

her tenure, she has grown the organization from a small, grass-roots agency into a leading provider of housing and support services to over 16,000 homeless individuals and families in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties. She managed a staff of 115 at 20 sites with an annual operating budget of \$10 million and \$17 million in assets. She spearheaded the development of many community partnerships and at least 12 capital projects including the building and/or rehabilitation of various shelters, transitional housing facilities, permanent affordable apartments and multi-service centers. Program development included: mental health services, alcohol/drug rehabilitation, job training and children's activities for all ages.

In 1997, Ms. Burroughs was honored as a "Woman of Achievement" by the San Jose Mercury News (Women's Fund) and received commendations from City and County officials, as well as the Management Center in San Francisco. In 2004 and 2005, San Jose Magazine heralded her as one of Silicon Valley's Power 100. Currently, as a member of the San Jose Rotary Club, she serves on 2 committees whose focus is youth development. She is also a long-time member of First Presbyterian Church of San Jose and has served in leadership roles on various local coalitions and boards advocating for the homeless. Christine is a new board member of the Children's Musical Theatre in San Jose.

Ms. Burroughs paved "the way home" for countless people in need of assistance so as to improve their struggle for independence, freedom and dignity. Hope is the mainstay of achieving success, and Ms. Burroughs provided that element of strength for so many individuals and families.

Ms. Burroughs portrayed a pillar of strength, solidarity and integrity, by which all who met her (service providers or beneficiaries of services) became transformed to reach a better plan in life. She has been a tireless advocate for those persons unable to share their voice for themselves or their families. I hereby honor Christine Burroughs, on this special day of her retirement and wish her all the best in the years to come.

CONGRATULATING RECIPIENTS OF THE NINTH ANNUAL WIRTH CHAIR AWARDS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker I rise today to congratulate four recipients of the Ninth Annual Wirth Chair Awards. The Wirth Chair was started by my good friend and predecessor, former Senator Tim Wirth. The Wirth Chair is committed to helping governments, businesses and non-profit groups and community organizations form sustainable development partnerships that carefully balance economic, environmental and expanded social welfare objectives and strategies. Their tremendous work is widely respected throughout the country. This year's recipients are very deserving of this prestigious honor.

Good Dirt Radio received the award for electronic media. The program is broadcast from Durango, Colorado. Good Dirt airs radio stories aimed at inspiring listeners to take eco-

logical action in their own communities. Good Dirt is an all volunteer effort. Word is catching on about their good work, and I am confident that they will continue to grow and be successful.

Harumi Kato of the Yamagata Broadcasting Company was honored for her short film entitled "Little Steps in Colorado for Sustainable Living." The program was also broadcast in Japan in October of last year. She plans to have more viewings in Japan in the future because she wants people there to know "that despite not signing the Kyoto Protocols, some Americans are really concerned about taking action in many ways to protect our environment by practicing sustainable living."

Rick Gilliam of Western Resource Advocates was the primary author of Amendment 37. This was the first time that a renewable energy standard was put to a popular vote. The successful initiative required that 10 percent of Colorado's electricity be derived from renewable sources by 2015. I campaigned vigorously for this initiative and saw firsthand how hard the people associated with this effort worked on the campaign. It was because of their commitment that the initiative was passed despite being out spent ten-to-one by the opposition. Morey Wolfson, Robin Hubbard, Ron Larson, Matt Baker, Ron Lehr, Ken Regelson and Stephanie Bonin were all instrumental getting Amendment 37 passed.

Finally, the City of Denver was recognized for its historic sustainability initiative, "Greenprint Denver." The initiative advances and supports the integration of environmental impacts into the city's programs and policies, along with economic and social considerations. The comprehensive set of strategies includes: measurably reducing greenhouse gas emissions city wide, developing and implementing a municipal green building policy, increasing residential recycling, and increasing urban forest cover for air and water quality and aesthetic benefits.

I am inspired by all of these laudable efforts. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these Wirth Chair Award recipients for their tremendously important good work.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAUL MILLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF KIDANGO

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Paul Miller, Executive Director of Kidango, a private, nonprofit agency providing a variety of services to children and families in Alameda, Santa Clara and San Francisco Counties. Paul Miller has successfully led Kidango to become a leader in providing quality childcare and child development services to children and support services to their families.

Mr. Miller joined Kidango in 1979 and has helped the organization grow from serving just 90 children at one Fremont, California center to over 2,800 children attending forty plus centers throughout the San Francisco Bay Counties. Kidango has over 350 employees. Miller points with pride to his dedicated and committed regional and center directors, teaching staff, maintenance, food service and adminis-

trative staff, all who have an integral role in making sure the families and children Kidango serve receive the best quality programs possible.

Recent evidence of Paul Miller's ability to seize new opportunities and offer quality programs for children is readily apparent in Union City, California, where Kidango operates a preschool program on every New Haven Unified School District campus. Building on a 20-year relationship, the school district and Kidango launched a Preschool for All program in 2001. By the following year, Union City has the distinction of being the first district in the State of California to offer Preschool for All. The flagship New Haven-Kidango Preschool for All program has caught the attention of educators and policymakers throughout the State of California.

Mr. Miller continues to work hard to introduce Universal Preschool to other Bay Area school districts and the California Superintendent of Public Instruction has appointed him to the Universal Preschool Task Force.

In addition to his exemplary administrative leadership at Kidango, Paul Miller is a major force throughout the State of California advocating for public policy that promotes quality childcare and early education. He is actively involved in the Child Development Policy Institute, the leader in the childcare and development field on fiscal and public policy matters, and the principal advocate for children and families in California's legislative budget process.

Paul Miller's 30 plus years of advocacy for children and their families are beyond measure. He is committed and dedicated to excellence as demonstrated by the growth and success of Kidango. He works tirelessly with a single focus of inspiring all children and their families by promoting their potential and diversity through quality education and nurturing relationships.

Paul will be recognized at a well-deserved Kidango Staff Appreciation Dinner on May 20, 2006. I join them in appreciating him for his good work.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF STAFF SERGEANT ROBERT HER- NANDEZ

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the life of a fallen Maryland soldier, Staff Sergeant Robert Hernandez, a veteran reservist of 24 years who died on the 28th day of March 2006.

Sergeant Hernandez was a member of the 3rd Battalion, 318th Regiment Military Police, 80th Division, U.S. Army Reserve, Fort Meade. He was killed when a makeshift bomb detonated near his military vehicle during combat operations in Al Taquaddum, Iraq.

The 47-year-old soldier was a former member of the Baltimore and Washington Police Departments. He was praised by colleagues for his hard work and jovial personality. He easily earned respect from those who knew him and worked with him daily.

As a member of the Prince George's County force, Sergeant Hernandez offered his expertise in a division that lacked Spanish-speaking

officers. He served as a field training officer assisting officers who graduated from the police academy. He also served as a mentor at a local elementary school. Sergeant Hernandez is remembered for his leadership skills and ability to help others.

Sergeant Hernandez is survived by his fiancée and three children of Silver Spring. He is also survived by his parents in Puerto Rico. He will forever be remembered as a dependable, trustworthy and captivating person with a passion for life, children, family, and country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today in honoring the life and memory of a Maryland hero. Staff Sergeant Robert Hernandez was loyal to the citizens of the United States and deserves our recognition and appreciation.

BLUMENAUER AMENDMENT TO THE AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS BILL FY 2007

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow I will be offering an amendment, cosponsored by Congressman JEFF FLAKE, to the Agriculture Appropriations bill. The amendment will prevent any funds in the appropriations bill to go towards salaries or expenses of personnel who make loans in excess of 17 cents per pound for raw sugar cane or 21.6 per pound for refined beet sugar. This is, in effect, a 6 percent cut to the Sugar Loan Program.

TRIBUTE TO MSGR. CIPPEL OF ST. FRANCES CABRINI PARISH

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a devout servant of the Catholic faith, Msgr. John A. Cippel of the St. Frances Cabrini Parish in Spring Hill, FL. Monsignor Cippel is retiring after more than 46 years as an ordained priest in the Catholic Church, the last 6 serving as monsignor at St. Frances Cabrini.

Msgr. John A. Cippel is the second pastor of St. Frances Cabrini Parish. Appointed in January 1996 by Bishop Robert Lynch to succeed the founding pastor, Father David Banks, Monsignor Cippel has served the parish with distinction for more than 10 years.

Ordained a priest on January 28, 1960, Father Cippel is an alumnus of St. Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, PA, and St. Louis seminary, Carthage, Tunisia. His first years of priesthood were spent as a missionary in Tanzania, East Africa.

Returning to the United States in 1973 to continue his studies at Andover Newton Theological School in Boston, Monsignor Cippel received the Degree of doctor of ministry from that institution in 1975.

Following his graduation, Monsignor Cippel moved to Florida to begin his ministry as a priest in the Diocese of St. Petersburg. His first assignments were associate pastor at St.

Martha's Parish, Sarasota, St. Charles' Parish, Port Charlotte, and St. Mary's Parish, St. Petersburg. In addition to serving as pastor of St. Cecelia Parish, Clearwater from 1981 to 1990, Monsignor Cippel was also chosen as the spiritual director of St. Vincent de Paul Seminary, Boynton Beach, FL. He came to St. Frances Cabrini after completing a 5-year span at this seminary.

Mr. Speaker, over the years I have had the opportunity to see Monsignor Cippel interact on a personal and spiritual basis with his parishoners at St. Frances Cabrini. Most Thanksgivings I have been at the church working with the congregation and Monsignor Cippel to help prepare the Thanksgiving feast for those parishoners and all residents without family on the holiday.

Working alongside Monsignor Cippel I saw the compassion in his eyes and the dedication in his heart to serving those in need. For many years he has been a voice of reason in the Hernando County area and someone to whom the entire Catholic community looked up to for wisdom and clarity of thought.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of Monsignor Cippel's retirement, I would like to commend him for his decades of work on behalf of the thousands of men and women whose lives he has touched and influenced. Monsignor Cippel has given so much to the men and women of Catholic faith and it is time that we say thank you to him as he leaves the St. Frances Parish.

IN RECOGNITION OF NORWAY'S CONSTITUTION DAY

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the people of the Kingdom of Norway and extend my congratulations to King Harald V, and to Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg, as Norway celebrates its national day of recognition of the adoption of its constitution on May 17, 2006.

It was on May 17, 1814, that Norway adopted its constitution, making the country free and independent. The United States and Norway have long had a strong relationship, founded on cooperation on important bilateral and regional issues, as well as on shared values. Our countries are engaged on every level, including on economic, security and cultural matters, in a relationship that reflects a shared commitment to further strengthening our relationship. The strength of our friendship allows our two nations to openly engage on issues for which we might not share a common perspective, and work together to build common ground on issues of great importance to our citizens.

Norway holds a strategic position within the European community, and through its membership in NATO and the European Union, Norway is a voice of reason in security matters that impact both its region and the world. In addition, Norway is a global leader in providing humanitarian aid to crises around the world, in aiding refugees, and in promoting human rights around the globe. I commend the Norwegian government for the important and life-saving work it is engaged in around the world.

As a Minnesotan, I and many of my constituents feel a particular bond to Norway, as so many ancestors of Minnesotans come from that great country. The strong links that have formed between Minnesota and Norway extend to business partnerships and social connections. Minnesotans also share with Norwegians the strong desire in helping to alleviate the suffering that is a daily struggle for so many around the world. Both Minnesotans and Norwegians feel compelled to act in the name of peace and democracy around the world, and I am proud there is such a strong Norwegian influence in Minnesota.

Mr. Speaker, we should extend warm regards and congratulations to the people of Norway, the Norwegian Government, King Harald V and Queen Sonja, and Prime Minister Stoltenberg as they celebrate the adoption of their constitution. They have consistently been warm friends of the United States, and I look forward to working with the Norwegian people on every level in the future, to ensure that our two countries maintain a strong relationship.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS EMPLOYEE TRANSITION ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2006

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to draw our colleagues' attention to legislation I have introduced (H.R. 5328) to make it easier for talented, experienced employees of the Congressional Research Service (CRS) facing loss of their jobs later this year to find positions elsewhere in the Federal government.

The need for this legislation is both apparent and pressing. In September 2005, the CRS, a unit of the Library of Congress, announced to 59 support employees that their positions will be eliminated not later than September 30, 2006, by a reduction-in-force (RIF) if necessary. The CRS Director, Daniel Mulholland, argues that the 59 positions have become unnecessary due to technological advances that have changed the way CRS fulfills its mission, which is to serve Congress.

Several of our colleagues and I share serious concerns about this decision and question the CRS management practices which led to it. Since the announcement, I have personally met with affected employees and others, many of whom suggested, among other things, that CRS has placed insufficient emphasis on training and professional development offering opportunities for advancement. Moreover, given the Library's history in matters involving racial discrimination, many people inside and outside the organization are troubled by the fact that a large majority of the affected employees are women, African-Americans and other minorities.

Without debating the merits or demerits of Director Mulholland's decision, clearly Congress should do everything reasonably possible to help these dedicated CRS employees to continue their careers elsewhere in the Federal government. It is certainly the compassionate and equitable thing to do; most if not all of the employees have never received an unsatisfactory performance review, and many are sole