

of savage attacks while inflicting heavy casualties on a determined and numerically superior enemy force. By his outstanding leadership, resolute determination and unflinching devotion to duty in the face of grave personal danger, Sergeant Getherall upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the United States Naval Service.

This bill I am introducing today will waive the time limitations that require the award to be made within 5 years of the act. This is needed because the original award recommendation by Gary Loveridge, the platoon commander at the time, was lost by the Marine Corps. Additionally, six of Sergeant Getherall's squad members and his commanding officer have recently submitted sworn affidavits attesting to his heroic actions.

Madam Speaker, Joe Getherall is a great man who performed an amazing feat to defend his country and his squadron. He deserves the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

#### CENTENNIAL OF THE FOUNDING OF EAST MILLINOCKET

#### HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 8, 2007*

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the families who 100 years ago, drawn by the promise of employment at Great Northern Paper Company's new 4-machine mill on the banks of the Penobscot River, founded the town of East Millinocket in northern Maine.

Working together for the benefit of their new community, the people of East Millinocket quickly established a school, water and sewer system, and volunteer fire department. They also established a proud way of life. Today, equipped with the same community spirit and sense of common purpose, the people of East Millinocket continue to embrace the challenges and opportunities of living and working at the gateway to Maine's North Woods.

Like my father and my grandfather before me, I joined these hardworking individuals as we all worked together to provide for ourselves and our families at the Great Northern Paper Company mill in East Millinocket. I am happy to have grown up and worked alongside these proud people, and it is these individuals and families along with the many other hardworking people of Maine that I remember every time I cast a vote here on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent the people of East Millinocket and I am happy to have this opportunity to help this community, the "town that paper made," celebrate its 100th anniversary.

#### IN MEMORY OF PRIVATE CLARENCE T. SPENCER

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 8, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the collective grief of the peo-

ple of north Texas in the death of PVT Clarence T. Spencer, 24, who died defending our country in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on February 4, 2007.

Mr. Clarence Spencer was assigned to B Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, and 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. While serving the U.S. Army, he put forth continuous dedication and bravery in protecting our Nation. His compassion and faithfulness in serving our country will forever be remembered, and his loss is greatly felt by all.

Mr. Spencer is survived by his wife in Killeen, Texas, and his mother and father in Fort Worth, Texas. I extend my sincerest condolences to his family and friends, and my thoughts and prayers are with them. Mr. Spencer's courage and dedication brought hope of a safer country. He will be remembered as a husband, a son, and a hero.

#### TRIBUTE TO HRANT DINK

#### HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 8, 2007*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, last month, the world lost a powerful voice for free speech when journalist Hrant Dink was tragically killed for expressing his views on the Armenian Genocide. His death should serve as a watershed moment for Turkish-Armenian relations.

While Turkish officials have rightly condemned the killing, Turkey should honor the memory of Hrant Dink by using this opportunity to begin an open dialogue between Turkish citizens and their neighbors of Armenian descent. Laws that criminalize free speech and serious discussion of difficult issues are counterproductive to true democratic reform, which the Turkish government has called a priority. Taking steps to finally reconcile its past with its future by recognizing the Armenian Genocide are the foundations for real progress for Turkey.

In the wake of this tragedy, we must not allow an assassin's bullet to silence such a dynamic voice for change, but rather, continue to encourage Turkey to make positive changes with the same resolve Hrant Dink showed throughout his life as a champion of freedom.

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. GARY KURPIUS

#### HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 8, 2007*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a great Alaskan, Mr. Gary Kurpius, who was recently elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Nation's largest association of combat veterans. Gary Kurpius was elected to his position on August 31, 2006, at the VFW's 10th National Convention, in Reno, Nevada. Gary Kurpius is the first Alaskan to hold this tremendously important position.

During the Vietnam War Gary Kurpius served with the Army's 541st Transportation Company providing vital convoy security

throughout the central highlands, an extremely treacherous area. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze service stars and the Republic of Vietnam Service Medal, for his endeavors during the conflict. In addition to the medals received during Vietnam, Gary Kurpius was selected Vietnam Veteran of the Year for St. Louis County, Minnesota by President Jimmy Carter.

After the war, Gary Kurpius continued his unrelenting passion for public service. This led him to join VFW Post 1539 in Babbitt, Minnesota in 1970, where he became a life member. He earned the title of All American Post Commander in 1977 and in 1983 was named All American District Commander. Gary then transferred to VFW Post 9785 in Eagle River, Alaska in 1985. Currently Gary is a Life Member of VFW Post 9365 in Wasilla, Alaska, near to where he currently resides with his wife Nancy, in the beautiful city of Anchorage.

Gary has served diligently in the Department of Alaska service office for the last 19 years and as Department Adjutant for the past 17 years. Then in 2001, Gary was elected Department Commander and earned All-American Department Commander status. Most recently Gary completed a two-year term as Governor Tony Knowles' appointee to the Alaska Veterans Advisory Council.

Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Gary Kurpius, is also a member of the Military Order of the Cootie, American Legion and Vietnam Veterans of America. In 1999, he received the Alaska Community Service Medal. Few men have had such a dedicated and lengthy history of service and I know that Gary Kurpius will continue to serve with the same dedication and fortitude, meeting all the challenges he is presented with.

On behalf of The United States of America, I extend my thanks and appreciation to Commander-in-Chief Gary Kurpius, for his dedication and service to American Servicemen, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and to the people of the Great State of Alaska.

#### IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM A. LUCKING, JR.

#### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 8, 2007*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in memory of my friend, Bill Lucking, who died at home earlier this week at the age of 89, surrounded by generations of family.

There are not enough pages in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to do justice to the life of William A. Lucking Jr. He was a decorated World War II combat veteran, a horseman, a rancher, a hunter, a world traveler, an attorney, a community volunteer, and an outdoorsman as comfortable on land as he was on or below the water. Bill also was active in Republican politics, including being a delegate to the Republican Convention that nominated Richard Nixon in 1960, much to the chagrin of his Democratic father.

Bill Lucking would say that he worked hard and played hard. Raised in the Ventura County, California, community of Ojai, he bought more than 200 acres of rugged land there in 1956—6 years after he passed the California

bar—and turned it into a thriving citrus and avocado ranch. His home there is testament to his world travels, filled with such treasures as maps and ancient pottery.

Bill served during World War II as a Navy Reserve ensign and skipper on coastal defense sailboats and as executive officer of the radar picket *Pritchett* (DD-561). It was on the *Pritchett* that he earned a Bronze Star for sinking a whaleboat to rescue sailors from the sinking USS *Callaghan* in the Pacific Theater.

Bill's love of the ocean continued throughout his life. He was a body surfer and a founder of the South Jetty Swells, and a diver who explored the sunken *Winfield Scott* off Anacapa Island. He put his horse-riding skills to use riding with the Ventura County Sheriff's Posse and Rancheros Adolfo—when he wasn't riding in Death Valley, Oregon, or with the Navajo in Arizona.

Bill was partner with many attorneys who went on to become judges. Bill also was offered judgeships, but turned them down. As he told a reporter in a 1970 interview, "I enjoy being on one side or the other."

In politics, he was squarely on the side of the Republican Party and was responsible for helping launch many a stellar political career, including that of my friend and mentor, a former member of this body, Bob Lagomarsino. Not only have they been close personal friends since the '50s, ("We called each other 'Cuz' because he was married to my wife's cousin," Bob recalled), but Bill also was instrumental in Bob running for the California Senate in 1961. Bob credits Bill for keeping the party in Ventura County strong in good times and bad.

True to a life lived on his own terms, when Bill learned the end was near, he left the hospital to "be at home, in front of the fire, with his arm around (his wife) Lucy," recalled his daughter, Helen.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in remembering Bill Lucking for a life lived to the fullest, who made contributions great and small in war and in peace, and who serves as an inspiration to all Americans.

Godspeed, Bill.

#### TRIBUTE TO CLARE ASHBY

### HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, since the beginning of the year, my office has had the privilege of hosting Clare Ashby as an international trade intern.

Clare joined my Washington, D.C. team as part of the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program. Now in its 8th year, the educational exchange program brings 12 distinguished Australian university students to the Nation's capital each year to intern in the office of a Member of Congress. This unique bilateral exchange offers participants the opportunity to not only learn the inner-workings of the U.S. Federal Government but to also develop and maintain new, career-building relationships. Although this is only my first year hosting a student, I am impressed with Clare's intellectual curiosity and have found that she has made a real and substantial contribution in advocating my legislative efforts.

As a congressional intern in my office, Clare has actively engaged in open dialogue regarding the challenges of current U.S. trade policy; conducted extensive research and analysis on these same issues; and assisted in the drafting of legislation. Her intellectual breadth and keen ability to understand complex public policy have surely not gone unnoticed. At the same time, Clare has also taken the initiative to help bridge the gap between American and Australian cultures. My office joined Clare in the celebration of Australia Day, where we learned of Australian tradition and history. We also shared a favorite Australian treat, a sweet chocolate biscuit, known as a Tim Tam. During her time with our office, Clare also shared the same birthday as one of my legislative staffers. On that special day, we again celebrated the occasion and shared the stories of our birthday traditions.

Madam Speaker, I am proud that my office participated in this year's Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program, as I found it to be a valuable experience on a variety of different levels. It is at this time that I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Clare Ashby for her successful internship in my office. It was an honor to host her and I wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. ANDRA LYONS, JACKSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent of mine, Mrs. Andra Lyons, of Jacksonville, Alabama. Mrs. Lyons is a highly accomplished educator and was recently named Jacksonville High School's Teacher of the Year.

In 1982, Mrs. Lyons began her career as a teacher. After graduating from Jacksonville State University, Mrs. Lyons began teaching elementary school, a position she held for 15 years. She later began teaching middle school, and she currently teaches 8th grade science. As part of her career in education, Mrs. Lyons has also participated in the Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative. According to her colleagues, Mrs. Lyons has been a dedicated and talented educator, who by applying new hands-on teaching methods to her classroom, has enriched her students' learning experiences. In recognition of her dedication to academic excellence, Mrs. Lyons' colleagues have named her Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Lyons has touched hundreds of young lives over the years, helping guide our future leaders toward success in life. I congratulate Mrs. Lyons for her dedication, and for receiving this important recognition.

#### TRIBUTE TO SHAWN WELLS

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the achievements of

Shawn Wells, husband, father, and the postmaster of Cowgill, MO, who passed away on December 10, 2006.

Mr. Wells was a 22-year veteran of the United States Postal Service and throughout his career was a clerk at the St. Joseph, MO Post Office, and the officer in charge at the Rushville, Dearborn, Mound City and Easton Post Offices.

Mr. Wells not only provided his valuable service to the United States Postal Service, he also was a veteran of the United States Navy and served on the USS *Hunley*.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the life and achievements of Shawn Wells, whose dedication and service to the United States Postal Service is truly admirable.

#### TRIBUTE TO KEVIN "KP" ENER, COMMUNITY SERVANT AND BROADCASTING ENTREPRENEUR

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Kevin Ener, of Houston, Texas, who died last Saturday, February 3, 2007. Kevin Ener, or simply "KP" to the multitudes who knew and loved him, was a self-made man and broadcast entrepreneur, who dedicated his life to serving his family, friends, neighbors, and the people of the community he loved more than any other, the Acres Homes community of Houston.

Kevin Ener served the people of the Acres Homes community in a multitude of ways, but most of all by keeping them informed and providing them an outlet by which their voices could be heard. He used the broadcast station he founded, FM96.1 DaZone, and managed to empower his community. Madam Speaker, I want to share with you the story of Kevin Ener and his creation, FM96.1 DaZone, so the world will understand how much KP meant to the people of Acres Homes and why he will be missed so much.

Kevin Dwayne Ener was born to Deborah and Carl Shankle on March 8, 1970 in Houston, Texas. He was educated at Aldine High School and Texas Southern University, where he learned to become a legal assistant.

But Kevin's true love and calling was music, both the performance and the business. His first business venture occurred when he was 13 and secured engagement as a mobile disk jockey at St. Monica's Catholic Church and at the Sid Ranch. By the time he was twenty, Kevin Ener had managed several record labels; he started his record label, AHM Recording, before he was thirty.

Along with his partner, Sean Whittington, Kevin produced music for many local artists, including Billy Cook, Phoenix, Big Mello, Hahje, Eda Massberg, and Nuyorka. Kevin's interest in music production soon led him to the business of music promotion, graphic design and production, merchandizing, artist management, and, ultimately, radio broadcasting.

Madam Speaker, in his heart and soul, Kevin Ener was always a son of Acres Homes. So great was his love for this community that in May 2005, Kevin and his long-time