

These are only a fraction of the prestigious positions Mr. Sellers has held. He has been an influential leader among all of the Sheet Metal Workers in Philadelphia and beyond. It is no small wonder, then, that he has been selected to receive the esteemed Labor Man of the Year Award for his unparalleled service and dedication to the Sheet Metal Workers community across Pennsylvania. I would like my colleagues to join me in honoring Joseph Sellers, Jr., without whom the title of Sheet Metal Worker would not have the same honor.

A TRIBUTE TO JOANN E. EVANS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Joann E. Evans, one of my most distinguished constituents, for her service to the people of Philadelphia. Throughout her life, Ms. Evans has demonstrated unwavering loyalty to her community and church. The recipient of numerous rewards, she has held a number of leadership positions that allowed her to better our city.

She has showcased her administrative skills by serving as the Director of Support Services for the Center City Association and the Client Relations Manager for Penn Health Pass Corporation. In her efforts with Philadelphia's Mariama House and the United Negro College Fund, Ms. Evans has worked to advance the city's young adults.

In addition to her involvement in the community, Ms. Evans has furthered her commitment to education through participation in her church. She has worked as a youth minister and retreat leader for parochial schools and religious organizations throughout the Nation. As a contributing writer for *The National Catholic Reporter* and the *Faith Alive Series*, Ms. Evans shares this sense of faith and activism with readers.

As a native of Philadelphia, Ms. Evans has made a remarkable contribution to her city. I assure you that her leadership is felt by all members of this community. Once again, I congratulate and thank Ms. Evans for her immeasurable service to this Philadelphia.

HONORING THE LIFE AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF SENATOR ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the life of Antonio Reyes Unpingco, a Guam leader whose service as a fourteen term Senator of the Guam Legislature will live in the Hearts of the people of Guam and the people of the Western Pacific region who knew him well. Sadly, Senator Unpingco passed away unexpectedly on October 18, 2007 at the age of 65 years. He leaves behind his wife, Emily Cruz Borja, his children Lisa, Christine, Raymond, Nicole, Noel, Meriza, Carlo, Aaron, Jerome, Daniel, and Paul. He also leaves behind several foster children and 16 grandchildren.

Tony Unpingco was born on April 22, 1942, five months after Guam was invaded by enemy forces on December 8, 1941. He grew up aware of the atrocities endured by his people during the occupation of Guam in World War II and he fought for justice for the suffering of the Chamorro people. As a founding member and Co-Chairman of the Mannengon Memorial Foundation and Chairman of the Fena Massacre Memorial Committee, Tony's record of public service reflects his strong commitment to the pursuit of justice for the Chamorro people. In 2003, he was appointed by Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton to the Guam War Claims Review Commission, a federal commission which examined the historical record of the occupation and reported to Congress on whether the people of Guam were treated with parity for purposes of war claims. His input and advocacy was vital in the formulation of the Commission's Final Report and its recommendations to Congress.

Tony graduated from Father Duenas Memorial School and attended the University of Guam and the University of Portland before graduating from Portland State University. He began his public service career in 1969 as the head of a Special Task Force charged by the Governor of Guam to automate the Government of Guam payroll system. In 1970, he served as Deputy Director of the Department of Administration of the Government of Guam. Then, in 1971, Tony served as the first Administrator of the Government of Guam Liaison Office in San Francisco.

Tony ran for the office of senator in 1976 and was elected. He served as Chairman of the Committee on General Governmental Operations and Military and Veterans Affairs of the 14th Guam Legislature. His election to the Guam Legislature in 1976 commenced an impressive record of winning election to every subsequent Legislature until his passing. His continuous service in the Legislature was interrupted only by his candidacy for Lieutenant Governor in 1986 and for Governor in 2002.

As a distinguished legislator, Senator Unpingco was selected by his colleagues to serve as Speaker for the 24th, 25th, and 26th Guam Legislatures. During his lengthy career he served as chairman and as a member of numerous committees. Most recently, during the 29th Guam Legislature, he served as the Chairman of the Committee on Tourism, Maritime, Military and Veterans' Affairs. Senator Unpingco also served in the leadership positions of Republican Co-Leader, Minority Leader, Assistant Minority Leader, and the Minority Whip for the Legislature.

Antonio Reyes Unpingco epitomized the noblest meaning of public service. He was a true public servant whose sense of duty and commitment to his people and his community transcended his loyalty to his political party. Among his legislative colleagues and contemporaries, Tony was a respected conciliator, constantly working to bridge contentious issues and to find common ground. Among all who have had the honor to serve with him, he will be remembered as a peacemaker. On the floor of the Guam Legislature, Tony maintained a demeanor of dignity and his statesmanship served as an example to his colleagues when controversial legislation was being considered. He reminded his colleagues that their noblest purpose as elected leaders was to serve the people. For this, he was appreciated and respected in all political circles.

For his ability to bring peace and harmony to the halls of the Legislature, Tony Unpingco will be greatly missed by all the people of Guam.

Understanding the extraordinary commitment to public service of our veterans, Tony Unpingco wholeheartedly supported the needs of those who served our nation in defense of freedom. He worked with the many veterans' service organizations on Guam to ensure that those who served in our Armed Forces received the benefits they deserved. Working directly with these organizations, Tony Unpingco fought to ensure that their voices were heard.

Even above his political zeal, Tony Unpingco was dedicated to his community. A devout Catholic, he was an active member of the Santa Rita Parish Council, its "Mom and Pop" Choir, and the Knights of Columbus. He eagerly supported and participated in church activities and was instrumental in the rebuilding of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. As a devoted family man, Tony dedicated much of his time to his children's school activities. Even after his children had grown and graduated, Tony and Emily continued to commit time and resources to the children of Guam. A loving husband of 42 years, Tony's devotion to his wife, Emily, and her devotion to Tony, made them inseparable. They represented the finest traditions of Chamorro graciousness and hospitality.

I am deeply saddened by the passing of my friend. As my colleague during my years as a Senator in the Guam Legislature, I learned to respect Tony and I valued his opinion and advice on many issues. I found him to be a man of integrity and honesty and, most of all, he was always sincere and always ready with an understanding, warm and friendly smile. Tony will be greatly missed by his family and friends, but his legacy of service and his devotion to public service will live on in our people and community forever.

A CELEBRATION OF JUDGE THOMASINE GRAYSON MASON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize a long time friend and fellow South Carolinian Judge Thomasine Grayson Mason.

A graduate of the University of South Carolina, Judge Mason has been recognized as a Who's Who of American Women, a Who's Who in American Law, and a Who's Who in America. She has served as a public school teacher, a civil service representative during World War II, an attorney for the Department of Justice, one of the first elected females to the South Carolina State Senate, and most recently as an administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration's Office of Disability Adjudications and Review in South Carolina.

Throughout her seven decades of service to federal and state government, Judge Mason has earned a reputation as a hard working advocate and community leader. She has participated and continues to participate in numerous organizations at the local and Federal level—often holding positions of leadership.

Our family especially appreciates her friendship as she and my wife, Roxanne, have been

lifelong friends, and she has virtually adopted two of our sons, Alan and Julian, as her own.

On Saturday, we will congratulate Judge Mason on her 89th birthday and thank her for nearly 70 years of public service. She has dedicated her life to serving her country and the people of South Carolina. I applaud my friend Judge Mason on this occasion and wish her the best in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was detained in my district and was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor on Monday, October 22, 2007, for H.R. 189 (rollcall No. 983), H.R. 523 (rollcall No. 984), and H. Res. 762 (rollcall No. 985). Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of these measures.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SERVICES INDUSTRY

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the buoyant U.S. services industry, an unsung American success story that will continue to ensure that our workforce is second to none in the global economy of the future.

Services impact every village, town, city, and State all across this country in nearly every sector of the economy. Just think about the services we all rely on: lawyers, doctors, bankers, insurance agents, accountants, nurses, college professors, restaurant workers, web designers, and software engineers. And there are many more service workers who touch our lives every day.

What is often lost in attention-grabbing headlines is that the United States has run a large trade surplus in services since 1971 with almost 90 percent of the \$72 billion surplus generated by business and professional services.

Services accounted for 77.8 percent of U.S. private sector gross domestic product in 2005, or \$8.5 trillion. The services industry remains the engine of growth in our economy and we must not take our eye off the ball.

The United States is also the world's largest and most competitive exporter of services. We have enjoyed surpluses in the services sector since the 1970s because U.S. companies are exporting a wide range of high-value services around the world that other nations value, like financial services, express package delivery, web hosting, or software design. We are second to none in the services sector against our international competitors. To keep our lead, we need to strive for fair and open markets around the world so that we can sell these services in other countries.

Close to 400 congressional districts have 70 percent or more of their workforce employed in the services industry. By 2012, 19.2 million new services jobs will be created, which would

account for 90 percent of all new job creation, according to the Coalition of Service Industries. This is a phenomenal achievement and clearly where our workforce of the future will come from.

In my home State of Florida and in my congressional district, some 85 percent of all our jobs stem from a wide variety of services. And we're growing. In 2002, there were 5.5 million Floridians involved in services employment. That number grew to 5.9 million by 2005. Between 2004 and 2005, Florida's exports of services grew 13 percent to \$23 billion.

Services are being used in areas that we could hardly dream of just a decade ago. With today's fast-changing technology, services are provided around the globe—24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For instance, IBM, one of my constituents which employs nearly 1,200 highly skilled workers at its Boca Raton facility, is providing a host of innovative services from its south Florida hub, such as network services, integrated technology services, and e-business hosting.

To give you an example of the IBM skill set, the company is testing speech translation-based products in my district. One of the products currently undergoing testing is a "speech to speech" voice recognition translator with two-way real-time speech capability. IBM is donating this key technology to the U.S. Government to translate between Iraqi Arabic and English.

A user speaks into the system in one language, their speech is recognized, translated, and spoken in another language using a combination of IBM technologies. They are also donating 1,000 laptops or handheld devices plus 10,000 software licenses to support better communication between the U.S. military, Iraqi citizens, and aid organizations in Iraq. We sincerely appreciate this type of corporate commitment to our community.

Services are making the world more connected, allowing producers, consumers, and everyone in between to communicate and collaborate quickly and easily in every corner of the globe. Our service industries are constantly providing new ways to innovate, both here and abroad, to grow our economy.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to recognize the impact and importance of this growing, vital sector to our economy and to keep fair and open markets that service providers need to achieve even greater success in the skills-based knowledge economy of the future.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this effort to override the President's veto of the State Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act.

This legislation would provide health care coverage for 10 million American children, at

a cost of less than \$3.50 a day per child. The State Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act is supported by individuals and organizations from across the political and ideological spectrum. It is supported by 81 percent of Americans, the majority of Congress, 43 Governors, and more than 270 organizations, including AARP, American Medical Association, and America's Health Insurance Plans.

The arguments against this bill are at best distorted and at worst flat wrong. This legislation targets low-income children, it utilizes private health insurance, and it is paid for. H.R. 976 is also a bipartisan compromise bill created with cooperation of the House, Senate, health care providers, and consumers. Most importantly, ensuring our children have health care is the right thing to do.

As a mom, it is unconscionable to me to choose not to provide health care for children in need. As a Member of Congress, I am disappointed, but not surprised, that this President has put politics before the health of America's families.

Investing in our children's health care must be a priority. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting to override the President's misguided veto of H.R. 976.

CONGRATULATING NEIL ARMSTRONG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON MOVING INTO THEIR NEW FACILITY

HON. TIM MAHONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Mr. MAHONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, today, Neil Armstrong Elementary School in Port Charlotte, Florida is celebrating the first day of school for the second time this year. It is my honor to rise today to congratulate the resilient and determined staff, students, and parents of Neil Armstrong Elementary School as they move into their new permanent school facility.

On August 13, 2004, the school's campus was completely destroyed by Hurricane Charley. Immediately following the Hurricane, the students attended classes on a split shift arrangement at Liberty Elementary School until they moved into a temporary modular school on the grounds of Port Charlotte Middle School.

Today, the students and staff move in to a brand new 112,000 square foot school. The newly completed school has been built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, LEED, standards, which is a nationally accepted benchmark for design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

Neil Armstrong Elementary School is named in honor of the first man on the moon, Neil A. Armstrong. A replica of the space suit that he wore on his historic lunar voyage will be displayed in the lobby of the new school.

When Neil Armstrong took that first step on the moon, he understood the importance of his small step and how it represented the determination of mankind. Today, I am pleased to paraphrase Mr. Armstrong in recognizing that the first step on the new campus today represents a giant leap toward recovery from