

Rollcall 669, H.R. 2863, on agreeing to the Department of Defense Appropriations Conference Report for FY06—"yea."

Rollcall 670, S. 1932, on agreeing to the Conference Report to the Budget Reconciliation bill for FY06—"yea."

Rollcall 671, H. Con. Res. 275, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the education curriculum in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—"yea."

**PETER R. STROHM JOINS
MANTOLOKING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, January 2, Peter R. Strohm was sworn in as a new member of the Mantoloking Borough Council. Joining him in taking the oath of office for a three-year term was incumbent John H. Jones.

As the only Democrat on the seven member council, Mr. Strohm will be bringing a bipartisan spirit, years of legal experience and a desire to work long hours on behalf of the approximately 500 residents of Mantoloking, NJ, a beautiful, historic seashore community.

He is a principal in the law firm of Rothstein, Mandell, Strohm, Must & Gertner in Lakewood, NJ, in which he has practiced for 35 years. He serves and chairs a number of committees of the Ocean County Bar Association and of the New Jersey Supreme Court, including probate, chancery, and judicial appointments. In 2000, he received the Professionalism Award from the New Jersey State Bar Association.

He served in the past as an adjunct professor of law at Georgian Court University in Lakewood, NJ, and from 1968 to 1996, in the U.S. Army Reserve, from which he retired as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Mr. Strohm received degrees from Washington & Lee, Columbia University School of Law, New York University School of Law, and the United States Command and General Staff College of Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

I congratulate Mr. Strohm and Mr. Jones as they begin their terms in office. Although Mantoloking is a small community, it is busy tackling large problems, such as beach erosion, bridge construction and protection of the fragile seashore environment. I look forward to working with them and their county, state and federal representatives on these critical issues.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHARLES
AND PATRICIA WILLIAMS FOR
THEIR VOLUNTEER EFFORTS TO
PRESERVE RED ROCK CANYON**

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles and Patricia Williams, retirees from the Las Vegas community, who have given countless hours of service in helping preserve the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area.

Chuck and Pat moved to Las Vegas in 1995 and started their love affair with the canyon. They enjoyed hiking there every weekend and, after Chuck's retirement in 1999, they decided it was time to repay Red Rock Canyon for the enjoyment that they had received. They began regularly volunteering their time and have since contributed over 13,000 hours of service dedicated to area preservation, improvement, and restoration.

Both Chuck and Pat are active in the volunteer organization Friends of Red Rock Canyon, a group of volunteers dedicated to preserving the canyon. They perform a wide range of tasks including removing graffiti and trash, maintaining the authorized trail system, and rebuilding and repairing miles of trails. Chuck was president of the group from 2000 to 2002 and continues to participate in cultural site documentation and monitoring, trail rehabilitation and work event coordination; Pat has been the membership coordinator since 2000 and was elected president in 2004.

In 2002, Chuck and Pat were recipients of the Bureau of Land Management's National Volunteer Award, "Making a Difference on Public Lands," and later in 2004 they received "The Presidents Call to Service Award," for their volunteer contributions.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity to honor this couple and their contributions to the protection of the environment of the state of Nevada.

**IN MEMORIAL OF GEORGE
WORTHINGTON WILLIAMS**

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of my dear friend, George Worthington "Jo Jo" Williams of Dunn, NC, who died December 8, 2005. In his passing, North Carolinians and veterans everywhere have lost a tireless voice and an outstanding civic leader.

Jo Jo Williams led a rich and full life, highlighted by his boundless energy and patriotism. Mr. Williams was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army Air Corps in the South Pacific theater of operations. Following the war, Jo Jo's dedication to those who serve our country led him to become a passionate advocate for America's veterans. As a U.S. Army veteran myself, I truly appreciate his life-long work on behalf of veterans. He maintained membership in numerous organizations including the American Legion, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, AM Vets, the World War II Commission, and 20th Air Force Association. Jo Jo was also a life board member of Veterans of Foreign Wars National Home for Children and was chosen by the American Legion of North Carolina to attend the dedication of the World War II Memorial here in Washington, DC.

However, Mr. Williams's service and contributions were not limited to the arena of veterans. Jo Jo also found time to be active in countless other community endeavors. He served as a chairman and member of the Harnett County Nursing Home Commission, as a member and former chair of the State Employees Credit Union, and as a trustee for

the Harnett County Library Commission. Following his retirement from the N.C. State Surplus Division in Raleigh, he served as Harnett County magistrate. He also served on the Dunn Planning Board and as a member of the Harnett County Jury Commission. Additionally, Mr. Williams was an active member of First Baptist Church where he acted as clerk for 25 years and a popular Sunday school teacher and church deacon.

Though the death of a friend brings great sadness, it is a privilege for me to take a moment to honor a man who spent so much of his life honoring others. Let Jo Jo Williams's life serve as a testament to caring, sacrifice and service.

**TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW MYRICK,
TEXAS STATE TROOPER**

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, last month, Texas lost a law-enforcement officer in the line of duty. Trooper Matthew DeWayne Myrick lived in Hereford, TX, and served as a State trooper for 2 years. He died in an automobile accident while responding to another accident south of Hereford.

While I didn't have the honor to know Trooper Myrick personally, I did have the opportunity to pay my respects at his memorial service. There I learned about a remarkable man who loved God, his family and his country.

Trooper Myrick served his country as a member of the U.S. Navy. He then earned both his undergraduate degree and a masters degree in Agronomy from Texas Tech University. He was a devoted husband of Christy and loving father of four children, Matilyn, Tate, Luke and Embry. A family man, he was well known for his strong faith in God. His love for God was the center of his life and affected every part of his life.

Trooper Myrick leaves behind a great legacy of faith, love for his family and public service. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him and by those West Texans he served through his work with the Texas State Patrol. His family and community can be proud of his life of love and service. He is an example to us all of a life well-lived.

**THE FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND
HEALTH ACT OF 2006**

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, in the month of January, two major mining accidents took place in West Virginia, killing 12 miners at the Sago mine in Upshur County and 2 at the Alma mine in Logan County. Today the West Virginia congressional delegation on a bipartisan basis, introduced the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 2006. This mine safety legislation will require the Mine Safety and Health Administration to issue regulations to provide for immediate notification of mine accidents, new regulations for mine safety teams

to ensure a quick response, and improved technology to keep miners safe.

Specifically, the bill requires that mine rescue teams employed by the mine operator and familiar with an individual mine be available to respond immediately. Regulations require that three mine safety teams be present—two in a mine and one standing by outside—prior to a rescue operation beginning. It is important that the necessary rescue teams be in place as soon as possible so that the rescue can begin as soon as mine conditions allow.

This legislation creates an MSHA Office of Science and Technology, and requires MSHA to examine new mine safety and rescue technologies, including refuge chambers. The world watched as tragedy was averted in Canada this past weekend because 72 trapped miners were able to escape to a designated safe haven with a supply of oxygen and communications technology.

The Federal Mine Safety Act would require that emergency supplies of oxygen and breathing equipment be placed in strategic locations in the mine. Each of these locations would also include communications equipment so that miners can provide information about their location and condition to rescuers, and miners can receive information from the outside. The legislation also calls for miners to be provided with emergency tracking devices.

Other provisions of the legislation, including a miner ombudsman in the Department of Labor to take reports of safety violations from miners, will also help to make our mines safer.

It is important that this House act on legislation to improve the safety of our coal mines. I spent time with the friends and families of the Sago mine victims, both as we awaited news on the rescue effort and after we knew the tragic result. I do not want to watch more families endure what the families of the Sago victims went through.

I urge my colleagues, whether your State is a major producer of coal or not, and regardless of your party affiliation, to join the West Virginia delegation in helping to prevent future mining tragedies.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO EDNA HARRIS FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE LAS VEGAS MUNICIPAL COURT

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Edna Harris who died Sunday, January 29, 2006 after battling cancer.

Edna recently retired from the City of Las Vegas in January 2005, after serving 25 years in the Alternative Sentencing & Education Division of Las Vegas Municipal Court, as the Supervisor of Misdemeanor Programs. In the workplace, she was known for her fight to reduce the incidence of domestic violence. She was appointed to serve on the State of Nevada Committee on Domestic Violence, on which she served since its inception. She also chaired the Municipal Court's annual Domestic Violence Conference.

Edna was well known for her smile and humor. She always had a song to give you or a word of inspiration. Near and dear to her

heart was her love for family and the church where she was first lady and also active as an evangelist. Edna will be missed but never forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, Edna Harris was a shining example of diligent public service. Her legacy will long be remembered by the State of Nevada. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize her on the floor of the House in front of my colleagues.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF WISCONSIN AND MARIA MONREAL-CAMERON

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to recognize before this House the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin (HCCW), and its President and CEO Maria Monreal-Cameron.

For over 30 years, HCCW has been helping hard-working Hispanics throughout Wisconsin, share in a fundamental slice of the American dream—running a business. A nonprofit organization founded in 1972, HCCW serves as an incubator for Latino-run businesses across the state—focusing primarily, however, on the Milwaukee metropolitan area. The organization helps create greater opportunities for Hispanic entrepreneurs by offering some of the educational and technical resources necessary to start a business, while promoting greater involvement in the Hispanic community.

At the helm of this fantastic organization has been Maria Monreal-Cameron. For the past 16 years, Maria has served as President and CEO of HCCW, helping the Hispanic Chamber's membership swell to over 600 members. On top of that, under her leadership the organization has provided nearly \$350,000 in scholarships to college-bound high school students in Wisconsin. Maria has left an indelible mark on HCCW, and Wisconsin's Latino community.

Mr. Speaker, few have done more for Wisconsin's Hispanic citizens than the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin and Maria Monreal-Cameron, and that is why I consider it such a wonderful privilege to honor them today. I commend them for their work, and wish them continued success in 2006.

A TRIBUTE TO SCONYERS BARBECUE RESTAURANT OF AUGUSTA, GEORGIA FOR 50 YEARS OF SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY AND SERVICE

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to mark a milestone in Southern politics and culture by recognizing the 50th Anniversary of a culinary and political tradition in my district—Sconyers Barbecue Restaurant of Augusta, Georgia.

Those outside my region might not be aware of how much a role a successful "bar-

becue" plays in Southern hospitality and politics.

The first thing one needs to understand is that in the South, the word itself can be noun, a verb, or an adjective. It is more than food, it is a cultural identification, and one that crosses all party lines.

I don't think there is any better example of this than Larry Sconyers and Sconyers Barbecue Restaurant in Augusta, Georgia.

Sconyers Bar-B-Que was founded 50 years ago in 1956, when Claude and Adeline Sconyers could no longer make a living at farming and decided to give their hobby a try.

With all their children but one grown and no one to help them on the farm, they opened Sconyers Bar-B-Que on Peach Orchard Road, just about a mile from the Tobacco Road of Erskine Caldwell fame. The small restaurant was an instant hit, with classically prepared southern barbecue.

Larry Sconyers, Claude and Adeline's youngest son, took over the business after the death of his father. Under Larry's direction, the hobby grew into a major business in the Augusta area, with a move to a larger and more upscale location.

But Larry wanted to take the traditional southern barbecue to a higher level—catering.

Over the years Sconyers' Bar-B-Que has been served on the White House lawn for President Jimmy Carter and members of Congress, in Atlanta at the Georgia Capital as well as at many local and state events, including my own fundraising barbecues.

Larry's close ties with political events almost cost us this wonderful asset.

He was enticed to run for office himself, first serving as a Richmond County Commissioner from 1991–95, then as the first Mayor of a consolidated Augusta-Richmond County—Georgia's second largest city—until he retired from direct politics in 1998 to return to the barbecue business.

All this isn't just me talking. Sconyer's Barbecue has been featured in People's Magazine as one of the top ten Bar-B-Que restaurants in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the 9th District of Georgia, I commend Larry Sconyers, the Sconyers family, and the entire staff, past and present, of Sconyers Barbecue for a half-century of service and traditional southern hospitality to the people of East Central Georgia, the South, and the nation.

TEXAS LONGHORNS—NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, I was personally on hand January 4, 2006 to see one of the greatest college football games ever played; Texas vs USC in the granddaddy of them all, the Rose Bowl. Today I rise to congratulate the victors, College Football's National Champion, the University of Texas Longhorns.

In front of over 100,000 fans, an impressive portion of which were wearing burnt orange, the Longhorns triumphed with a stunning come from behind win that will be talked about for years to come. The State of Texas is immensely proud of the Longhorn's Head Coach