

A native of Newton, Georgia, Shirley received a degree in Sociology from Albany State University and later took graduate business studies at Valdosta State University. In 1989, she received a Master of Arts in Community Development from Antioch University.

As the Congressman who represents Southwest Georgia, I hold in highest regard individuals like Shirley—those tireless advocates with the courage and conviction to reach out, touch, and impact the farthest boundaries of our community. May the Second Congressional District, Georgia, and indeed the country continue to benefit from her service.

A TRIBUTE TO TINA THOMAS

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 Tina Thomas' years of service to the Sacramento area as a prominent attorney, philanthropist and community leader. Tina is transitioning from partner to "of counsel" at her law firm, Remy, Thomas, Moose and Manley. In doing so, Tina will now serve in an advisory capacity to the firm and have more time to assist local nonprofits. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring one of Sacramento's finest citizens.

Tina earned a bachelor's degree from Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri in 1975 and her juris doctor degree from the University of San Diego in 1979. Later that year, she came to Sacramento. Before choosing to practice law full time, Tina served on the faculties of California State University, Sacramento and the Consortium of California State Universities and Colleges where she was an associate professor teaching graduate and undergraduate courses on the law, environment and planning related subjects.

In the late 1970s, Tina began her legal career as an intern for the Environmental Unit of the California Attorney General's office, and then in 1979 she was hired by a local environmental attorney Michael Remy. Together Tina and Michael formed a law firm that is now known as Remy, Thomas, Moose and Manley, where Tina and Michael worked together as partners until he passed away in 2003. Since its founding, Tina has served as the firm's managing partner, with clients that include governmental agencies, local businesses and environmental organizations. Along with her partners, Tina co-authored the Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act in 2006, a book now utilized by attorneys state wide.

In her spare time, Tina has served on numerous nonprofit boards in the Sacramento area. This includes the La Raza Galeria Posada, the Conservancy International and the Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services. In addition, on a pro bono basis, Tina has represented many organizations including; WEAVE, Loaves and Fishes, Francis House and the WIND Center for Homeless Teens. Due to the support of generous individuals like her, programs such as these are able to continue to thrive, which in turn makes Sacramento a better place to live, work, and raise a family. For her dedication to the Sacramento community, Tina was named Sacramento County's "Distinguished Attorney" in 2005 by the Sacramento County Bar Association.

Personally, Tina has been a pleasure to work with and a true friend. Her compassion and spirit is a wonderful addition to the Sacramento community. She is a caring, smart and thoughtful individual, who always looks out for those in need and makes sure that their concerns are known by all who can help.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my friend Tina Thomas. Tina is not only a dedicated community leader and attorney, but also is a loving mother to her children Libby, Mary Claire and Sam and wonderful wife to her husband, Bill Abbott. We all are thankful for her efforts. As Tina's colleagues, family and friends gather to honor her service, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing her continued good fortune in this new capacity.

TRIBUTE TO VERNON, CONNECTICUT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate 200 years of Vernon, Connecticut's rich history. Beginning in 2008, the Vernon community will commence a yearlong second centennial celebration, the "Countdown to 200", that will reflect on the past and welcome the future.

In the early 18th century, settlement began with families from East Windsor cultivating the land and laying groundwork for future development and eventual incorporation of Vernon in 1808. Throughout the 19th century and diminishing with the end of the World War II, textile factories would serve as the main economic lifeblood for the region, especially in Rockville, a town that would later be incorporated in Vernon. During the Civil War, these mills would produce textiles that would clothe Union soldiers.

While textiles formed the most notable industry in the region, agriculture had strong roots since settlement in the early 18th century. In 1965, agricultural and industrial communities were linked with the consolidation of the city of Rockville and Vernon.

Vernon has produced a number of notable figures, including Gene Pitney, "The Rockville Rocket" as well as four-time Super Bowl football champion, Bill Romanowski. Charles Ethan Porter, a renowned still life painter and former Virginia Governor, Mark Warner, also call Vernon their hometown.

The relics of earlier settlement and production, including the keystone arch tunnel on Tunnel Road, the Tower on Fox Hill, and the old textile mills, serve as a reminder of the versatility of our quaint New England town. Vernon and its residents have faced a number of problems that have notoriously afflicted small industrial towns. The Vernon community has weathered this adversity, and has and will continue to adapt and endure. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in celebrating two centuries of Vernon's history, and welcome many more to come.

ARTICLE BY SAEED MALIK

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I would like to enter into the RECORD this article by Saeed Malik entitled, "U.S. Can't Support Both Musharraf and Ideal of Liberty."

Today, Pakistan is gripped by an existential crisis. This crisis comes just when Pakistanis were beginning to feel optimistic. An independent judiciary was taking root and the fourth estate of the press was in ascendancy. Accountability, long overdue, had finally arrived, or so the people of Pakistan thought.

The optimism was cut short this month when the U.S. ally-in-chief, Gen. Pervez Musharraf, fearing invalidation of his recent election by the Supreme Court, dissolved the court, closed the media and jailed dissidents by the thousands.

The measured and somewhat muted reaction of the Bush administration to this barbarity is not only morally bankrupt, it is downright dangerous. The fundamentalists on one side of this war on terror cannot defeat the fundamentalists on the other. Fundamentalism in any society will only be defeated and sidelined by moderates from within. By supporting Musharraf, albeit tacitly, the United States is sidelining the very moderates who must win this war. Musharraf's occasional delivery of a wanted terrorist cannot justify suppression of the fundamental freedoms of Pakistani civil society. A society thrives when its constituents take a stake in its well-being and its decision-making process.

It has been said that terrorists hate us because of our liberty and one must be either on the side of terrorists or the side of liberty. If today we do not support the Pakistanis who seek liberty, what will they think of us? Will our government deliver on this slogan when liberty is at stake in a Muslim country? Our goals are advanced by demanding restoration of the Supreme Court. We must also demand the immediate release of all judicial activists jailed after the so-called emergency. Pakistanis must realize that America stands for the rule of law and the liberty of all people. A golden opportunity to win the hearts and minds of the Pakistani masses beckons us. Sticking to support for an increasingly unpopular dictator in Pakistan will only solidify President Bush's 9 percent favorable opinion rating in Pakistan.

Although it has been generations since the CIA deposed Iranian Prime Minister Mohammed Mossadeq and installed the Shah, and decades since our government tried to forestall the Iranian revolution, Iranians have not forgotten these travesties. International relations must be based, first, on democratic principles. Propping up Musharraf negates these principles, fueling antagonism among Pakistanis.

I have a personal stake in this sad saga. My 57-year-old brother, Muneeb Malik, a Santa Clara University law school graduate, has been "detained" under "preventive measures" in Pakistan's version of Guantánamo Bay. He is reportedly critically sick and without outside contact. Muneeb's crime is that as president of the Supreme Court Bar Association, he was in the forefront of the movement to assert the independence of the Pakistani judiciary. Thousands of heroic lawyers have met a similar fate. Rejecting the recent purge of the Supreme Court, 13 of the 17 judges refused to

take extraconstitutional oaths under a draconian “Provisional Order.” Predictably, they were summarily dismissed and locked up. The few opportunists who obliged now preside over empty courts boycotted by an overwhelming majority of lawyers. If this takes hold, the judicial purge would amount to retaining the weeds while killing the flowers.

Pakistani citizens view the emergency proclamation as Musharraf’s desperate attempt to hold on. Democratic stability requires an orderly, defined and predictable means of transferring power. Musharraf, like others in the dust-bin of Third World history, is trying to break this mandate, subjugating national interest to personal power. Does the self-professed “enlightened-moderate” appreciate the difference between Robert Mugabe and Nelson Mandela? Why, then, does he walk in Mugabe’s footsteps?

Muneer, who is supported by Santa Clara’s and Yale’s law schools, along with the American Bar Association, said while free, “No army can stop the march of an idea whose time has come.” I urge our government to be on the side of an advancing idea and on the right side of history. This is also the moral side and the right tactic in the war on terror.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
JAMES MYRON

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of James ‘Jim’ Myron, a resident of the First Congressional District of Tennessee, who died November 19, 2007.

James Myron was a lifelong resident of Johnson City. He was co-owner of Black Tie Formalwear and Jane’s Lunch Box, two staples in downtown Johnson City.

Mr. Myron was a member of the Johnson City Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Neighborhood Association, and active throughout the community.

He was dedicated to his family. He is survived by his wife, Jane Moon Myron, who our thoughts and prayers are with during this time.

Mr. Myron enjoyed the surroundings of the First District. He was known for his love of the beautiful mountains, area lakes, and the local sports scene.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my fellow members to join me in honoring the memory of James ‘Jim’ Myron, a successful businessman, a true servant of the community, and a dedicated family man. He will be missed.

HONORING THE 135TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BORAX COMPANY

HON. HOWARD P. “BUCK” McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. McKEON. Madam Speaker, it is with great privilege that I rise today to pay tribute to the 135th year of continuous business conducted by the Borax Company, which was celebrated on October 12, 2007. This occasion makes Borax one of the longest surviving mining firms in the United States. I am proud

that between 1993 and 2006, the national headquarters for Borax remained in Valencia, CA, in my home district.

Borax traces its roots back to 1872, when F.M. “Borax” Smith discovered Borax in Teel’s Marsh, NV. Borate deposits, which are used in insulation, textile fiberglass, detergents, ceramics, plant fertilizers, flame retardants, pest control, cosmetics, medicines, and more, were also discovered in California’s Death Valley.

By 1883, teams of 20 mules were used by the company to haul Borax out of the remote Death Valley 165 miles away to Mojave. Though the mule-hauling years only lasted from 1883 to 1888, the teams continue to live on as a symbol of the company’s commitment to innovation.

In 2000, Borax’s global operations achieved certification for excellence in environmental management. Then in 2001, the company formed partnership with Millennium Cell to develop a safe, clean fuel alternative based on sodium borohydride. This was followed by the pit-stop of the 2002 Chrysler Natrium, the world’s first sodium borohydride-powered zero-emission vehicle, at the Borax Company’s national headquarters.

Today, Borax employs over 1,000 people and is acknowledged as the world leader in Borate technology, research and development. Technical support for customers, product quality, and supply reliability are the pillars of the company’s commercial commitment. Borax proudly reflects a respectable commitment to ensuring that practices and products are socially, environmentally, and economically sustainable.

Madam Speaker and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring the 135th year of continuous business for this admirable mining company. It is a special occasion when businesses witness such good fortune resulting from the many long hours of dedicated teamwork which are given by employees for the good of the company and its customers.

RECOGNIZING MIKE ANDERSON AS
FLORIDA’S MAYOR OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Mike Anderson for his extraordinary contributions as mayor to the city of Fort Walton Beach, FL.

On November 9, 2007, Mayor Mike Anderson was selected as the 2007 Florida League of Cities Mayor of the Year. He was recognized for his “outstanding commitment and public outreach, as well as his initiative in developing innovative programs.”

Mayor Anderson holds degrees from the University of Southern California, the University of Texas, and the University of West Florida. Upon graduating from USC, he joined the Air Force, which brought him to northwest Florida, where he retired in 1984. He worked with Civil Service at Eglin from 1985 to 2005 and it was during this stage in his career that he became active in the community.

He served as a city councilman for 4 years, where he served on the Okaloosa-Walton

Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) and the Northwest Florida Regional TPO. In 2005, he was elected mayor of the city of Fort Walton Beach.

Mayor Anderson is also known throughout the community for his leadership roles throughout much of northwest Florida. He is currently a member of the Florida League of Cities Home Rule Council, President of the Okaloosa County League of Cities, Government Affairs Committee of the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Directors of the Emerald Coast Marine Institute, the Okaloosa School Foundation, and many other civic organizations.

While Mayor Anderson works diligently to improve the quality of life for the members of his community, he also makes time to greet airmen as they return from service overseas, visit area businesses to show gratitude for their community support, and even congratulate residents for their award winning lawns.

His service does not stop there; he also focuses much of his attention on another passion: the youth of the community. His commitment to helping shape the children of Fort Walton Beach into well-rounded young people has inspired Mayor Anderson to introduce several youth programs. These include the Summer Youth at Work Program, the Student Award for Civic Excellence, and a Youth Committee Program. For his dedication to students in the Take Stock in Children initiative, he was presented with the Award of Excellence in Mentoring—Local Government Mentor of the Year in the spring of 2007 by the Florida Mentoring Program.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to honor Mayor Mike Anderson for his achievements and thank him for his dedicated service. His recognition by various organizations confirms his commitment to excellence and the continuous advancement of the city of Fort Walton Beach. May God continue to bless him and I wish him continued success in his career.

IN TRIBUTE TO LLOYD MICHAEL
HAMMES

HON. LEONARD L. BOSWELL

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an exceptional man, Lloyd Michael Hammes, a constituent of mine from Iowa’s 3rd District. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, was a prisoner of war, and until recently, was one of the few World War II veterans still living in the 3rd District of Iowa.

Mr. Hammes served his time during the Second World War in North Africa, where he was captured and spent time as a prisoner of war. During this imprisonment, he was shuffled around to various detainment camps throughout Europe. At the end of his service, he was the deserving recipient of the Purple Heart and three Bronze Stars.

When Lloyd returned to the United States, he met his wife, Virginia Perdue, at the Des Moines Veterans Affairs hospital. They were married, and eventually settled down near Harper, Iowa, where they lived for nearly 40 years. Lloyd Michael Hammes passed away