

have also found that contracting-out engineering, design, and inspection costs more than to do this work in-house, and none of these studies found that consultant engineers were less expensive. Factors that contribute to consultants' excessive costs include the lack of competitive bidding, cost-plus provisions in contracts, salary differentials between the private and public sectors, profit margins of from 10 percent to 15 percent, and additional costs connected with selecting and supervising consultants.

Failure to have public construction inspectors has also delayed projects in the past and will undoubtedly do so in the future. One such example is the privately inspected \$12 million carpool bridge connecting the San Diego (405) and the Costa Mesa (55) Freeways. The project was to have been completed in April 2003. However, work was halted in August 2002 when chunks of concrete were falling from the structure and many cracks were noticed. Contractor and private inspector errors were later discovered and the carpool ramp did not open until January 2005.

The public and the Federal Government understand what's at stake. In a 2006 California public opinion poll, 71 percent of those surveyed said they want State engineers to inspect the construction of State highways; only 20 percent found private firms acceptable for the task. David M. Walker, the Comptroller General of the United States, said in a recent interview: "There's something civil servants have that the private sector doesn't, and that is the duty of loyalty to the greater good—the duty of loyalty to the collective best interest of all rather than the interest of a few. Companies have duties of loyalty to their shareholders, not to the country."

HONORING THE TOWN OF SARALAND, ALABAMA, ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the town of Saraland, Alabama, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of its founding.

Saraland was founded in 1957. Don Diago Alvarez first acquired the land through a Spanish land grant. His descendants later named the community Alvarez Station. In the 1800s, land squatters relocated to the area and began purchasing property. The Cleveland family moved to the area and renamed the town Cleveland Station. However, the name by which we now know this historic town was given by the retired minister, C.J. Dewitt, who reportedly named it after his beloved wife, Sara.

The industrial and population boom in neighboring Mobile brought the northward expansion into Saraland during the 1940s and 50s. When Saraland was incorporated in 1957, it had a reported 125 residents. The 1960s U.S. Census reported a growing town at nearly 5,000. By 1980, that number had risen to nearly 10,000, and today, Saraland is home to over 12,000 residents with the promise of continued growth.

Many prominent businesses have a presence in Saraland including Marshall Biscuits,

Mitchell Container, G. A. West & Co., and J&J Furniture. Saraland is also home to the University of Mobile. Set in the woods, the university's 1,500 students distinguish themselves through academics and a strong religious tradition.

Madam Speaker, the residents of Saraland, Alabama, have firmly rooted themselves in their proud history, but they also keep an optimistic and careful eye on the road ahead. The vision shown by their leaders over the past 50 years has led to the creation of a stable community, one of the anchors for all of Mobile County. I have no doubt that the consistent leadership and inspired vision of today's residents will lead to even greater successes in the coming years.

It is my hope the town of Saraland continues its story of success for another 50 years, and it is my distinct pleasure to represent this fine community in the United States House of Representatives.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CITY OF YERINGTON CENTENNIAL

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Yerington Centennial Celebration.

Yerington is truly a unique city that is rich in history. Situated along the banks of the Walker River, the green fields and tree lined highways of Mason Valley are surrounded by picturesque mountains full of history such as ghost towns and mining camps. On March 14, 1907, Governor John Sparks signed into law a bill that incorporated Yerington as a city. The origins of Yerington can be traced back to the 1850s when N.H.A. "Hock" Mason settled in the valley that now bears his name and in 1871, the Mason Valley Post Office was established in the town near the Walker River.

The town was referred to by many as "Pizen Switch," which folklore traces to the inferior grade of whiskey sold in a local saloon that was constructed of willow branches, and in 1879, the town was rechristened "Greenfield." In 1880, Henry Marvin Yerington, the General Superintendent of the Virginia and Truckee Railroad, founded the Carson and Colorado Railroad that soon extended through Dayton, Fort Churchill, Wabuska in Northern Mason Valley. By 1894, the residents officially changed the names of the town and its post office to Yerington, in an unsuccessful effort to flatter Henry Yerington so that he would extend his rail line south through the town named after him. In 1911, the county seat of Lyon County was moved from Dayton to the thriving and growing City of Yerington.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the Centennial Celebrations of the City of Yerington. The City of Yerington truly has a colorful and rich history that deserves recognition and I commend the efforts of Mayor Douglas Homestead, and City Council members Bill Vicencio, Rita Evasovic, Richard Faber and George Dini in facilitating this Centennial Celebration.

HONORING AHMET ERTEGUN

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a man who, without exaggeration, was called "the greatest record man of all time" and who with great character and spirit made indelible contributions to the worldwide promotion of African-American music and American popular culture while also standing for racial equality and social justice.

Unfortunately, we lost Ahmet Ertegun, the founder of Atlantic Records and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, in 2006. His legacy will live on in the music he promoted, and the legendary careers—from Ray Charles to the Rolling Stones—he helped create and develop over 60 years.

PBS recently ran a documentary titled "Atlantic Records: The House that Ahmet Built." This 2-hour sensation chronicled the life of Ertegun from his birth in 1923 through his childhood, career, and success. We witnessed America change through his eyes, and the emergence of African-American music into popular culture with his guidance.

I urge all Members of Congress to watch this documentary if they have not had the opportunity to do so. The son of the first Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to the United States, Ertegun, through music and entertainment, was instrumental in breaking down the racial barriers that so divided our country during the years of Jim Crow laws and segregation. In the 1940s at a time when Washington was segregated, he frequented African-American nightclubs and realized that "all popular music stems from black music, be it jazz or rock n' roll or rap." Ertegun is often credited for coining the phrase, "jazz is America's music."

At every turn, Ertegun and his brother, Nesuhi, challenged the prevailing racial bigotry, stereotypes and discrimination. Despite being initially denied by the National Press Club and the segregation policies of the day, they organized the first integrated jazz concert before a white and black audience in Washington, DC at the Jewish Community Center in the 1940s. They even brought hostility to themselves in hosting the now famous integrated jazz sessions at their home of the Turkish embassy residence, again, challenging the practice of segregation. While not directly following in his father's footsteps with a diplomatic career, he practiced a true diplomacy in bringing people together.

Ertegun's love of American black music led him to found Atlantic Records in 1947. For nearly five decades, Ertegun wrote and produced music, defined careers and changed the lives of household names such as Ruth Brown, Big Joe Turner, Aretha Franklin, Roberta Flack, and others and brought African American music and soul into the American mainstream.

It was a young Turk who prominently recognized, promoted and honored the contributions of black America in the entertainment and recording industries. In a February 2005 interview in *Slate Magazine*, Ertegun was asked what he considered to be his legacy. His answer: "I'd be happy if people said that I did a little bit to raise the dignity and recognition of the greatness of African-American music."

Ertegun also became a trustee of several charitable organizations, including the Rhythm & Blues Foundation, which sought to ensure that singers and artists received their share of royalties that they had for so long been denied. As mentioned earlier, he was a contributing founder of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, whose main exhibition hall now bears his name.

Ahmet Ertegun's leadership is reflected in the inspirational careers of other Turkish Americans who continue the legacy of contributing to what makes America great. I hope that my colleagues, this great institution and the American people will join me in paying tribute to the life and accomplishments of a great American icon and a proud and talented Turk.

TRIBUTE TO KEIL HILEMAN, THE D.A.R.'S OUTSTANDING TEACHER OF AMERICAN HISTORY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Keil Hileman of DeSoto, KS, who in April was awarded the national Daughters of the American Revolution [DAR] Outstanding Teacher of American History award. This award honors notable, full-time teachers of American history and related fields, such as social studies, government, and citizenship education. The teacher must have the ability to foster the spirit of American patriotism and loyal support of the United States and constitutional government and demonstrate the ability to relate the subject to modern life and events.

Sponsored by the Prairie Rose Chapter of the DAR, which is located in Overland Park, KS, in the Third Congressional District, Mr. Hileman was top winner in the state of Kansas and then selected for the national tribute from state winners from across the Nation and overseas. On June 30, 2007, Mr. Hileman will receive his award at DAR Continental Congress in Washington, D.C.'s Constitution Hall.

Mr. Hileman, who teaches at Monticello Trails Middle School in Shawnee, Kansas, says his passion is to make history a part of the students' quality world. His success centers on his "classroom museum," filled with a potpourri of 20,000 artifacts he uses to teach events in American history. He began his museum by bringing heirlooms from his own collection to his class, and it has grown to thousands of items from contributions by families of students and community members. The historical artifacts, ranging from the ordinary but old to the extraordinary and rare, are all available for close examination by the students.

Among his many honors, Mr. Hileman was: the 2004 Kansas Teacher of the Year; the first Kansan to win the Horace Mann-National Education Association Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence, in 2004; and was one of four finalists for The National Teacher of the Year award. He has taught at the middle school level for 14 years in the DeSoto Unified School District, where his course load includes an elective class using his artifacts collection called "Museum Connections." Additionally, he teaches a hands-on archaeology course at

Johnson County Community College, a classroom museum course for teachers at MidAmerica Nazarene University and a graduate/undergraduate, artifact-supported history class at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Keil Hileman's classroom credo is: "explore your world, empower yourself and those around you, excel in everything you do!" I am proud to represent this outstanding educator and caring individual in the United States Congress. I join with the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in commending Mr. Hileman for this truly well-deserved honor and I hope that his dedication to educating young people serves as an inspiration for others to enter the teaching profession.

MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the men and women of the Armed Forces who have fallen in the line of duty, protecting our country and serving this nation honorably. On Monday, I will have the high honor of speaking at Golden Gate National Cemetery where I will look out across the many rows of snow white headstones at the generations of brave men and women lost in service to our country.

Memorial Day is a somber day of reflection, but it is also a day to celebrate the beliefs and ideals of America; not only do we remember those who embodied these ideals, but we must celebrate their lives and their willingness to sacrifice so that we might be here today.

On Memorial Day sixty-five years ago, the future Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Earl Warren, stood near the site that I will stand inaugurating this important memorial. These 161 acres are hallowed grounds that must be treated with the highest respect. For those of us who live and work in the Bay Area, a drive down the 280 is a constant reminder of how many of our family members, friends, and neighbors have had to sacrifice their lives for our freedom.

Madam Speaker, the President bestows, in the name of Congress, the highest honor a member of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or Coast Guard can receive for valiant actions in the line of duty. Fifteen people at Golden Gate National Cemetery have received the Medal of Honor and are interred with over 130,000 other courageous men and women of the Armed Forces.

California has borne a large share of the burden that the Armed Forces have undertaken. Over two million veterans live in California and we have lost almost four hundred men and women in Afghanistan and Iraq. Right now there are over 20,000 Californians in these war zones, so on behalf of these brave soldiers I am committed to the view that Congress' first order of business must be to ensure that those who are in the line of fire are the most prepared and well-equipped. It is my solemn oath that none of the men and women in harm's way should lie here before it is their time.

Madam Speaker, I will go to the podium with mixed feelings; it is a high honor to be

able to go to Golden Gate National Cemetery on Memorial Day and share my thoughts with many veterans from around the Bay Area. It is impossible to express how important the sacrifices made by these men and women are to this country. One thing is certain: America would not be the great country it is without them.

This Memorial Day I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to all members of the Armed Forces, especially those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

IN HONOR OF MASTER SERGEANT KENNETH N. MACK, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the courage of a brave and dedicated hero of the Fort Worth community and of our Nation.

MSgt Kenneth N. Mack was a proud United States Marine and a true American hero who gallantly gave his life for his country on May 5, 2007, during combat operations in Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

Assigned to the Second Marine Expeditionary Force, Master Sergeant Mack's 25 years of faithful service as a Marine are an inspiration to all Americans, particularly the men he so ably led.

Kenneth Mack leaves behind his wife, Peggy, mother, Mahalia, and his daughter and son.

Our community and Nation honor Kenneth Mack's memory and we are grateful for his faithful and distinguished service to America.

MSgt Kenneth N. Mack will never be forgotten. His memory lives on through his family, the Marines who were entrusted to his care and the legacy of selfless service that he so bravely imprinted on our hearts.

CONGRATULATING ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL GIRLS' GOLF TEAM ON WINNING THE 2007 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor the St. Paul's Episcopal School girls' golf team on winning the 2007 state championship.

In 1947, William S. Mann founded St. Paul's Episcopal School in Mobile, Alabama. St. Paul's began with a class of twenty kindergartners, and has grown to currently enroll 1,613 students, making St. Paul's the largest Episcopal school in North America.

Coach Beverly Davis led the varsity girls' golf team to their first state championship at the Robert Trent Jones Grand National Course in Opelika. This most recent honor brings the number of state championships won by St. Paul's teams to eight this year. The team placed fourth last year and second two