

Aerospace Wing, SAC and in 1967 was given the responsibility for SAC wings.

In September 1969, he assumed the dual assignment of commander, U.S. Forces, Azores, and commander, 1605th Air Base Wing, Lajes Field, Azores.

In June 1971, General Johnson became deputy chief of staff for personnel at Strategic Air Command Headquarters and later became chief of staff.

He joined the Defense Nuclear Agency in May 1973 as deputy director for operations and administration, and in October 1973 was appointed as the director. General Johnson also served as a member of the Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

General Johnson received numerous military decorations and awards. He was quadruplerated as pilot, navigator, bombardier and radar operator, and had more than 17,000 hours of flying time in fighters and bombers.

Retiring from the United States Air Force in 1977, Don Johnson joined Baxter International as a corporate officer. His activities were varied ranging from facility planning, telecommunications, and aviation to Baxter's operations in South Africa, finally recommending divestment of the company's interest in that country. General Johnson chaired Baxter's Crisis Management Team before retiring in 1990.

On a personal note, it was to my great pleasure and honor that "The General," as we called him, served on my Service Academy Select Screening Board to make recommendations for nominations for the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. He took delight in the many fine young people that our district produced and their sincere desire to serve our country.

General Johnson was a giant among men, having served in three wars, flying fighters and bombers, going from prop planes to the Strategic Air Command, and serving as Director of the Defense Nuclear Agency. He continued making contributions in civilian life by sharing his leadership and understanding of the world. We will never comprehend the influence and inspiration that General Johnson provided to those who had the opportunity to make his acquaintance. To his wife Judy and his four surviving children, I extend my deep condolences. To General Don Johnson's many friends at the North Shore Senior Center, it was our pleasure to know such a fine individual and family man who will be missed by all.

TRIBUTE TO ROCCO J. SOCCIO

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Rocco J. Soccio of Lewistown, Pennsylvania, who passed away Saturday, December 16, 2006, at the age of 71 years. This distinguished man is survived by a wife of almost 50 years, Barbara Kaley Soccio, whom he married in 1957 and had three children, Jan, John and Vincent.

Lewistown is lucky to have had such a devoted citizen to the community such as Rocco, or "Rocky", as everyone knew him. For 30

years, he owned and operated the Parkway Service Store and was a partner in the operation of Riverside Wholesale for 13 years. He was also a manager and salesman for L&G Athletic Retail Sports Store. But those are just his contributions to the business community.

Rocky Soccio also spent time as an educator and coach at Kishacoquillas High School. He taught history and driver's education, and served as the wrestling coach and athletic director at the high school. The young lives he contributed to were many and did not go unnoticed. As recognition of his achievements, in 1965, Rocky was named the winner of Valley Forge Freedom Foundation Public Teacher Award.

Rocky Soccio also had a strong hand in the local government. He served on the Blue Cross Consumer Advisory Board for 34 years and also spent six years as a board member on the Mifflin County Housing Authority. Rocky became chairman of the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Lewistown as well as the Mifflin County Republican Party. He was a former auditor for the Mifflin County Board of Elections, and also found time to belong to the Knights of Columbus, the Lewistown Jaycees, the Kiwanis, and the Lions Club.

To cite each individual accomplishment and contribution that Rocco J. Soccio was involved in would be nearly impossible. His involvement in the community over the years has been immeasurable. Rocky Soccio selflessly dedicated himself to the Lewistown area, and we are all very grateful for his effort toward positive enrichment of the community, as he has certainly deserved this distinguished honor.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF ANTONIO AND IDA FRISSORA

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. TIBERI. Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to offer my best wishes to my aunt and uncle who recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Antonio and Ida Frissora first met after Ida moved to Columbus, Ohio from Niagara Falls in 1955. They were married on January 26, 1957 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and have now spent 50 years together.

Antonio and Ida have been wonderful parents to Christina, Tony and his wife, Caroline, and Don and his wife, Robin. They are the proud grandparents of eight.

As loving parents and grandparents, they continue to set a wonderful example for others to follow. I join with their family and many friends in wishing Antonio and Ida all the best on this joyous occasion.

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND JOHN "JACK" WEAN, JR.

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Raymond John "Jack"

Wean, Jr., Chairman of The John Wean Foundation in Warren, OH. The John Wean Foundation was established in 1949 by Raymond John Wean, Sr., an inventive and enterprising industrialist, who was devoted to improving the quality of life and education in the Mahoning Valley. The John Wean Foundation would serve the communities in which he had achieved enormous success.

A native of Warren, OH, Jack was the son of Raymond J. Wean, Sr., who founded Wean Engineering Company in 1929. After graduating from Yale University, Mr. Wean served as a Naval Officer in the South Pacific during World War II. In 1946, he went to work for his father's business in Warren at a time when the steel and aluminum industries were booming.

Jack started in an executive position and was elected president and chief executive in 1966. He became chairman in 1979. Jack retired in 1992, but continued to chair The Foundation. He traveled extensively and was an avid sport fisherman.

Jack Wean was married to the former Adelaide McCracken and they have three sons and a daughter. They also have eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Since 1949, The John Wean Foundation has raised over \$85 million dollars. It was through Jack's generosity that a broad range of nonprofit organizations would benefit. I would like to remember Raymond John "Jack" Wean, Jr., for his sense of obligation and commitment to the residents here in the Mahoning Valley.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL SKATING MONTH

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Skating Month. This event has run throughout the month of January 2007, sponsored by the United States Figure Skating Association. It highlights contributions of U.S. figure skaters such as the wonderful competitors who participated in this month's U.S. Figure Skating Championships held in Spokane, WA, from January 21 through January 28, 2007.

Recently, from November 28 through December 2, 2006, my home city of Cleveland, OH, hosted the U.S. Junior Figure Skating Championships. This event featured young skaters from across the country. Significantly, efforts of the Cleveland Sports Commission, the Greater Cleveland Council of Figure Skating Clubs, and the United States Figure Skating Association resulted in an economic impact of over \$1 million in Cleveland, OH.

In January of 2009, Cleveland, OH, will again host the U.S. Figure Skating Championships. This will be Cleveland's fourth time hosting the senior championships, previously held in the city in 2000, 1964, and 1940. This competition is one of the most significant events that a city can host. The 2000 championships had an economic impact in Cleveland calculated by the Cleveland Sports Commission at \$19.5 million.

Figure skating is not only a wonderful sport to watch but is an activity that can be enjoyed by people throughout their lives. The sport is

largely run by volunteers who spend countless hours in support of young people and their development. Furthermore, organizations such as Friends of Minority Figure Skating in Cleveland, OH, and the Kids on Ice Program of Fort Dupont Ice Arena in Washington, DC, create opportunities for young people who would not otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the sport.

At the conclusion of this National Skating Month, I commend parents, coaches, skating clubs, service organizations, and skaters, both youth and adult. Their hard work and sportsmanship is well worth recognition.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LUNG
CANCER CIRCLE OF HOPE

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. ROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the Lung Cancer Circle of Hope's President Susan Levin on her efforts to raise awareness about the dangers of radon. Radon, a radioactive gas that accumulates inside buildings, is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States behind cigarette smoke. Yet, many Americans have never even considered testing their homes for dangerous amounts of radon.

This January, which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, has declared National Radon Action Month, the Lung Cancer Circle of Hope rightly urged families across New Jersey to test their homes for radon. This poisonous gas can enter homes through a variety of ways and then collect indoors. The result can be a health threat that you cannot see, smell, or taste.

Every year, over 160,000 Americans die from lung cancer and the EPA estimates that radon is responsible for more than 20,000 of those devastating losses. Many of those radon-induced cancers could have been prevented had more homes and offices been tested for radon. Once again, I applaud Susan and her organization for their aggressive public education campaign to spread the word about radon to New Jersey families.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MESSAGE FOR HOLOCAUST VICTIMS
MEMORIAL DAY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to call to the attention of my colleagues two very important statements affirming the historical significance of the Holocaust by our new Secretary-General, Ban Ki-Moon, at the U.N. in New York.

The Secretary-General's first statement on January 17 stresses the uniqueness and undeniability of the Holocaust as a tragic historical event, and reaffirms the United Nations' commitment to observe the International Day in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust annually on January 27. Secretary-General Ban's strong statement demonstrates that he is com-

mitted to fulfill Kofi Annan's legacy as the first Secretary-General who dedicated himself to moving the United Nations past its sad and crippling legacy of anti-Semitism.

The second statement, made on January 26, welcomes the adoption of a U.N. resolution refuting the putrid attempt by the Iranian President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, to sow discord and hatred in the international community by attempting to deny the historical reality of Hitler's systematic slaughter of millions of Jews. Secretary Ban's statement demonstrates strong leadership in facing down the Iranian dictator by declaring the denial of historical events to be "unacceptable."

The new Secretary-General deserves our strong support as he moves forward in his effort to confront the anti-Semitic climate that pollutes the United Nations.

SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN MESSAGE FOR HOLOCAUST VICTIMS MEMORIAL DAY, STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF REASSERTING COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS

NEW YORK, Jan. 19.—Following is the text of United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon's message for the second observance of the International Day in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust, to be observed on 27 January:

The Holocaust was a unique and undeniable tragedy. Decades later, the systematic murder of millions of Jews and others retains its power to shock. The ability of the Nazis to command a following, despite their utter depravity, still strikes fear. And above all, the pain remains: for ageing survivors, and for all of us as a human family that witnessed a descent into barbarism.

The work of remembrance pays tribute to those who perished. But it also plays a vital role in our efforts to stem the tide of human cruelty. It keeps us vigilant for new outbreaks of anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance. And it is an essential response to those misguided individuals who claim that the Holocaust never happened, or has been exaggerated.

The International Day in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust is thus a day on which we must reassert our commitment to human rights. That cause was brutally desecrated at Auschwitz, and by genocides and atrocities since.

We must also go beyond remembrance, and make sure that new generations know this history. We must apply the lessons of the Holocaust to today's world. And we must do our utmost so that all peoples must enjoy the protections and rights for which the United Nations stands.

On this International Day, I reiterate my strong commitment to that mission, and call on all to join in our common quest for human dignity.

STATEMENT ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE SPOKESPERSON OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION ON HOLOCAUST DENIAL

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—The Secretary-General welcomes the adoption by the General Assembly today of a resolution unequivocally condemning any denial of the Holocaust.

This reflects the prevailing view of the international community. The Secretary-General reiterates his conviction that the denial of historical facts such as the Holocaust is unacceptable. He expresses his strong desire to see this fundamental principle respected both in rhetoric and in practice.

IN HONOR OF VICTOR J. FERLISE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition and appreciation of Victor J. Ferlise, the deputy to the commanding general at the Fort Monmouth Army Garrison in New Jersey. It is with great pride and admiration that I honor him today for his long standing commitment to Fort Monmouth and the State of New Jersey for the past 36 years.

Throughout my 18 years in Congress, I have worked closely with Vic on issues pertaining to the Fort Monmouth community. He has always been a good friend and has worked tirelessly to provide life-saving equipment and technology for American soldiers.

Vic began his career in government service at Fort Monmouth in 1971. He served as the chief counsel of the Legal Office at Fort Monmouth before earning the title of deputy to the commanding general. Currently, Vic continues to serve as deputy, overseeing five major business units of the Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command at Fort Monmouth.

He is responsible for the Command Legal Office and the Homeland Security Special Projects Office, and is a member of the New Jersey Research and Development Council. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Monmouth Medical Center and the First Atlantic Federal Credit Union.

Furthermore, Vic has been recognized numerous times for his outstanding contributions to State and Federal Government. His awards include several civilian awards and decorations, including the Distinguished and Meritorious Presidential Rank Awards and the Army Exceptional Civilian Service Award. In 2006, he was also the recipient of the highest civilian honor at the Department of Defense, the Distinguished Civilian Service Award. These accolades only serve as further evidence of his unwavering dedication to public service.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing Victor J. Ferlise for his contributions to our country, the State of New Jersey and the Fort Monmouth community. I wish him luck in his future endeavors and congratulate him on 36 years of outstanding service.

HONORING THE 30 YEAR SERVICE OF BRENDA WRIGHT TO THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Brenda Wright, a long-time House Armed Services Committee Employee, on her retirement after 30 years of exemplary and professional service.

Throughout her tenure on the committee, Ms. Wright has been a selfless and dedicated employee and public servant. After serving for six years at the Interstate Commerce Commission, Brenda joined the House Armed Services Committee on February 14, 1977. Initially,