

global status of women through service and advocacy.

Margarita enjoys spending time with her family. She is a loving wife to husband Vince and proud mother to two children, Natasha and Vince.

Ms. Campos' devotion to her career and her long-time commitment to the prosperity of our community serves as a true inspiration to us all. I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an extraordinary woman of California's 29th Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker. I rise today to recognize International Women's Day and to enter into the RECORD an article by Edith M. Lederer appearing today in the Washington Post, entitled "U.N. Seeks End to Violence Against Girls."

Throughout the world, violence against women appears to be acceptable. According to a 1997 World Health Organization study, in her lifetime, one in five women will be a victim of rape or an attempted rape. A separate 2003 report has shown that 147 women are raped every day in South Africa. According to the same study, in the U.S. a woman is raped every 90 seconds.

Darfur presents one of the most extreme examples of violence against women in the world. Currently, rape is used systematically against women in this region of Sudan. While it is impossible to know exactly how many women have been victims of sexual violence since the armed conflict began; however, it is believed that thousands of women have been raped, many multiple times. The devastating effects of rape are ever lasting. Victims are pariahs in their families and their communities. Women, in the Sudan, and in many places throughout the world cannot file complaints against their attackers because no one cares or takes the time to listen.

Sexual violence against women is not limited to the Sudan. Since the conflict in Côte d'Ivoire began in 2002, thousands of women and girls have become victims of widespread, systematic rape committed by combatant forces or their civilian allies. Many women have been sexually tortured, gang-raped or abducted and reduced to sexual slavery by combatants. These women have little recourse or access to health care, counseling or other support services.

The single most important factor that allows violence against women to persist, whether in times of peace or war, is the fact that those who attack and rape women know that they can get away with it. I support International Women's Day and its efforts to bring much needed attention to this critical issue.

[From the Associated Press, Mar. 8, 2007]

U.N. SEEKS END TO VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS
(By Edith M. Lederer)

UNITED NATIONS.—On the eve of International Women's Day, the U.N. Security Council called Wednesday for an end to the "pervasive violence" against girls and women during armed conflicts and demanded that the perpetrators be punished.

The council reiterated "its utmost condemnation" of the killing, maiming, sexual abuse, abduction and trafficking of girls and women and called on all warring parties to protect them, especially from rape and other forms of sexual violence.

In a presidential statement read at a formal meeting, the council emphasized the responsibility of all 192 U.N. member states "to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes including those relating to sexual and other violence against women and girls."

The theme of International Women's Day on Thursday and the two-week meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women that ends Friday is discrimination and violence against girls—and ending the impunity for perpetrators.

Rachel Mayanja, the special adviser to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on gender issues and the advancement of women, told a news conference that girls and women are subjected to violence every day in every country—and the violence "transcends politics, culture and religion, race, class, income and age."

"In order to eliminate violence against women and girls, we must take swift and concerted action to eradicate all forms of discrimination against them, and ensure women's equality with men," she said.

Noeleen Heyzer, executive director of the U.N. Development Fund for Women, said the U.N. Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women has granted more than \$13 million to more than 230 initiatives in more than 100 countries over the last 10 years and demonstrated "that ending violence against women is possible."

"It is a pandemic that can be stopped . . . given the necessary political will and resources," she said.

Heyzer said currently 89 countries have legislative provisions on domestic violence, 104 countries have made marital rape a crime, 90 countries have provisions against sexual harassment, and 93 states prohibit trafficking of women and men.

The number of countries adopting legislation against violence is growing, she said, but implementation of the laws "is often insufficient."

Heyzer urged "a real increase in resources if we are to end impunity," including nearly tripling the trust fund's annual budget from the current \$3.5 million to \$10 million.

In Wednesday's statement, the Security Council also urged the secretary-general to appoint more women as top envoys in U.N. peacekeeping and peace-building missions, in decision-making positions in U.N. field operations, and especially among military observers, civilian police, human rights and humanitarian staff.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I was absent on Monday, March 12 for personal reasons. Had I been present for votes, I would have voted "yea" on each of the three votes taken: H.R. 85, H. Res. 136, and H. Res. 89.

FIRST CLASS NAVY DIVER TIMOTHY ALEXANDER, THE NAVY SEA SYSTEMS SAILOR OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, I am extremely proud to rise today in honor of First Class Navy Diver Timothy Alexander of Middletown, Ohio. On March 9, 2007 First Class Navy Diver Alexander was awarded the Navy Sea Systems Command Sailor of the Year Award.

The Sailor of the Year Award program began 29 years ago in order to recognize the top enlisted sailors in the United States Navy. The program provides recognition to outstanding sailors through numerous presentations, awards, and meritorious advancement to the next pay grade. Sailors are judged on their performance for the past twelve months; performance over the course of their career to date; and off-duty education, civic involvement and awards earned. Additionally, a selection board of four Command Master Chiefs question the finalists concerning Navy policies, ethics, guiding principles, and leadership. Following this long process, First Class Navy Diver Alexander was chosen as the Navy Sea Systems Command Sailor of the Year.

First Class Navy Diver Alexander enlisted in the United States Navy on June 12, 1991. Since his date of enlistment, Mr. Alexander has proudly served our Nation and protected our interests throughout the world. In June of 1992, he was a vital member of the salvage team that prevented the USS *Ingersoll* from sinking in the Straits of Malacca. In November of 1999, as an experimental diver, he volunteered for numerous experimental dives and was the lead technician on a groundbreaking chemical re-breather, which has been instrumental to seal operators' safety and mission success. In January of 2002 he completed several classified missions in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. These are only a few examples of many brave actions taken by Mr. Alexander throughout his long and accomplished naval career.

First Class Diver Tim Alexander is a testament to the great commitment and courage of all volunteer military. He has worked hard to further his education and training, and his efforts have been rewarded in being named the Navy Sea Systems Command Sailor of the Year. I consider it an honor to represent him in Congress.

HONORING MONSIGNOR JOHN
BRENKLE, HELAINE KATZ, AND
MARIANNA DEWITT SCHMIDT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize three residents of St. Helena, CA. who were vital to the foundation and success of our Boys and Girls Club of my hometown. These three made vast contributions of time and energy to get the

Boys and Girls Club established with a sound financial backing. Their efforts, as well as the work of many others, have ensured the success of one of the most vital and enduring youth programs in the Napa Valley.

My good friend Monsignor Brenkle is the Pastor of the St. Helena Catholic Church, where he has been for 22 years. During this time he has taken the lead on many projects in the community, and he is widely known throughout the Napa Valley for his activism with farm workers to ensure adequate housing conditions. Monsignor Brenkle, working closely with Ms. Schmidt, provided space for the program in the St. Helena Catholic School's gymnasium during the summer of 1989, from which it subsequently expanded into the Elementary School's cafeteria. In 1992 the program returned to redeveloped facilities at the Catholic School with Monsignor Brenkle's blessing, and has continued to expand ever since.

Ms. Mariatma Schmidt worked together with Monsignor Brenkle to complete the many tasks necessary to open the Boys and Girls Club of St. Helena. She then took on the role of president for 6 years, where she oversaw the establishment of permanent facilities and took the lead in recruiting fundraisers and volunteers to help the young program grow. Her vision left the Boys and Girls Club with a devoted network of supporters and financiers, and her efforts both with this program and other youth education foundations have had a substantial impact on our St. Helena community.

Ms. Helaine Katz chaired the Fundraising Committee during the club's early years, where her creative and exciting events raised countless thousands of dollars to provide the club with the early capital it needed to develop facilities and programs for young people. Her signature event for many years has been the Rotary Club's Winter Ball, which brings together St. Helena residents to benefit children's programs in our area. Her fundraising savvy and taste for a good party makes her an invaluable member of our community, and the money raised over the last 16 years has brought a succession of new facilities to the club, culminating in the new superb facility they share with the St. Helena school district.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize all three of these individuals for the incredible contributions they have made to the Boys and Girls Club of St. Helena, and to the community at large. They are being recognized for their foundational roles in the club, and I join all in our community in thanking them for the work they have done on behalf of St. Helena's youth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, due to other congressional business, I unfortunately missed recorded votes on the House floor on Thursday, March 1, 2007.

I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 118, and "aye" on rollcall votes Nos. 114, 115, 116, and 117.

TRIBUTE TO THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT DEMOCRATIC CLUB

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I wish to congratulate the members of the Hammond, Indiana Franklin D. Roosevelt Democratic Club as they celebrate the organization's 75th anniversary. To commemorate this special occasion, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Club will be having an anniversary banquet on March 24, 2007, at Dynasty Banquets in Hammond.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Club of Hammond was founded on December 3, 1932, by 42 members of Polish ancestry. The mission of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Club is to "maintain high standards and secure the best possible candidate for the Democratic Party." The Franklin D. Roosevelt Club has selflessly given its support to the northwest Indiana community. In addition, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Club has had many members who have served or are currently serving as elected or appointed officials in our government.

Throughout the past 75 years, the members of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Club have offered their dedication and support to their noble cause of serving their local community, while striving for a democratic government in their cities for years to come. The Franklin D. Roosevelt Club has had 19 presidents over its 75 year history. At this time, I would like to acknowledge the 2007 Franklin D. Roosevelt Club officers. They are: President Kay Pucalik, First Vice President Wally Skibinski, Second Vice President Mary Fabian, Secretary Shirley Ridenour, Treasurer Mary J. Hildebranski, Sergeant of Arms John Stevens, Chaplain Bobbi Costa, Membership Chairman Diana Beyer, and Trustees Tom Hildebranski, Brian Kupinski, and Bertha McCoy.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the members of the Hammond Franklin D. Roosevelt Democratic Club on the 75th anniversary of their noble organization. These dedicated individuals continue to give their time and unrelenting efforts to serve their local community, as well as all of northwest Indiana. It is their commitment to the democratic process that makes their organization and efforts such a motivating force in the First Congressional District, and I am proud to serve as their representative in Washington, DC.

A TRIBUTE TO SARAH TRAMEL

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Sarah Tramel, of Altadena, California. Each year in March, in recognition of Women's History Month, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our Nation's women.

Sarah was born in Johnson City, Tennessee, and relocated to Altadena, California in 1981. She earned her bachelor of arts degree in urban studies from California State

University, Los Angeles. She worked for the Los Angeles Unified School District for 24 years until she retired, in 2003, from her position as telecommunication manager.

Sarah was instrumental in the opening of the Los Angeles City Child Care Center and the Pasadena Coalition for Better Schools. She also represents William Blair High School on the Pasadena Unified School District Superintendent's Advisory Board and is a Merit Badge Counselor for the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 40.

Currently, Sarah is the president of the Pasadena City College Parent Teacher Student Association. Pasadena City College is proud to be the only community college in the country with a Parent Teacher Student Association. This group is responsible for several tasks including hosting the Honors at Entrance Scholarship Program, supporting the Pasadena City College Child Development Center, and recognizing exceptional service to Pasadena City College.

Ms. Tramel is also the first vice-president of Women in Action, a group whose purpose is to work toward stimulating citizen participation, to increase community awareness, and to make minority representation in government a reality. She is an alumnus of the Gamma Phi Delta Sorority and has served at the local, regional, and national levels. She is a member of the Altadena United Methodist Church and volunteers on the Staff-Parish Relations Committee and the Finance Committee.

Most importantly, Sarah is noted for her ability to "look after the unders of this world: the under-represented, the under-served, the under-privileged, the under-educated, and more."

Ms. Tramel's devotion to her career and her long-time commitment to the prosperity of our community serves as a true inspiration to us all. I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an extraordinary woman of California's 29th Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO LEONA "KAY" HUTCHISON WILLIAMS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it has come to my attention that a long and exceptionally distinguished career in public service is about to come to a close. Leona "Kay" Hutchison Williams will retire from her position as city clerk of Versailles on March 31, 2007.

Leona "Kay" Hutchison Williams was born on July 12, 1943, to Leo and Erma McBroom Hutchison in Latham, MO. She is a graduate of Morgan County R-II High School and went on to take classes at CMC in Warrensburg and SMC in Springfield.

Kay has performed many valuable and notable services for the community of Versailles. She has served as chairman of the Versailles High School Alumni Association in 1965, 2006 and 2007; is a member of the First Baptist Church; was appointed City Clerk in March of 1973; was appointed water clerk, was appointed purchasing agent; was appointed office manager; was elected city collector in April of 1974; is a member of the Central Missouri City Clerks and Finance Officers Association; is a member of the Missouri City