

Lois Kite of Phenix City, AL, and eventually moved to Columbus in 1964 to start his law practice.

Shortly thereafter, he was elected to the Georgia House, and 2 years later he was elected to Congress from the third district, eventually serving the second longest term of any third-district Congressman since the Civil War. When he retired, he was the senior member of the Georgia House Delegation and a prominent member of the Armed Services and Veteran Affairs Committees, providing much-needed support to Fort Benning, the Robins Air Force Base, and the thousands of veterans in the area. His constituent services were without equal.

When Jack campaigned, he promised to "remember who I am; where I'm from, and who sent me." He believed in the Christian principles of friendship, made it a point to remember names, heal misunderstandings, and never miss opportunities to express congratulations or sympathy. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to know the Honorable Jack Brinkley, and I commend and thank him for his many years of public service.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CATHEDRAL SQUARE HOMELESS PROGRAM

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the staff and volunteers of the Cathedral Square Homeless Program and the services they provide in Sacramento. Two years ago representatives of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Cathedral St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Downtown Partnership, the California State Association of Counties, and the Pyramid Alehouse created this innovative program to help find housing for those in need. Their spirit and dedication is evident in every life they touch. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring some of Sacramento's finest citizens and this wonderful program.

In 2005, local residents, churchgoers and business leaders saw that homeless men and women were sleeping on the steps of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in downtown Sacramento. They then counted that over 60 homeless people were sleeping on the downtown streets each night and decided to take action.

To help the less fortunate, the Cathedral Square Homeless program was created. Administered by the Cathedral St. Vincent de Paul Society and partnered by the Sisters of Mercy, the California State Association of Counties, the Downtown Partnership and the Pyramid Alehouse, the program began providing homeless individuals with a bed in a warm house, clothing, bus passes, food, and necessary tools to achieve a self-sufficient life. This program is designed to allow individuals to become self-sufficient in 3 months.

The efforts of the volunteers who make this program work are truly admirable, and they have had some remarkable success stories. A particular gentleman entered into the program right after its inception in December of 2005. He had been homeless for 7 long and trying years. With the help of the Cathedral Square

Homeless Program he was able to have a steady place to live. He was given clean clothes and help with his transportation needs. That allowed him to have the stability to apply and interview for a variety of jobs. Within 3 months, he had secured a job and has been working ever since.

The Cathedral Square Homeless Program receives a great deal of support from the Sacramento community. The Sacramento Festival of Trees is a non-profit, interfaith, community-based volunteer organization that supports this program. This year, with the help of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, East Lawn Funeral Homes and Cemeteries, Sisters of Mercy, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, the Downtown Partnership, the Interfaith Services Bureau, Westfield Downtown Plaza, and Westminster Presbyterian Church, they are hosting the first Festival of Trees and Lights. Community organizations have decorated and donated artificial holiday trees, which will be displayed during the festival. Members of the community will be invited to participate in a silent auction to purchase a tree for their home, office, or as a gift. All donations and proceeds will benefit the Cathedral Square Homeless Program.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the Cathedral Square Homeless Program's unwavering commitment to the well-being of Sacramento's homeless. Over the past 2-years, their success stories have been truly inspiring. As members of the Sacramento community gather at the Festival of Trees and Lights fundraiser, I ask my colleagues to come together and honor the tireless dedication shown by the Cathedral Square Homeless Program's staff and volunteers in providing aid for those less fortunate.

TRIBUTE TO MAUREEN FESTI

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Maureen Festi of West Hartford, CT, for her outstanding achievement in the field of education. After 29 years of educating youth, Ms. Festi was honored with the 2007 Preserve America National History Teacher of the Year Award on November 16, 2007.

For the past 15 years, Ms. Festi has dedicated her life to teaching the children of Earl M. Witt Intermediate School in Stafford Springs, CT. Her dedication to her field and her passion for her students are apparent in her creative and imaginative approach to the American history curriculum. Ms. Festi has devoted her life to ensuring that her pupils do not simply memorize history, but also identify its relevance in their lives today. By extending her lessons beyond the four walls of the classroom, Ms. Festi adds contemporary meaning to a study that is focused on the past. A leader and an innovator in her field, Ms. Festi is truly deserving of this national recognition.

I ask all my colleagues to join with me and the people of Connecticut in congratulating Ms. Festi for this honor and thanking her for her continued commitment to the education of the children of Connecticut.

TRIBUTE TO MUNIR MALIK

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my former law school classmate Munir Malik, who has been detained by the Pakistani government for his support for the rule of law. I have contacted the State Department and the Embassy of Pakistan urging his immediate release and an end to martial law in Pakistan.

His brother, Saeed Malik, lives in San Jose, my home town. With unanimous consent, I'd like to submit into the record his Thursday op-ed in the San Jose Mercury News about his brother, Munir Malik, and the crisis in Pakistan.

TRIBUTE TO GLENN "TEX" BREWER

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my personal heroes: a constituent in Fayetteville, GA, who has lived a life of exciting adventures, public service and family values.

Glenn "Tex" Brewer will retire from the Fayetteville City Council at the end of this year after serving for 16 years, many of those years as mayor pro tem.

But Brewer's civic duty in his hometown ranks as merely one of a long list of public services and great deeds. He spent most of his life serving our Nation as a career officer in the U.S. Navy, retiring as a captain.

The man's career reflected the boy's dream. A 10-year-old Brewer saw a news reel about Navy deep sea divers while he was at the local theater to see "Flash Gordon" in 1938.

When Brewer joined the Navy, however, he already had a pilot's license, so he was placed on the aviation track, where he received training in aerial and ground photography. This skill would come in handy after he graduated from the Naval Academy and switched from flight training to submarines. He soon became a highly skilled deep sea diver and an innovator in underwater photography.

In fact, Brewer was the first man to dive beneath the North Pole and to take pictures of the underside of the ice block. This was part of the USS *Seadragon's* historic trip, the first to traverse the Arctic Ocean from Atlantic to the Pacific. The submarine traveled the Northwest Passage beneath the ice of the North Pole. The largest iceberg the crew encountered measured 1,500 feet long, 100 feet wide and 300 feet deep. Brewer's photos of the iceberg ran in Life Magazine, the New York Times and the Washington Post. The crew surfaced on the geographic North Pole and played a game of softball. A hit ball would travel through today, yesterday, and tomorrow in one play, Brewer said, adding that every view from home plate pointed south.

It wasn't all good times on the North Pole, however. On another occasion, Brewer and two crew mates were accidentally stranded for

6 hours on the ice without tools, communications equipment, or sufficiently warm clothing. It was, Brewer said, a "moment of truth" in a potentially fatal scenario.

For his work at the North Pole, Brewer received the Navy Commendation Medal; for being the first to dive at the North Pole, he was elected a member of the National Explorers Club, a distinction he called "one of the finest awards" he had ever won.

After many distinguished years in the Navy, Brewer capped off his career with a stint in the offices of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where he worked as chief of one of the National Military Command and Control Centers. He called the job the most rewarding of his life. For his service there, he won the Legion of Merit and then retired from the Navy in 1976.

Inside the Navy and out, Brewer has always competed.

During one tour of duty, Brewer raced hydro planes in the Southern California Speedboat Club in the American Power Boat Association, where he won two national championship hydro plane races. He set world records in straight-away speed and competition speed and earned a spot in the Gulf Oil Marine Racing Hall of Fame.

In 1985, a hang-gliding accident left Brewer paralyzed from the waist down. The injury, however, didn't stymie his competitive spirit or work ethic. He returned to his ancestral home in Fayetteville, GA, and restored his family's antebellum farm. He also played wheelchair sports and won more than 60 medals, mostly in the National Paralyzed Veterans Wheelchair Games.

For the past 16 years, Glenn "Tex" Brewer has served the people of his city as a member of the city council. During Brewer's tenure, he has strongly advocated restoration of Fayetteville's historic buildings, and he has championed the needs of the city's seniors and its youth.

For his lifetime of service to his Nation and community, Glenn Brewer deserves the praise of this House. On behalf of Georgia's Third Congressional District, I would like to pay personal thanks to him for all of his good works and wish him health and happiness as he prepares to retire from the city council.

TRIBUTE TO MS. DIONNE LIEBL

HON. MARY FALLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and congratulate Ms. Dionne Liebl; teacher at Putnam City West High School and recent recipient of the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award.

Ms. Liebl has demonstrated what it means to be a leader to our youth and the State of Oklahoma. The task of educating young people is one of the most important responsibilities a person can assume. Her ability to give of her time and energy with dedication and enthusiasm makes her deserving of such special recognition. This award serves as a testament to the impact she has had on both her students and colleagues.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the entire House of Representatives, please join me in

congratulating Ms. Liebl on receiving this important recognition.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2008—VETO MESSAGE FROM
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of overriding the President's veto of the L-HHS-Education conference report. I stand with Chairman OBEY and greatly appreciate his support of funding programs that are essential to the growth and development of the communities I represent in Oakland, California.

This bill includes funding for critical programs under the Department of Health and Human Services—programs like nurses education; the Ryan White CARE Act, and the Minority AIDS Initiative. These are all programs for which we should increase funding, as opposed to playing politics with the lives and well-being of the American people.

We are in a fundamental struggle over war vs. peace. We now conclusively know where the President's priorities lie—they are with occupying Iraq, as opposed to funding critical labor, health and education programs at home. In one stroke of a pen, the President signed the Defense funding bill, and yet in the next stroke he vetoed the LHHS funding bill.

What is the President saying to the American people when he rejects legislation that funds education programs like 21st Century Community Learning Centers, TRIO, GEAR UP and programs that strengthen Historically Black Colleges and Universities? He is saying that he does not care about the programs that our people care about—programs that we need and want to see implemented to help our communities grow. He is more concerned with occupying Iraq.

We are now spending \$12 billion a month in Iraq and yet the President is asking us to approve another \$200 billion. This is absurd! For the price of one month of our occupation of Iraq, we could be paying for 1.5 million children to go to Head Start for a whole year; we could hire 200,000 new school teachers for a year; we could have even insured 7 million of the 8.7 million children living in this country that do not have medical insurance—for a whole year.

This is a fundamental question of where our priorities lie. Would you rather we continue to waste our American tax dollars on a war without an end, or would the American people rather spend their tax dollars on our children, our schools, and in our communities? Mr. Speaker, I hope to continue our fight for our funding priorities at home, as opposed to waging war abroad. I urge my colleagues to override the President's veto.

RECOGNIZING ARLETTA MINORE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Arletta Minore as she retires from the Genesee Regional Chamber of Commerce. Arletta was honored at a dinner on November 28 in Flint, Michigan.

Arletta is a lifelong resident of Flint. She graduated from Flint Northern High School and attended Flint Junior Community College. She was married to Jack Minore and had four children, Jeffery, Eric, Steffan, and Jennifer.

She began her career arranging print ads for the Yankee Store and moved on to organizing the print ads for the Fair Store. From there Arletta moved to the Flint Journal, giving her the opportunity to work with many advertisers. She then moved to the Chamber of Commerce and has worked there for the last 19 years, eventually becoming the office manager.

Between working and her family, Arletta managed to restore her Victorian home into the Avon House Bed and Breakfast. She has operated her business since 1985. Her interests range from forming a dance troupe with friends and her daughter and performing for several small groups, to participating in the Michigan 60 Mile Cancer Walk.

Not content to sit back and rest, Arletta has already made plans to spend her retirement spending more time with her family and working with community groups like the Crim Run and the Geoffrey Midwest Workshop. Arletta plunging into a new business venture is also a possibility.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Arletta Minore for her service to the Flint area and hope that she continues her involvement in the community for many, many years to come. I wish her the best as she embarks on this new phase of her life.

TRIBUTE TO G. WARREN ELLIOT AND CHERYL S. PLUMMER

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor G. Warren Elliott and Cheryl S. Plummer, who are retiring as members of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners after 12 years of leadership. Both were honored yesterday for their longtime service to the community at a retirement ceremony in Franklin County, PA.

Both Cheryl and Warren have dedicated much of their lives to bettering the region, both as commissioners and advocates of the community. They have served Franklin County honorably, bringing about key changes to operations and programs within the county, increasing efficiency and creating and revitalizing key community initiatives. With their leadership, Franklin County has become the best economy in Pennsylvania and number 5 overall in the entire northeastern region. Their service and leadership has been fundamental