Metro) in 1976, after serving in the Air Force for 8 years. He was a crew member of the USAF Thunderbirds before leaving the service. At Metro, Sgt. Hood started as patrol officer and remained so by choice for 15 years. He also served in the Special Investigations and Concealed Weapons units for about 2 years and 6 years respectively. Sgt. Hood has been a sergeant for 14 years.

He and his wife, Sue, are the parents of two beautiful daughters, Christina, 26, and Erin, 21. They also have one granddaughter, Rhianna, 5. All are residents of Henderson, NV.

The more notorious cases that he was involved with during his career include the shooting of rapper Tupac Shakur and the violent fight between the rival Hells Angels and Mongol outlaw biker gangs during the Laughlin River Run in 2002. Three people were killed and 13 others were shot or stabbed in the confrontation.

Sgt. Hood received the 2002 Medal of Valor for his efforts in the shoot-out, the highest honor issued by the department. He also gives of himself by being a member of the Laughlin Town Advisory Board, a volunteer position. He can be described as a dedicated man, dedicated to the community, the police department and his family.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor Sgt. Gary Hood on the floor of the House today. I congratulate him on his retirement. He has been an honorable and valuable public servant and he will be missed.

RECOGNIZING KATELYN SELOFF
OF CARROLLTON, TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Katelyn Seloff of Carrollton, Texas. Katelyn has been named one of the top youth volunteers in Texas for 2006 in the 11th annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

Katelyn Seloff, age 13, is an eighth-grader at DeWitt Perry Middle School in Carrollton, Texas. She created a peer tutoring program to provide students with academic help without the pressures of being tutored by a teacher. Katelyn recruited 21 students to volunteer as tutors. Together they provided regular tutoring sessions for 15 students in need of assistance. Her efforts led to her selection as a Distinguished Finalist in this year's Prudential Spirit of Community awards program.

Today I salute Katelyn for her impressive community service activities. It is encouraging to see outstanding young adults like her making significant contributions to their communities. I thank Katelyn for her dedication to volunteering; she is a great example of the high quality of the young people in our North Texas schools. I am proud to represent her in the U.S. House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE COMMUNITY OF
PALCO, KANSAS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the citizens of Palco, Kansas for long-term efforts to sustain and revitalize their community.

Mayor Leo VonFeldt is proud to call this town of 235 people home. "Palco continues to grow," VonFeldt said. "The community has done a lot to keep going forward."

Over the last ten years, the citizens of Palco have taken action to ensure that their community continues to be home to another generation of Kansans.

In 1996, a USDA Rural Development grant was supplemented by \$125,000 of local dollars in order to complete an expansion of Kyser Machine Products. This effort provided six jobs to the local economy.

The development of Keller Motors/Petro Plus & Quality Collision Repair was completed in 1998. This half a million dollar project included a \$250,000 owner investment, \$200,000 in local contributions and Federal funding of \$50,000. The result of this shared investment is that 6 employees now provide area residents a full service gas station, 24 hour fuel access and auto collision service. The business has made a positive contribution to the community. The significance of that contribution was highlighted when owner Myron Keller was recognized as the 2004 National Young Entrepreneur of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration. Keller said he was humbled by the award, which in his opinion belongs to the entire community.

"Our community recognizes that we can't just sit back. We must be pro-active and keep working hard for a better future," Keller said. "Nothing just happens in rural America. You have to make it happen."

In 2002, a dedicated effort was made to enhance local government services through construction of a new city building. The facility was funded by \$120,000 in local donations and includes a city office, ambulance service and fire department.

The following year, community food service availability was greatly improved when the Palco Community Development Corporation purchased and completely remodeled a local restaurant. The \$45,000 project has resulted in 6 day a week restaurant service. In addition, new ownership took over Palco's grocery store which preserved access to grocery service for local residents.

In 2004, an investment of \$132,000 from local and Federal sources resulted in the renovation and opening of the Palco Medical Clinic. The clinic provides residents with needed health care service. Also, Midwest Community Bank opened a facility in Palco which preserved local access to lending and investment opportunities. That same year, the city completed a two year community enhancement initiative. The \$2.2 million project established a home improvement program, a new sewer plant and construction of a new city street near the downtown area.

In the last decade, the citizens of Palco have leveraged more than \$3,250,000 of private, local and Federal investment into their community. Most recently, the town has taken on the task of developing a local day care facility. Community leaders hope to have the facility open by the fall of this year. According to Mayor VonFeldt this is just one more example of the community coming together to achieve a goal. "Citizens are willing to give of their time, energy and resources," VonFeldt said. "This is what makes Palco great."

For rural communities to survive and prosper into the future, citizens must be willing to create their own opportunities for success. Ongoing efforts to revitalize Palco are an example of how hard work, vision and community support can create just such an opportunity. Citizens throughout Kansas are working together to enhance the quality of life in their communities. Palco is a success story that demonstrates how teamwork and creative thinking can make a positive difference in rural America.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONSTABLE
PATRICK KETTERER

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Laughlin Town Constable Patrick Ketterer for his outstanding service to the community of Laughlin and his dedication to making that community a safer and more pleasant place in which to live and visit.

Patrick Ketterer has been a Laughlin resident since 1988, moving there from Rochester, Michigan. He serves in one of two elected positions in the Laughlin Township. He was initially appointed to the position to fill a va-

cancy and has since been reelected to the position four times. He is the longest serving elected official in Laughlin.

Along with serving as the town Constable, Patrick Ketterer has given countless hours of service to the community through volunteer work. Some of his activities include serving with the Metro Volunteer Police (MVPs), volunteering as a Homeland Security reserve officer and working for the local Community Emergency Response Team as Team Trainer. He is also a member of the Kiwanis and Lions clubs, as well as the American Legion Post 60. On January 10, 2006, He received the Citizen of the Year award for 2005 from the Laughlin Town Advisory Board.

To the children of Laughlin Patrick Ketterer is known simply as "Santa." Usually arriving at holiday events by police car, fire truck, or even a horse and buggy, he has thrilled the children of the community for years by playing the role of Santa Claus.

Mr. Speaker, It is a privilege to honor Patrick Ketterer for his community service in the great state of Nevada.

CONGRATULATING THE ASIAN PACIFIC
AMERICAN TIMES ON ITS
10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Asian Pacific American Times on its upcoming 10th Anniversary celebration and to honor the important contributions this paper has made over the last decade. On March 25, 2006, the APA Times will celebrate a record of substantial achievement and growth among its readership.

The Asian Pacific American Times began with a narrower mission and title than it has today as the "Philippine American Times," focusing on issues relevant to Filipino-Americans living and working in Colorado. Over time the paper realized even greater potential to reach more Asian-American communities and it broadened its coverage and objectives accordingly. In March 2003, the Asian Pacific American Times became "The Voice of Asian Pacific Americans in the Rockies."

Reading the Asian Pacific American Times today, it is not uncommon to see datelines from locations as varied as Denver, Washington D.C., South Korea, Mongolia, China, and the Philippines. This breadth demonstrates the APA Times' dedication to reporting on a wide range of issues important to emerging Asian communities. In addition to substantive reporting and editing, it is important to recognize the APA Times' devotion to community involvement. Having won the Asian Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year Award in 2003 and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Business Social Responsibility Award in 2005, the APA Times shows a clear commitment beyond routine journalism to greater support of Asian-American communities and cultural awareness. From volunteering in programs to participating in commissions to organizing special events, the APA Times and its employees go above and beyond their laudable work as a press outlet to become public servants and community leaders.