

a true democracy, all men and women must be involved in the process. He fought for the rights and equality of minorities in America and abroad. I rise today because I am moved by the purpose of this legislation, which perpetuates this national struggle and the legacy of W. E. B. Dubois which became the NAACP.

Mr. Speaker, although our country has overcome many obstacles since the early 1900's—it is important we recognize this historical organization today because our Nation continues to struggle against discrimination and hate crimes. We must never forget the mission of the NAACP, "to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination." We must internalize this mission and continuously work together to realize the goals and mission of this organization. I urge my fellow colleagues to rise with me in support of this resolution.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM SCHANTZ

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor William Schantz, a veteran of World War II, for his exemplary service in defense of freedom and award him with the Jubilee of Liberty Medal.

On June 6, 1944 the United States and its allies embarked on the largest air, land, and sea invasion ever undertaken. This massive effort included 5,000 ships, 10,000 airplanes, and over 150,000 American, British, Canadian, Free French, and Polish Troops. During the 50th anniversary of this historic event, the French Government awarded the Jubilee of Liberty Medal to American servicemen for their participation in the Battle of Normandy.

William served in the United States Army Air Corps, 36th Fighter Group and served in Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, the Rhineland and Central Europe Air Offensive Europe. William also served behind enemy lines with the Tactical Air Force, providing integral support to troops on the ground, and supporting General Patton's troops in theater. For his heroism and valor, he was awarded the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Service Medal, the Distinguished Unit Badge with one Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Good Conduct Medal.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor William Schantz for his heroic service in the United States Military. His dedication to this country in the theater of war is truly exemplary. I commend the sacrifices he has made to protect our freedoms and I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize his service. I applaud William Schantz for his successes and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING CRAFTON HILLS COLLEGE FOR 35 YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize the 35th anniversary of Crafton Hills College, a true leader among community colleges and an exemplary model of dedication to student achievement.

Since opening its doors to students in 1972, Crafton Hills College has expanded the education and increased the job skills of over 100,000 people from all backgrounds and ages. Beginning as an idea in the minds of two Los Angeles philanthropists, the development of a community college on 500 acres of land soon became a reality. A special election in 1967 secured funding for construction of the campus, and the first classes were taught only 5 years later. The accessibility of the education and top-notch professional programs attracted students from all areas of southern California. In only 35 years Crafton Hills College experienced unprecedented growth, from an original population of 881 students and 21 full-time faculty members in 1972, to the current number of students totaling over 5,200 with 80 full-time teachers and administrators.

Crafton Hills College serves as a model for other schools in handling expansion of a student population while remaining constant in the quality of their programs. Crafton Hills has continued to maintain a low cost of tuition and offer superior classroom instructors, while concurrently forming their programs into some of the most reliable in the California college system. Because they have access to a variety of occupational and degree programs, students are able to become adequately prepared for employment in the workforce, or transfer to a 4-year university in any of 36 different majors.

The Fire Science Program and the Emergency Medical Services-Paramedic Program are recognized as two of the most outstanding college emergency services programs in the state, and Crafton Hills is the primary location for paramedic training in the San Bernardino and Riverside counties. The programs are supported by the involvement of local hospitals, fire departments, and emergency facilities, and this inclusion of community agencies has encouraged students to engage in hands-on learning while allowing them the rare opportunity to network with potential employers. By funneling their newly gained skills into health care professions, firefighting, and paramedic services in the southern California area, students demonstrate a dedication to enhancing public health and safety for those around them, and in many cases, forego the risk to their own lives.

Crafton Hills College has been a key element in the success of the San Bernardino Regional Emergency Training Center. The center trains fire fighting personnel in proper tactics for fighting aircraft fires and adequate rescue techniques, and Crafton Hills College implements and oversees the center's educational component. The enthusiasm and

teaching ability of the administrators and teachers will undoubtedly continue to attract firefighters throughout the Nation eager to receive top-notch instruction and training.

The 35th anniversary of such a well-regarded college is certainly a cause for recognition. It is with great privilege that I represent such a respected academic institution, and I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing thirty-five years of achievements at Crafton Hills College.

A FRIEND LOST

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, in the February 14 edition of Roll Call, one of the most accomplished authorities on the workings of Congress pays a heartfelt and well-deserved tribute to another authority on our workings—Nelson Polsby. Sadly, Nelson Polsby died recently. He was an extraordinary intellect, who paid this institution the enormous compliment of taking it very seriously and helping both the general public and those of us who serve here understand our workings. Norman Ornstein was a colleague of Nelson Polsby in this important work, and in today's edition of Roll Call, in a few short paragraphs, he does a great deal to capture the essence of Nelson Polsby and to help people understand why so many of us will miss him. Madam Speaker, self knowledge is always important, and I ask that Mr. Ornstein's words be inserted here, both in tribute to one of the great scholars of our time, and in the hope that Members of Congress will, if they have not already done so, discover the works of Nelson Polsby and learn from them.

A FRIEND LOST

Three topics of discussion this week beginning with this: Congress lost a true friend and one of the all-time great scholars of its history and dynamics last week with the death of Nelson Polsby.

Polsby was a larger-than-life figure in every respect (The Times in London, in its wonderful obituary, described him as "a mountain of a man; he looked like an American footballer gone to seed.") His imposing physical presence was matched by an even more imposing intellect. His tongue, and pen, could be withering, but legions of students and colleagues, me included, could not have a better friend and mentor. Polsby's scholarship spanned many areas, but Congress was his true love and the subject of his best work.

His article "The Institutionalization of the U.S. House of Representatives" is among the most cited scholarly pieces ever published in the American Political Science Review. His last book, "How Congress Evolves: Social Bases of Institutional Change," is typically elegant and deep, a huge contribution to the scholarly literature but written so that a nonprofessional reader can learn mightily from its insights. It is a must-read for every Member of Congress who wants to understand his or her institution in a historical and political context—which should be every Member of Congress.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO AMBER
CORNELIUS DRABANT

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Amber Cornelius Drabant for her long and distinguished service to the Clark County School District.

Amber was educated in the Clark County School District where she attended Twin Lakes Elementary School, R.O. Gibson Junior High School and graduated from Western High School. In 1976, Mrs. Drabant returned to Western High School to teach courses in Biology, Botany, Welding, and Environmental Horticulture. In 1993 Mrs. Drabant began teaching Environmental Horticulture at the Area Technical Trade Center. During her tenure at the Trade Center, Amber sought to provide her students with the opportunities to participate in various internships where they gain real-world experiences which prepare them for positions in the horticulture industry and post-secondary school education.

Amber has received both state and local recognition for her many years as a skilled educator. In 1979, she was named as Nevada's Vocational Teacher of the Year and in 1993–94 and 1995–96 Mrs. Drabant was honored as the Kiwanis Teacher of the Year. Finally, as a direct result of Amber's efforts, Area Technical Trade Center and Moapa Valley High School received a \$37,000 grant to establish a hydroponics program.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Mrs. Amber Cornelius Drabant. Her many years of dedicated service to the Clark County School District are to be commended and I wish her the best of luck in her retirement.

CONGRATULATIONS MR. STEVE
KANDRA

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, today, the great State of Oregon turns 148 years old. Tomorrow will mark an occasion nearly as momentous when a highly-respected community leader in Oregon, Mr. Steve Kandra, steps down as the president of the Klamath Water Users Association (KWUA). I would like to draw my colleagues' attention to the numerous contributions Steve has made to his community and his industry, for without them hundreds of farmers and ranchers in southern Oregon and northern California would have found the past two years a much greater challenge.

As many of us know, most folks would probably be surprised at what life as president of an organization is really like. Often, one is drafted into the position by colleagues to pick up heavy loads, to donate countless hours of time away from family and business, and to forge common ground on difficult issues. Being the president of KWUA is a particularly tough job; Steve heeded the call of his fellow farmers and ranchers for two full terms. As Steve's infectious sense of humor would lead

him to say, "If you don't get it right the first time, try, try again."

His fellow members at KWUA would tell you that they pleaded with him to lead the association because he is extremely smart, dedicated, experienced, respected, and sincere. That's an impressive combination of personal qualities, and they sum Steve Kandra up well.

The farmers and ranchers of the Klamath Basin are no strangers to serious challenges. When the federal government unjustly shut off their water from the Klamath Project in 2001, over 1,000 farming and ranching families' livelihoods, and the community that depends on their well-being, faced disaster. The climb back for the agriculture community is by no means complete and has demanded smart and dedicated leadership. Steve Kandra provided just that. Steve spent countless hours attending meetings and hearings, leading tours of the Klamath Basin, granting interviews, and delivering compelling presentations. His duties as president often took precedence over family affairs and the demands of farming. Anyone who knows Steve knows he is a hands-on guy who will not be deterred when the tough issues require significant personal involvement, a substantial knowledge base, and a broad range of relationships.

The "Just Say No" campaign clearly did not resonate with Steve. He is also a past president of Tulelake Rotary, Klamath County Farm Bureau, Oregon Hay & Forage Association, Klamath Basin Hay Growers, Klamath County Chamber of Commerce, and Klamath Irrigation District. Steve is a board member of Klamath Basin Ecosystem Foundation and Shaw Historical Library Board of Governors, and an elder at Merrill First Presbyterian Church. Lest my colleagues think that is all Steve has managed to occupy his time with, amazingly there's more. He has also been a board member of the Klamath County Economic Development Association, Upper Klamath Basin Working Group, Klamath Irrigation District, and Oregon Water Resources Congress, just to name a few volunteer activities. I suppose the saying is true: If you need something done, ask a busy man.

While Steve and his lovely wife, Nancy, will both remain very engaged in the struggle to provide stability for agriculture in the Klamath Basin, I suspect that Nancy will be popping a bottle of champagne tomorrow night in celebration of Steve's retirement as president of KWUA. Together they have successfully navigated a long and winding road, and a celebration of achievement is certainly in order.

Madam Speaker and my fellow House members, please join me in congratulating Steve Kandra, an outstanding community leader and family man who I am proud to call my friend.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLOR BROWN

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Willor Brown of Ypsilanti, Michigan. This April, Mr. Brown along with the other members of the renowned Tuskegee Airmen, will be honored with the Congressional

Gold Medal. This great recognition comes after the Tuskegee Airmen overcame discrimination, prejudice and institutional segregation bring about the full integration of the Armed Forces.

During World War II Mr. Brown served in the U.S. Army Air Corps. As a fighter pilot, his mission was to ensure the safety of American bombers as they came back to base from missions over Germany and Italy. Mr. Brown and the other members of the Tuskegee Airmen performed this job with both bravery and great success, as evidence by the fact that not a single bomber was lost to enemy fire during the Tuskegee Airmen's service. This service was even more remarkable given that fact that they continually faced the humiliation of segregation, even as they excelled beyond the expectations of any unit.

After seeing an article about aviation at Tuskegee, Alabama, Mr. Brown used his skill in math to pass the Army's program tests. He arrived in Alabama in December 1942, in time to have the great honor of meeting Tuskegee University's founder George Washington Carver. Mr. Brown studied at Tuskegee for nearly a year before he had the opportunity to serve overseas in Europe.

Although Willor Brown and the rest of the Tuskegee Airmen served our Nation bravely in combat during World War II, they also helped to bring about the necessary integration of our Armed Forces. The Tuskegee Airmen wore our Nation's uniform without the honor given to other service members. However, with tremendous success, remarkable service and amazing accomplishments, the Tuskegee Airmen shattered the notions of inferiority and opened up the opportunities the following generations of minority service members have had access to. The social injustice and setbacks they faced at home could not stop the Airmen from fulfilling their mission and their service abroad changed the perceptions of their place at home.

The Congressional Gold Medal is a great honor; Mr. Brown along with the other members of the Tuskegee Airmen have certainly earned this distinction. I honor Willor Brown for his bravery in battle; his determination to succeed even with great barriers before him; and for the example he has set not just for African American or minority members, but for all of the men and women who serve in the U.S. Armed Forces. I join with a grateful Nation to thank Mr. Brown for his service to this country.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH
BONAVENTURE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge Joseph Bonaventure, for his years of dedicated public service to the Las Vegas community.

Judge Bonaventure began his legal career as an attorney in Las Vegas over three decades ago. Joseph then felt that his calling was public service and began a 28-year tenure on the bench. He is known as one of the most colorful judges in the history of Southern Nevada and easily the most well known judge