

CONGRATULATING SANDY INSALACO, RECIPIENT OF THE "LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD" FROM THE ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LUZERNE COUNTY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Sandy Insalaco, of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, who is this year's recipient of the "Lifetime Achievement Award" given by the Italian American Association of Luzerne County.

A principal of Insalaco Development Group, Sandy's company develops, owns and operates commercial real estate in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey.

He is president and chief executive officer of Nature's Way Purewater, a bottler of private label spring, distilled and reverse osmosis water for supermarket chain stores and other clients throughout the United States and Canada.

Mr. Insalaco is chairman of the board of directors of Landmark Community Bank headquartered in Pittston, Pennsylvania, and with offices in Fitts Fort, Scranton and Stroudsburg Pennsylvania.

He is a past chairman and now a member of the board of trustees of Misericordia University.

Mr. Insalaco has served on the board of trustees of the Mercy HealthCare Foundation since it was established by the late Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan and he served as chairman of that foundation. Mercy HealthCare Foundation supports health initiatives for the underserved in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Insalaco started his business career in 1957, joining his brother, Michael, in the retail food business. The company grew from one small store to 14 supermarkets located in Luzerne, Lackawanna, Monroe and Wayne Counties in Pennsylvania. The company was sold in 1993.

Mr. Insalaco served on the board of directors of the former United Penn Bank in Wilkes-Barre. He also served as chairman and a member of the board of directors of Affiliated Food Distributors, Inc., Scranton, Pennsylvania.

He has been actively involved with fundraising for St. Maria Goretti Church, the Greater Hazleton Philharmonic Society, the Greater Pittston Memorial Library, Mercy HealthCare Foundation and Misericordia University.

Mr. Insalaco and his wife, Marlene, have 2 sons, Sandy Jr., and Michael. They also have five grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Insalaco on this special occasion which honors a lifetime of extraordinary achievement that has touched the lives of many people and improved the quality of life throughout northeastern Pennsylvania.

TRIBUTE TO FELIX CHIN FOR OVER FOUR DECADES OF SERVICE TO THE CONGRESS

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Felix Chin for his outstanding, dedicated, and professional service to the United States Congress.

Mr. Chin's federal service started in 1959, when he honorably served his country in the United States Army. His 3 years in the U.S. Army included a tour of duty in Vietnam. His service to Congress began in 1965 in the Library of Congress' Aerospace Technology Division where he translated and analyzed intelligence documents from Chinese sources on economic, political, military and social affairs in Communist China. He then served as an economics bibliographer in the Library Services Division of the Congressional Research Service beginning in 1969. After more than 38 years, he has concluded his library career as a senior bibliographer and information research specialist and will be retiring in the "Old Line State."

During his tenure with CRS, Mr. Chin responded to numerous congressional inquiries on economics-related research and authored many CRS annotated bibliographies and other information research products for Congress. He assisted in the development of SCORPIO through his participation on the SCORPIO Advisory Group and participated in the implementation of other congressional services such as the Selective Dissemination of Information Service. In 1973, he received a Meritorious Service Award for the large burden he carried as the only CRS economics bibliographer. He also received a Special Achievement Award in 2004 for the creative training he presented to Government and Finance Division analysts in the use of databases in the areas of international banking and foreign debt, and treaties. He was recognized by analysts in the former CRS Economics Division for his research expertise, bibliographic support, and enormous contribution to their work. He is greatly admired and respected by his colleagues and friends throughout the Congressional Research Service.

Mr. Chin received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from George Washington University in 1968 and a master's degree in Supervision and Management from Central Michigan University in 1979 as a member of the first graduating class at the Library. Mr. Chin is a dedicated and kind mentor; he has inspired many young professionals to begin and continue a public service career.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join Felix Chin's colleagues, family, and friends in commemorating his nearly 50 years of Federal service. It is my honor to have this opportunity to wish him well as he embarks on his well-deserved retirement. In addition, I join my congressional colleagues in thanking Mr. Chin for his many years of service to Congress and wish him much success in his future endeavors.

HONORING SUSAN E. COX, NEWLY APPOINTED MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Susan E. Cox, an outstanding attorney, who was appointed as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois on August 27, 2007. A resident of LaGrange, Illinois, in the Third Congressional District, Judge Cox has demonstrated outstanding integrity and intelligence throughout her distinguished career. I am pleased to congratulate her on this well deserved appointment.

Before her designation as Magistrate Judge, Ms. Cox held a wide array of positions within the field of law. Most recently, she practiced both civil and criminal law in her own private practice, and she also spent 8 years as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, as well as 3 years as a law clerk to U.S. District Judge Wayne R. Anderson. During her 11 years of civil practice, Ms. Cox gained expertise in cases regarding employment, commercial, and patent infringement. Ms. Cox's many experiences and talents led her to be appointed by the federal court to assist in monitoring the employment actions of the City of Chicago. She also has devoted her valuable time to sharing her knowledge with others by serving as an adjunct professor at DePaul University College of Law.

As a Magistrate, Judge Cox will employ the same insightfulness and passion for the law that she has acquired in her many past experiences and accomplishments. Some of her duties will include presiding over civil cases and misdemeanor criminal cases with the consent of the parties, conducting preliminary proceedings in criminal cases, and assisting the District Court Judges with pretrial motions, evidentiary proceedings, and settlement negotiations.

It is my honor to recognize Susan E. Cox as she takes a new step in her career as a Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Her integrity, experience, and passion for the law will greatly benefit the U.S. District Court. It is also my privilege and pleasure to congratulate Magistrate Judge Cox for this milestone in her life and commend her on her many contributions to the field of law.

TRIBUTE TO NEOSHO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a group of law enforcement officers whose quick thinking and courageous intervention saved lives and ended a tragic shooting spree earlier this summer in southwest Missouri. It was a shooting that left three people dead and several others wounded at the

First Congregational Church in Neosho, Mo., and it happened on August 12th of this year.

The events of that day startled the Nation, shocked the tight-knit town of Neosho, and devastated the small Micronesian community in the area from which the victims of these senseless and depraved acts of violence came. The shootings occurred during the early afternoon church services near downtown Neosho, with the first call for help coming at 1:54 p.m. Within minutes, officers from the Neosho Police Department, the Newton County Sheriff's Office and the Missouri Highway Patrol were on the scene and organizing a plan to put this nightmare to an end.

Officers arriving first were told a lone gunman had burst into the church and begun firing, severely injuring several people and possibly wounding a good deal more. The conditions of the victims were unknown. Several members of the congregation fled the church and the gunman ordered that other children take leave. But as many as 30 worshipers remained held at gunpoint at the moment the officers arrived.

Neosho Police Chief David McCracken, who was in charge at the scene, issued a command decision that would bring a quick and positive end to situation. Within minutes, McCracken had organized an impromptu team of experienced officers from three different agencies schooled in special weapons and tactics. After hearing another gunshot from inside the church, the seven-man team entered the sanctuary through a side door into the building.

Inside they found a 52-year-old man armed with two handguns—one of them pointed at the head of a female hostage. In a corner of the church, the gunman had gathered around 30 members of the congregation, and positioned them around him. Nearby lay three people mortally wounded, including two pastors and a deacon of the church, and five others clinging to life. As they entered the church, the gunman ordered the officers to leave. They told him to put down his weapon. And, perhaps recognizing his choice was either to comply with the demand or face a penalty similar to the one he imposed on his victims, he did just that.

In those tense moments, officers made it clear they intended to use deadly force to end the standoff. The confrontation with officers lasted less than 10 minutes. Eiken Elam Saimon gave up his handguns and was taken into custody. He has been charged with multiple offenses, including three counts of capital murder. Found inside the church were Micronesian-American pastor, Kernel Rehobson, 43; his uncle, Intenson Rehobson, 44; and Kuhpes Jesse Ikosia, 53.

Newton County Sheriff Ken Copeland said the quick action of the SWAT team saved lives, and I don't have any doubt that he's right. He believes, as I do, that many other residents and civic leaders in Newton County would have been lost without the team's rapid response and decisive decision-making.

Let me add special praise to Neosho Police Chief McCracken, who—as I mentioned—was the commanding officer on the scene. With shots still being heard inside the church, Chief McCracken acted without hesitation to lead the SWAT team in and bring to an end the armed threat, preventing the loss of additional life. Though the events leading up to this tragedy will forever be the object of speculation

and mystery, one thing we can be sure of is that having skilled officers and decisive leadership were essential to bringing a quick end to it.

These men willfully put themselves in the line of fire to rescue their friends and neighbors. The team led by Chief McCracken consisted of Neosho Police Officer Cameron Kruse and Cpl. Donn Hall, Newton County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Chris Jennings, Sgt. David Trimble and Deputy Dale Brashers and Trooper "Corky" Burr of the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

These are men of extraordinary valor, but several of their colleagues in the department are also worthy of mention as well. On March 16th of this year, Neosho City Police Sergeant Dan Cook tried to execute, what appeared at the time, a routine traffic stop. Unfortunately, the driver had a handgun ready and opened fire as Cook approached the car. Although Cook was hit in the arm, he returned to his vehicle and chased the assailant down for several miles. During the chase, one of his colleagues—Officer Michael Sharp—was wounded in the face. Another Missouri State Trooper, G. H. Hendrix, traded gunfire with the wanted man. Because of their determined pursuit, the man was later apprehended without further incident, arrested and booked on eight separate felony charges.

Each day our peace officers face these dangers and each day they confront the people who would do harm to law-abiding citizens. Each of these men is a dedicated public servant who knows how to do his job, and was not afraid to use his training and expertise to end the awful tragedies with which they were presented.

Facing a deranged gunman who has already shown the capacity to kill—and the willingness to kill some more—is a situation that requires cool heads and professional training. Not a single one of these law enforcement officers would call himself a hero. But here today, I will suggest that's exactly what they are.

To the praise already bestowed on them by the Governor, the state legislature, the Neosho City Council and county officials, I add a "well done and thank you" for your dedication to your profession and for putting your lives on the line in defense of your community.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution that is designed to give comfort to the millions of American families who struggle with prostate cancer.

September is National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Because of the way prostate cancer affects our society, awareness is one of the most powerful tools we have to combat and defeat it. With this resolution, Congress has an opportunity to lend its voice to the communities, families, and individuals who are fighting to find a cure for an illness that kills more than 27,000 men every year.

It is easy to get caught up in statistics when talking about massive health challenges like

prostate cancer, and the numbers produced by this disease are indeed staggering. Over 200,000 men will be diagnosed in the United States this year. One in every six American males will have prostate cancer at some point during his life. Prostate cancer is the most common type of non-skin cancer in the country, and will kill approximately 27,000 men this year alone.

Twenty-seven thousand fewer husbands, fathers, uncles, best friends, and mentors because of prostate cancer, Madam Speaker. This is not a disease that we can afford to ignore.

Fortunately, we are not helpless in our fight against this killer. If caught early and treated correctly, prostate cancer can be managed and overcome. In fact, nearly all patients who identify that they have prostate cancer in its early stages survive and go on to live healthy adult lives.

The problem is that early-stage prostate cancer exhibits no symptoms. As a result, early and vigorous screening is absolutely critical for doctors to find the 27,000 American men who won't catch their prostate cancer early enough, and who will die as a result.

Screening will become an even more important part of our fight against prostate cancer as the baby boom generation comes of age. Males between the ages of 50 and 65 are particularly susceptible to prostate cancer, and this pool of men over 50 will only get larger in the near future. In today's United States, a man turns 50 years old about every fourteen seconds.

As a result, the aggregate risk to our society posed by prostate cancer will only rise as that huge swath of people born in the 1950s continues to age. Our fight against this killer will only become more challenging, Madam Speaker, even as we increase the quality of our screening, treatment, and research related to the disease.

That is why awareness will be so critical in the near future. The more people we make aware of the risks of prostate cancer, the better our chances of curing them before it is too late. National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month is a vital part of this mission. Every year in September, prostate cancer advocates, survivors, patients, and policy leaders heighten awareness of this disease. This is not just a feel-good exercise, Madam Speaker. It saves lives and keeps families together.

In many ways, the growth in Federal research spending into this disease can be traced to the positive effects and outreach of National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. A disease which once received \$86 million for research is now a \$466 million priority for medical researchers around the country. This huge success is due in large part to the tireless advocacy of the National Prostate Cancer Coalition, working with so many partners in support of National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

For the sixth year in a row, the United States Senate and the President have issued resolutions supporting National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. The House of Representatives has never joined them, Madam Speaker, until today.

With the resolution I now introduce with my colleague Mr. LATHAM of Iowa, the people's House will finally be on record supporting the worthy goals of National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Millions of American families around the country deserve the help of the