

women to our military academies. Each year, I have the opportunity to meet students who have excelled in both their academic fields as well as their extracurricular activities. Each of these fine young men and women would excel at our finest private and public universities; however, they all share a singular distinction that separates them from their peers—they all share a deep commitment to their communities and their nation and so, they seek nomination to our prestigious military academies.

This year the nominating board interviewed over 60 superb applicants from the 8th District of Pennsylvania to our service academies and I want to take time to recognize each one of them by name. I think it is also proper to acknowledge the board members who had the arduous job of interviewing so many exceedingly qualified students that the 8th District has to offer. I congratulate these students on their commitment and dedication. They all make our nation and our world a better place.

ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 2005 FROM THE 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA:

United States Military Academy: Rocco C. Boccuti of Doylestown, Bronne Joseph Bruzgo, Jr. of Yardley, Evan Alexander Cumming of Yardley, Andrew Curtis Detwiler of Souderton, Thomas R. Dunn of Chalfont, David Edison Geib of Telford, William Paul Herbert of Dresher, Andrew Kim of Dresher, Charles Kenneth Ridge, Jr. of Langhorne, Alexander C. Shelby of Morrisville, and William Warren Zuber, Jr. of Newtown.

United States Naval Academy: Eamon Emmett Coleman of Yardley, Carli Ann Dimino of New Hope, William Edwin Doar of Langhorne, Thomas Michael Kane of Doylestown, Rachael Elizabeth Koehler of Perkasio, Van Gordon Lawson of Doylestown, Aaron Christopher Marchant of Doylestown, Stephen William Ullrich, Jr. of Southampton, Andrew Ventresca of Chalfont, and William Warren Zuber, Jr. of Newtown.

United States Air Force Academy: Kathryn Leigh Aden of Newtown, Bronne Joseph Bruzgo, Jr. of Yardley, Evan Alexander Cumming of Yardley, Andrew Curtis Detwiler of Souderton, Jason Robert Hallenbeck of Upper Black Eddy, Jacob Cody Hunt of Morrisville, Andrew Kim of Dresher, Daniel Andrew Lusardi of Holland, and Philip Michael Smith of Doylestown.

United States Merchant Marine Academy: Jacqueline Elizabeth Bors of Willow Grove, Bronne Joseph Bruzgo, Jr. of Yardley, Evan Alexander Cumming of Yardley, John Anderson Geating of Roslyn, Stefan Nordtveit of Newtown, Haley Rae Wallace of Doylestown, and William Warren Zuber, Jr. of Newtown.

USMA Board Members: Mr. Joseph R. Barkley '65, Mr. Scott Belveal '92, Mr. Dan Caraccio '84, LTC Willis C. Collett Jr. '58, Ms. Elizabeth W. Fineburg, Mr. Alex Gorsky '82, Mr. Frederick R. Gudknecht, Mr. Paul Pryor. USMA-MALO: Mr. Kevin J. Wallace '84, Mr. Robert J. Welch '84.

USNA Board Members: Adm. Steven Chadwick, USN, Mr. James J. Gormley, Jr., Mrs. Barbara Z. Kolbe, Col. Tom Manion, USMC, Dr. Jonathan W. McCullough, Captain Dave Stacy, USN, Mrs. Suzanne M. Twiggs, Captain R. A. "Skip" Wiegand, USN, (Ret.).

USAFR Board Members: Col. Harris H. Brooks, USAFR, Mr. Bob Campbell, Lt. Col. Janice B. Cope, USAFR (Ret.), Lt. Col. Sue DeGiovanni, USAFR, Lt. Col. Vincent DeGiovanni, USAFR, Maj. Wayne Fowler, USAFR, Mr. Raymond Fresella, Mr. Eugene Schaefer, Jr.

## HAND-IN-HAND

### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 28, 2006*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Hand-in-Hand, an organization that seeks to break down barriers by uniting the entire Saint Joseph's University community, area volunteers, and the disabled communities of the tri-state region. Saint Joseph's University was founded by the Society of Jesus in 1851 and is home to 3,450 full-time undergraduates and 2,900 graduate and nontraditional students. The University's strong liberal arts tradition is marked by rigorous and open-minded inquiry, high academic standards, and the development of the whole person.

Hand-in-Hand was founded by George Carasiti, a Saint Joseph's of 1978 graduate. Hand-in-Hand brings to campus approximately 450 area people with mental and physical handicaps and 750 local high school students who have volunteered to be their buddies for the day. The high school students also pair with Saint Joseph's students from various campus organizations, sports teams, and fraternities and sororities who in turn, run game booths, play music, and serve as mascots and buddies for their annual event.

Hand-in-Hand earned a 1988 Presidential Citation from the White House Office of Private Sector Initiatives for "outstanding contributions to the American spirit of volunteerism and community action." Also honored by the Montgomery County Association for Retarded Citizens and the Elwyn Institute, Hand-in-Hand is the model for similar festivals at 10 other colleges and universities, including the University of Scranton, Johns Hopkins University, and Georgetown University. Additionally Saint Joseph's Office of Student Leadership and Activities named Hand-in-Hand the best student organization in 2000 and again in 2004.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Hand-in-Hand for their efforts to change the mindsets, open hearts, enrich lives, and break down the barriers of fears and ignorance that have isolated people with disabilities from the rest of American society.

## RECOGNIZING PECO INC.'S DESIGNATION AS BOEING'S "SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR"

### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 28, 2006*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the accomplishments of PECO Inc., a company that operates in Oregon's 3rd Congressional District and has been in business for nearly 70 years.

PECO Inc. has received Boeing's "Supplier of the Year" honor for the Interiors category. This distinguished award highlights the value of efficient, professional companies with long histories in this region.

PECO Inc. employs more than 200 people, and has previously won the Boeing President's Award in 1988 and the Outstanding Performance Award in 1994, as well as similar awards from IBM, Raytheon, Control Data, Varian, and Storage Technology. The employ-

ees at PECO Inc., have earned a high honor for the region.

## HONORING UNITED STATES COAST GUARD COMMANDER NEIL L. NICKERSON

### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 28, 2006*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Coast Guard Commander Neil Nickerson and to commemorate his illustrious career of dedicated service to our nation.

Commander Nickerson graduated from the Coast Guard Officer Candidate School in March 1984. Since then, he has served a wide range of tours taking him from the Atlantic, to the Pacific, through the Panama Canal, across the Equator and into the Arctic Circle.

During his first tour in Miami Beach, Florida, Commander Nickerson assisted with search, rescue and recovery for the tragic Space Shuttle Challenger explosion. He then served in Guam and Alameda, California, where he began law enforcement missions ranging from drug interdiction to fishery regulation. Several years later, Commander Nickerson began service as Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the San Diego, California Navy Fleet Training Group. From there, he became Commanding Officer of USCGC *Liberty* in Alaska.

Over the course of these tours, Commander Nickerson distinguished himself as an outstanding officer, earning the respect of his peers and superiors alike. Based on these merits, in 1995 he was one of the elite few selected to attend post-graduate education at the Naval War College. Upon completion of this rigorous coursework, he began service in the Budget Office of Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, DC.

Soon thereafter, Commander Nickerson assumed the position of Executive Officer of the USCGC *Alex Haley* in Alaska. During his tenure, he oversaw the complete refurbishing of the former US Navy ship. Commander Nickerson then led the USCGC *Alex Haley* on its maiden voyage from the Naval shipyard in Philadelphia through the Panama Canal and up to Kodiak, Alaska. Following this tour, Commander Nickerson began service as Executive Officer of the USCGC *Jarvis* in Honolulu, Hawaii, where he continues to serve today.

This year, Commander Nickerson will retire from 22 years of service to the US Coast Guard. Throughout his accomplished career, Commander Nickerson has kept with the highest traditions of the US Coast Guard and serves as an inspiration to us all. In recognition of his exceptional performance of duty, Commander Nickerson has been awarded six Coast Guard Commendation Medals with Operational Distinguishing Device on all. On the occasion of his retirement, the US Coast Guard also will be awarding him the Meritorious Service Medal. This prestigious honor recognizes officers that have demonstrated expert knowledge, effective management and outstanding leadership.

I ask that my colleagues join me in commending this dedicated public servant and in congratulating him on a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING NORTON PARKER  
CHIPMAN AT THE UNIVERSITY  
OF CINCINNATI COLLEGE OF  
LAW

**HON. STEVE CHABOT**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 28, 2006*

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Norton Parker Chipman, an esteemed graduate of the Cincinnati Law School. On April 4, 2006, his memory will be honored as the newly ordained namesake for the Norton Parker Chipman Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies located at the University of Cincinnati College of Law.

Norton Parker Chipman led a distinguished life, including time spent as a United States Congressman, author, first presiding justice of California's Third District Court of Appeal, and perhaps, most notably, a Civil War hero. Seriously injured and reported as dead at Fort Donelson in 1862, Chipman's bravery and resolve was rewarded with an assignment to President Abraham Lincoln's staff at Gettysburg. As judge advocate, Chipman's successful prosecution of Captain Henry Wirz, commander of the Confederacy's infamous Andersonville war prison camp, earned him a spot on the platform at Gettysburg next to his close friend President Lincoln while the President delivered his famous Gettysburg Address.

Among several of his accolades, Chipman also was a co-founder of the Grand Army of the Republic and authored the order creating Memorial Day. He was appointed as the first presiding justice of California's Third District Court of Appeal in 1905 and served honorably until his retirement in 1921. To this date, Chipman remains the longest serving presiding justice of the court.

It gives me great pleasure to recognize Norton Parker Chipman for his contributions to our country, and I am pleased that his legacy is being commemorated at the University of Cincinnati College of Law.

TRIBUTE TO MR. M. BRIAN MAHER

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 28, 2006*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention to the life and work of an outstanding individual whom I feel fortunate to call my friend, Mr. M. Brian Maher. He was honored on Tuesday, March 7, 2006, at the 13th Annual Archbishop's Business and Labor Recognition ceremony, under the auspices of the Newark (NJ) Archdiocese.

Mr. Maher is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Maher Terminals, Inc., a major marine terminal in the Port of New York/New Jersey, as well as a supplier of state-of-the-art marine terminal computer services and software. Mr. Maher, who has been in the business for 35 years, carries on in the tradition of

his revered father, who founded Maher Terminals after serving in World War II.

A graduate of the Ohio State University and a lifetime resident of New Jersey, Mr. Maher is currently a member of the board of trustees of NJN Foundation, and of St. Peter's College. He serves as director of the New York Shipping Association and as director and officer of the United States Maritime Alliance, Ltd.

Mr. Maher has been chosen to receive numerous service awards, including the Ninth Annual Labor Award, from New Jersey's State AFL-CIO, "Person of the Year 2001" from New York/New Jersey Foreign Freight Forwarders and Brokers Association, Inc., the International Maritime Hall of Fame Lookout Award, the Admiral of the Ocean Sea Award for distinguished service to American ships and American seafarers, and the Bi-State Harbor Carriers Conference of NJMTA award for being the individual who has contributed most towards bolstering the image of the Port Community.

Additionally, Mr. Maher is past chairman of the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce, past member of the Board of Overseers, New Jersey Institute of Technology, and past vice-chair of St. Peter's College Board of Trustees. Mr. Maher is a past member of the board of directors of the Regional Business Partnership, the Regional Plan Association and the Union County Alliance. He served as president and member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Waterfront Employers and is a past director of the National Maritime Safety Association. Originally, appointed by Governor Christine Todd Whitman, Mr. Maher served on the Dredged Materials Management Team, formed to ensure the viability of the Port of New York/New Jersey, and to protect the environment. He also served on the Dredging Project Facilitation Task Force.

Brian remains happily married to Sandra, with whom he has two children, Amanda and Michael. Throughout his life, his generosity to charitable causes, and Catholic schools in particular has been admirable. It gives me great pleasure to honor such an upstanding individual.

Mr. Speaker, the job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing the efforts of fine citizens like Mr. M. Brian Maher. I ask that you join residents of New Jersey, the employees of Maher Terminals, Inc., Mr. Maher's family and friends and me, in recognizing M. Brian Maher for his years of outstanding service to the citizens of our Great State of New Jersey.

HONORING SALME HARJU  
STEINBERG

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 28, 2006*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Salme Harju Steinberg, President of Northeastern Illinois University. President Steinberg recently announced that she will retire from the University in 2007, ending over thirty years of distinguished service to the university.

President Steinberg began at Northeastern Illinois University as a professor of history in

1975. She went on to serve as both Department Chair and Administrator. For the past eleven years, she served as President of NEIU.

Under President Steinberg's leadership, NEIU experienced an increase in enrollment and marked improvements in the academic and cultural opportunities available to its students. President Steinberg's intelligent stewardship and forward thinking have resulted in increased funding for academic programs and improved financial assistance for students.

President Steinberg has also demonstrated a commitment to assist first generation college students. Today, Northeastern University can boast a minority enrollment of over 60 percent, with as many as forty-seven languages spoken across the campus.

In addition to the breadth of diversity President Steinberg has worked to introduce, she also developed heritage programming to deepen the cultural education and appreciation of NEIU students, including an innovative study abroad program.

Mr. Speaker, President Salme Harju Steinberg's many contributions to Northeastern Illinois University will always be remembered, and her dedication will continue to benefit NEIU students long after her retirement. I wish her the best in all of her future endeavors.

CELEBRATING LTC HARRY GAUNT  
AS VETERAN OF THE YEAR 2006

**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 28, 2006*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the announcement of the Joint Veterans Committee of Maryland's Veteran of the Year 2006. The Joint Veterans Committee of Maryland is an active organization that focuses on military veteran legislation on the local, State and Federal level. Recently, they elected LTC Harry Gaunt, United States Army, retired, for this prestigious award because of the contributions he has made to this great Nation.

Lieutenant Colonel Gaunt was active for 22 years in the Armed Forces, serving in WWII, as well as the Korea and Vietnam wars. Because of his tremendous determination, steadfastness, and perseverance, he received the Army Commendation Medal; Good Conduct Medal with Cluster; American Defense Service Medal; American Campaign Medal; Asiatic Pacific Medal; World War II Victory Medal; Army Occupation Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Korean Service Medal; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Republic of Vietnam Service Medal; Philippine Liberation Medal; and two Presidential Unit Citations.

Even after retirement, Lieutenant Colonel Gaunt remained active in military life through veterans' organizations. Among these organizations he took active leadership roles confirming his dedication to the United States Armed Forces. Through the Wells McComas Post 2678 VFW, Gaunt completed two terms as All State post commander and also the VFW District 14 commander. He served as the chairman of the Buddy Poppy Contest for the Department of Maryland Veterans of Foreign Wars, chairman of the Citizenship, Education and Community Activities Committee, and