

from the Army's best officers. He then was selected to serve as an executive officer in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research, Development and Acquisition). He served as a key facilitator in preparing the Army leadership for senior level Secretary of Defense and Congressional reviews for programs that were valued in excess of \$30 billion. He excelled in managing all administration, logistics support, security and automation to support 37 senior civilian and military personnel. His senior executive service supervisor called him the best officer with whom he had ever served.

He then was selected to serve as a liaison with the U.S. Congress. Lt. Col. Schoenrock worked directly with the Army leadership and with Members of Congress and their staffs in resolving matters of the utmost national sensitivity and urgency. He ensured that programs that total billions of dollars were wisely and prudently executed to provide maximum benefit to the Army and to the communities that are closely related to the Army. He excelled as the principal congressional coordinator for the prime vendor support initiative. This is the lead Army program in which the Army is considering the outsourcing of the entire wholesale logistics of a principal major weapons system, with cost savings of \$1.8 billion. He flawlessly announced nearly 1,000 contract actions, each valued in excess of \$5 million, to over 3,500 Members of Congress, totaling \$22.5 billion. He was an influential and visible spokesman on Capitol Hill.

In his last assignment, Lt. Col. Schoenrock excelled as the Inspector General for the State of Colorado. He advised and assisted the State of Colorado military leadership in the conduct of all military functions for 5,000 soldiers and airmen. He trained the Republic of Slovenia Defense Inspectorate in the conduct of inspector general functions as part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO, Partnership for Peace Program. He also established the effort to develop the legislative liaison function between the Slovene Minister of Defense and the Slovene Parliament. His efforts with Slovenia went far towards helping this newly-emerging democracy develop the foundation for an enduring form of democratic government and to attain NATO membership. He excelled as a member of Governor Owens' state advocate council responsible for military and veterans issues. He contributed to significant increases in the wartime readiness of the Colorado National Guard and its ability to execute a myriad of missions in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Lt. Col. Schoenrock's efforts contributed immeasurably to the Colorado National Guard's soldier welfare, readiness and public image.

As a career Army officer, husband and father, and dedicated citizen, Mark Schoenrock exemplifies what is good and right about America. His life is a credit to his family, to his home state of Nebraska, to the U.S. Army, and to his generation. His 28 years of service as a U.S. Army officer in increasingly demanding positions of trust and responsibility rising from company level to the Department of the Army staff and service with the U.S. Congress, culminating in 8 years as the Colorado Inspector General, significantly contributed to the security and freedom of the United States

of America. His career achievements influenced the lives of thousands and left a legacy of freedom that will be built upon for generations to come. His career was a credit to his generation of Americans who have served the United States of America.

REMEMBERING BUNKY HUGGINS

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Mississippi legislature said good-bye to a long time friend and public servant. State Senator Robert Gene Huggins—"Bunky" to everyone who knew him—passed away Wednesday in Jackson, Mississippi, after a long battle with cancer.

Bunky was born in Carrollton, Mississippi on November 12, 1938. He graduated from Greenwood High School and attended the University of Southern Mississippi and Mississippi College. A farmer and businessman, he was elected to the House of Representatives in 1971 and reelected for two more terms before moving to the Senate in 1984 where he served for 22 years. Most recently he was chairman of the Senate Corrections Committee and had previously served as chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the Public Health Committee.

His funeral will be at his home church, St. John's Methodist Church in Greenwood.

Mr. Speaker, our prayers are with Bunky's family: his wife, Gerry and his two children and four grandchildren. He will be remembered as a hard worker and a dedicated public servant with a love for Mississippi and his Delta home. His humor and wit and tireless dedication to public service will be remembered by colleagues and constituents for years to come. I hope Congress joins me today in remembering this honored public official.

RECOGNIZING ORMER ROGERS, JR.

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ormer Rogers, Jr., the District Manager for the Mid America District of the United States Postal Service. Ormer is retiring after 37 years in the United States Postal Service. He has served the Postal Service with dignity and respect throughout his career.

Ormer began his career in the Postal Service in 1969 as a letter carrier in Dallas, Texas. Over the years he has held management positions in Texas, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Tennessee, Illinois, and Missouri. As the current District Manager for the Mid America District he is responsible for providing postal services to more than 1.5 million customers in Missouri and Kansas. He manages over 13,000 employees in 710 post offices and six mail processing plants. Ormer has a reputation of treating people with dignity and respect, managing

by the philosophy of, treat others how you wish to be treated.

Ormer has always been committed to service. He received a Bachelor's Degree from Dallas Baptist University and a Master's Degree in business administration from Abilene Christian University in Dallas, Texas. He also served as a paratrooper in the United States Army with a tour of duty in Vietnam. He has just recently completed serving two terms as Chairman of the Kansas City Federal Executive Board. He also serves on the board of the Heart of America United Way, the board of Visitors of Park University and is president of the Heart America Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Ormer Rogers, Jr. His commitment to service and dedication to the United States Postal Service are greatly appreciated. He will certainly be missed and I would like to ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking him for all of his hard work and dedication over the years. I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress.

TRIBUTE TO MOTHER'S DAY

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, the world will celebrate a tradition born in Greece and celebrated around the world, Mother's Day.

I know that my fellow mothers in this House look forward to a special day with family. I know that my male colleagues had better be planning a special time with their wives and mothers, as well.

The birth of a child is a magical experience that changes a parent's life forever. Joy, laughter, some tears, and always love, are just part of the emotional rollercoaster ride we call parenthood.

My little girl was recently married and one day, God willing, will enjoy the experience that I wouldn't trade for a subcommittee gavel on the Appropriations Committee.

But giving birth in large parts of the world is very dangerous, even deadly. In some parts of the developing world, 1 of every 10 mothers giving birth gives her life in the process. Equally disturbing, 3 million brand new babies die in the first week of life due to inadequate healthcare.

On this Mothers Day, let us celebrate our mothers. We can hardly repay them, but we can try at least for one day. But let us also pause to appreciate the struggle mothers thousands of miles away in places we will never visit. Let us rededicate ourselves to reach out to every human hand, no matter how small or how frail.

On Sunday, please join me in honoring your mother and mothers everywhere across this small planet.

ENCOURAGING ALL ELIGIBLE MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES TO REVIEW AVAILABLE OPTIONS TO DETERMINE WHETHER ENROLLMENT IN A MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN BEST MEETS THEIR NEEDS FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVAN PEARCE

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the Gentlewoman from Connecticut for bringing this resolution forward today. In my district, almost 70,000 Medicare beneficiaries have obtained prescription drug coverage, which constitutes 72 percent of the number of Medicare beneficiaries who live there.

My staff and I are proud to have contributed to this achievement. We have held numerous town hall meetings across Southern New Mexico to help seniors sign up for this critical new benefit. We have also trained others to provide this assistance—creating a multiplier effect regarding the amount of help that is available to our seniors. And we continue to urge seniors to contact our offices if they need help as the May 15 deadline approaches.

Every senior should immediately check their enrollment status in order to ensure they are enrolled in the Medicare Part D benefit. I also encourage everyone who has a parent or grandparent who is eligible for Medicare to call them and check their status. Seniors must sign up before May 15 to receive the best benefits at the lowest cost.

The phone numbers and addresses for my district offices are listed on my website at www.pearce.house.gov. Several additional resources also exist that can assist New Mexicans in choosing and enrolling in a plan. Medicare beneficiaries and their family members with questions about Medicare drug coverage can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or visit www.medicare.gov. They can also obtain help from local community organizations, pharmacists, senior centers, area agencies on aging and groups like AARP.

No senior should go another day without this coverage and we in Congress have a responsibility to stand with them and help them get that coverage today.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY B. ROE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeffrey B. Roe. After 12 years by my side, Jeff recently retired as my Chief of Staff. Since meeting him in 1994, while I was serving in the Missouri State House of Representatives, Jeff and I have maintained a unique bond; he has been there throughout my entire political career, offering guidance and expertise.

Jeff and I began working together in 1994, when he was an intern and I was a State Representative pursuing a position in the State Senate. We won that election, and Jeff soon

became an instrumental member of my staff. Over the next six years, he came in early and stayed late, the consummate professional. When I made the decision to seek the 6th Congressional District seat in the 2000, Jeff was again by my side. Those late nights and tireless hours on the road paid off, and Jeff followed me to Washington, DC, and created an office structure that we still use today. Jeff has held every job in each of my offices and has used that experience to help develop outstanding employees that leave our office more polished and determined than when they enter. Jeff has always had a love of government and politics. He has a unique perspective on the way that the world works. His tireless work ethic has always been something that has set him apart, and he was even recognized as one of Kansas City's 40 most influential leaders under the age of 40, in *Ingram's Magazine* 2003 honors. Throughout his distinguished career in politics, he has helped countless people in their pursuit of public office.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Jeffrey B. Roe. His commitment to public service and the professional manner with which he has crafted my office will be missed. I would respectfully like to ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking him for all of his hard work and dedication over the years. Though he is no longer a member of my staff, I am comforted to know that, because of his hard work, I have the honor of representing him in the United States Congress.

ENCOURAGING ALL ELIGIBLE MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES TO REVIEW AVAILABLE OPTIONS TO DETERMINE WHETHER ENROLLMENT IN A MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN BEST MEETS THEIR NEEDS FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, there are millions of Americans benefiting from the new Part D Drug Program.

Many people overlook that fact, though. I'm pretty tired of hearing the same old story from nay-sayers . . . that people could get their drugs cheaper, "If only the Government had the ability to negotiate lower prices."

I'll tell you what—That's just not true. People love to tout the V.A. system as an example of successful government negotiation.

But did you know that only 13 of the top 33 prescribed drugs for seniors are on the V.A. formulary?

Heck, a negotiated price doesn't help you much if you can't get the drug you need.

For years, P.B.M.'s have been negotiating prices for millions of Americans—and now they are getting the job done for medicare beneficiaries.

Some plans are able to offer prices lower than Internet wholesalers, lower than Canadian prices.

The beneficiaries, the States, and the taxpayers are all benefiting from these lower prices.

I encourage a yes vote on the resolution and thank the gentlelady from Connecticut for her tireless—and persistent—efforts on this issue.

HONORING LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER OSBALDO "OZZIE" RAMOS

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Osbaldo "Ozzie" Ramos for being named a 2006 "TOP COP" by the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO).

The TOP COP is given annually by NAPO to pay tribute to outstanding law enforcement officers whose actions have gone above and beyond the call of duty.

Officer Ozzie Ramos was nominated by his fellow Los Angeles Police Department Officers for his heroism in the face of grave danger last spring. On March 10, 2005, Officer Ramos and three fellow LAPD officers brought down two dangerous gunmen. That day the two suspects loaded a SUV with 500 rounds of ammunition and a rifle and lured officers into a chase. Several police cars joined the pursuit, including Officer Ozzie Ramos and his partner Officer Trevor Jackson, when suddenly the suspects opened the door of the van and began firing shots at the police cars.

While Officer Ramos drove the patrol car, Officer Jackson returned the suspects' fire using his shotgun. When Officer Jackson ran out of ammunition, Officer Ramos courageously maintained their position in proximity to the SUV while simultaneously pulling out his weapon and firing a full magazine at the suspects.

The Officers' fire caused the SUV to crash in a parking lot, but the suspects continued firing at Officer Ozzie Ramos and his comrades. Officer Ramos exited his vehicle and while firing, crossed an unprotected area to gain a better shot and more accurately relay information on the suspects' position. As a result of Officer Ramos' information, another officer fired through the door of the vehicle and ended the standoff.

Officer Ramos' heroism that day is a reflection of his distinguished career in law enforcement. A 12-year veteran, Officer Ramos graduated from the Police Academy at the young age of 22. Upon graduation Officer Ramos was assigned to the 77th Street Patrol Division as a probationary officer. After completing probation, Officer Ramos served one year in the Central Traffic Division as a Collision Investigator before joining the Gang Enforcement Unit. He was certified as a gang expert and promoted to the ranks of Police Officer III and Assistant Squad Leader in the Gang Unit. After serving a tour in the Gang Unit, Officer Ramos continued his work as the Assistant Squad Leader in the Special Enforcement Unit. Presently Officer Ramos is a Field Training Officer in the 77th Street Patrol Division and he has received thirty-one Commendations for various acts, works, and accomplishments since 1998.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Officer Ozzie