

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. VISCOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. VISCOSKY. 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

Clerks and Finance Officer Association; International Institute of Municipal Clerk's Board Member of the Missouri Municipal League; and a member of the Morgan County Historical Society.

In addition, Kay is a member of the Women's Civic Club; a member of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association; a charter member of Missouri B-2 Gold Wing Riders Association; was awarded the B-2 Chapter of the Year Couple in 2000 & 2007; a member of West Central Riders; has served on the Chamber of Commerce Board and Old Tyme Apple Festival for 23 years; was chosen Citizen of the Year January, 1991; co-established the Adult Winter Volleyball league; a member of the 1986 Co-Ed Volleyball Team that placed 2nd in the Missouri Show-Me State Games; and Chaired the Committee to enter The Old Tyme Apple Festival into the Library of Congress for its Birthday Celebration.

Leona "Kay" Hutchison Williams is a leader in her community. She was one of the first tellers at the Morgan County Bank in 1963 and has served as secretary for the National Farmers Organization. Ms. Williams has also served as city clerk, city collector, and deputy city clerk working with 7 mayors and 35 different aldermen. Outside of public service, her greatest joy is time spent with her husband, Lonnie Joe, their two daughters, and one step grandson.

Madam Speaker, I wish Leona "Kay" Hutchison Williams all the best in her retirement and I know the Members of the House will join me in thanking her for her commitment to her community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately yesterday, March 12, 2007, I was unable to cast my votes on H.R. 85, H. Res. 136, and H. Res. 89 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 136 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 85, the Energy Technology Transfer Act, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 137 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 136, Commending the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 138 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 89, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a day should be established as Dutch-American Friendship Day, I would have voted "yea."

COMMENDING OPENNESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY LEGISLATION

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I took to the floor in the beginning days of the 110th

Congress to applaud the aggressive ethics package we passed.

At the time I noted my confidence that those ethics rules were the first of many steps that we would take to bring back trust and civility to Congress.

I'm proud that this week the Congress will take several more steps forward to promote accountability and openness in government by strengthening protections for whistleblowers, providing timely responses to Freedom of Information Act requests, restoring access to Presidential records, and limiting Federal no-bid contracts.

I can think of nothing more important than assuring the people we are elected to serve that this Congress—and indeed this government—is open, ethical and accessible. The measures we will vote on this week continue the important work we have already begun. I commend my colleagues in bringing forward these important pieces of legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained Monday, March 12, 2007, and missed three suspension votes. Please note in the appropriate place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that had I been present, I would have voted as noted below:

Rollcall vote 136: "yea."

Rollcall vote 137: "yea."

Rollcall vote 138: "yea."

INTRODUCING THE LEGAL TIMBER PROTECTION ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today, along with Congressman ROBERT WEXLER and Congressman JERRY WELLER, I am introducing the "Legal Timber Protection Act, LTPA." The LTPA prohibits trade in illegally harvested timber by extending the protections of the Lacey Act to timber, while ensuring that legal timber trade isn't harmed. Specifically, the LTPA bans the import, export, transport, purchase, sale, or possession of timber that has been taken, possessed, transported, or sold in violation of a foreign law or international environmental treaty. It has been crafted to make sure that it will not prohibit trade in legal timber or impose burdensome regulations on American timber companies.

Illegal logging threatens some of the world's richest and most vulnerable forests. The illegal removal of high-value threatened tree species destined for international markets is often the first step leading to forest clearance. The tracks and roads built to access and remove timber become entryways for further illegal cutting, hunting and burning. The easy accessibility to the depths of the forest and fragmentation further threatens already endangered plants and animals and leaves others vulnerable to achieving this status. As illegal

logging contributes to deforestation, the water balance and dynamics of fragile ecosystems are disrupted. Deforestation accounts for 20 percent of annual global greenhouse gas emissions—more than the entire global transportation sector.

In addition, illegal logging creates huge financial losses to producing nations. By avoiding export duties, timber royalties and taxes on their profits, companies operating unlawfully are robbing national governments of in excess of \$15 billion annually on public lands alone. This loss in revenue decreases governments' ability to invest in the forestry sector to promote sustainable forest management and conserve their natural forest resources.

At the same time, given that as much as 30 percent of hardwood lumber and plywood traded globally could be of suspicious origin, responsible U.S. companies lose an estimated \$460 million in export opportunities every year because of displacement caused by illegally harvested timber. On top of that, the annual value of U.S. exports is between \$500-\$700 million lower due to downward pressure on prices from illegally harvested timber. As Oregon produces approximately 13 percent of U.S. lumber, losses to Oregon are estimated to be between \$130-\$150 million every year.

I look forward to working with my colleagues and with all the stakeholders on this issue to pass this important bipartisan piece of legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA "TRISH" CALLAGHAN

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. Patricia "Trish" Callaghan, of Alhambra, 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.

Trish was born in San Francisco, California, and was raised in the San Gabriel Valley. She earned her undergraduate degree from San Diego State University and went on to receive her postgraduate degree from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Ms. Callaghan is widely admired for her long career with the Garvey Unified School District. As an educator, her goal was to make learning a joyful experience that would "come alive" for over a thousand middle school students. Trish set high standards for all her students and created a stimulating, challenging and meaningful learning environment that met the student's diverse needs.

While working as a full-time teacher, Trish participated in special committees and projects at both the school and district levels. She was a member of the Educational Technology Advisory Committee and the Curriculum Planning Committee. Trish was responsible for drafting grants and recruiting funds that supported the school-site technology program. Trish also authored the applications for the California Distinguished School Award in 2006 and the Title I Achieving School in 2004.

Despite her busy career as an educator, Trish has done an excellent job of following her family's motto of "giving back to the community." She has been volunteering for Huntington Hospital for the past 21 years and she