

hours, Key Club volunteer—200 hours, 40 hours dedicated to organizing and running a children's sports camp raising money for Hurricane Katrina victims and 10 hours volunteered with Habitat for Humanity.

Melissa Morgan is a great example of everything right with America and is a reflection of the spirit of a true Michigander, selfless and fighting for a cause greater than themselves. I am pleased to congratulate Melissa Morgan on her achievement of the "Presidential Service Award," and I commend her for her work.

CALLING FOR RELEASE OF ISRAELI SOLDIERS HELD CAPTIVE BY HAMAS AND HEZBOLLAH

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 107, a resolution calling for the immediate release of Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit by Hamas, as well as urging Hezbollah to accept the mandate of the U.N. Security Council Resolution by immediately releasing Israeli soldiers Ehud Goldwasser and Eldad Regev.

Israel has taken dramatic steps in recent years to bring about peace in the Middle East, including removing all forces from Lebanon and in 2005 unilaterally withdrawing from Gaza. In return, Israel continues to be threatened by Hezbollah, which is backed and encouraged by Iran and Syria, and Hamas, which controls the Palestinian Authority. Neither group recognizes Israel's right to exist and refuses to seek democracy and peace.

Mr. Speaker, by passing H. Res. 107, we have made a clear statement that these soldiers should be released, and that the United States will stand with Israel while continuing to work with the international community to bring peace to the region. I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 107.

RECOGNIZING THE YOUNG MEN'S LEAGUE OF GUAM FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the members of the Young Men's League of Guam, the YMLG, for their service to our community for over 90 years. YMLG is perhaps the oldest, active non-profit organizations in my home district, continuing to provide dedicated and honorable volunteer service to this day. The YMLG contributes immensely to help the homeless, the medically indigent, and less fortunate in Guam, as well as the elderly at St. Dominic's Geriatric Care Facility. They also support and assist other charity organizations.

Since its founding in 1917, the Young Men's League of Guam has remained true to its mission to uphold and defend the principles of good government by instilling among its mem-

bers a sense of individual obligation to our community, as well as fostering and promoting friendship, camaraderie, closer understanding and respect among themselves as unique equals. Also known proudly as "I Inetron Lalåhen Guåhan," the Young Men's League of Guam continues to be a strong proponent for the preservation and advancement of the indigenous culture, language, heritage and traditions of the Chamorros of Guam and the Marianas. YMLG annually sponsors the "Silabrasion Chamorro" Student Oratorical, Essay, and Writing Competitions.

As its name proclaims, the Young Men's League of Guam has always sought to harness the talents and instill a sense of community obligation among up-and-coming young men as they take their places in our society. Educational and Recreational promotion of youth continues through scholarships, financial contributions, and sponsorships. Today, many members continue active membership, even though they are well into their senior years.

Madam Speaker, YMLG's membership roster is a "Who's Who" of 20th Century Guam history. Indeed, the legacies of its charter officers—Mr. Leon Flores, president; Mr. Jose Duenas, vice president; Mr. Manuel Ulloa, secretary; Mr. Adriano Cristobal; and Mr. Vicente Arriola, librarian/historian—live on through their offspring and beyond. President Flores was the father of Guam's first Roman Catholic bishop and archbishop, the late Felixberto C. Flores. Vice President Duenas was the father of retired U.S. District Court Judge Cristobal C. Duenas and the brother of Father Jesus Baza Duenas, who was executed during the occupation of Guam in World War II. Secretary Ulloa was a prominent and a long-time island educator. Treasurer Cristobal was the grandfather of Superior Court Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena; and YMLG Historian Arriola was the father of former Speaker Joaquin C. Arriola. Indeed, all the Chamorro Governors of Guam, appointed and elected, were members of the Young Men's League of Guam at some point in their public careers. They include the late Joseph Flores, the late Manuel F.L. Guerrero, and the late Carlos G. Camacho, father of our current governor, Felix P. Camacho, who is a YMLG member himself. Former governors Paul M. Calvo, Joseph F. Ada, and Carl T.C. Gutierrez were YMLG members as well. My late husband, Ricardo J. Bordallo, who served two terms as governor of Guam, and my late father-in-law, Balthazar J. Bordallo, who served in both the pre-war bicameral Guam Congress, as Chairman of the upper House of Council, and the postwar Guam Legislature, were lifelong members, as was Governor Calvo's father, Eduardo T. Calvo, and Francisco B. Leon Guerrero, who, with my father-in-law, was known as the fathers of the Organic Act of Guam.

HONORING THE STAFF OF FAIRVIEW SOUTHDALE HOSPITAL AND FRIENDS OF THE ORPHANS MINNESOTA REGION MARCH 13, 2007

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor a group of Minnesotans who exemplify the great spirit of American compassion, generosity and human ingenuity by making a difference in the lives of a group of orphans living in El Salvador. I especially want to thank the staff and volunteers of both Friends of the Orphans Minnesota Region who helped facilitate arrangements for five Salvadoran orphans to have eye surgery in Minnesota earlier this year.

Claudia Vanessa Vasquez Ramos, age 18; Estela Martinez Perdomo, age 18; Hector Lopez Jovel, age 10; Jonas Perez, age 6 and Brian Stanley Lemus, age 5 were born with strabismus, commonly known as cross or unaligned eyes. When Minnesota residents learned about these orphans, and that corrective surgery for strabismus is not available in El Salvador, they worked with Friends of the Orphans to bring them to Minnesota for surgery. Mr. Nestor Jaramillo arranged surgeons and nurses at Fairview Southdale Hospital to perform the surgery, while Friends of the Orphans made flight arrangements and helped to coordinate host families.

On January 18th, the children arrived in Minnesota, and their successful surgeries were performed the following day. The day after their surgeries, I had the opportunity to meet these young people at Our Lady of Grace Church in Edina, Minnesota, and experienced firsthand their excitement with their new, corrected vision. By January 22nd, they returned to El Salvador with a much brighter outlook for the future in their home country.

I am pleased to honor the generosity of doctors, pediatricians, and nurses at Fairview Southdale Hospital in Edina, Minnesota, who through the donation of their skills and time to perform the surgeries, gave a life-long gift to these orphans.

Fairview Southdale Hospital surgeons and nurses: Marshall Everson, M.D.; S. Jafar Hassan, M.D.; Mathew Jones, pediatrician; Thomas Lefebvre, pediatrician; Linda Rosengren, R.N.; Barbara Resendez, R.N.; George Markuson, surgical tech; Christine Volp, C.R.N.A.; Dennis Bless, C.R.N.A.; Dr. Suzanne Shearen, M.D.A.; Becky Hagemann, R.N.; Jan Johnson, R.N.; Sharon Cegla, R.N.; Shirley Holton, R.N.; Kristi Bahneemann, R.N.; Susan Hahn, health unit coordinator; Brad Beard, President of Fairview Southdale Hospital; Nestor Jaramillo, Jr., Vice-President of Sales and Marketing; Bonnie Herda, director of periop services; Julie Hennen, communications and marketing staff.

In addition I want to recognize the extraordinary individuals, families, groups and organizations that have offered their hearts to make a difference in the lives of these orphans:

Friends of the Orphans Minnesota Region and its entire staff: Judy Hawkinson, Charlene Dick, Gail Duer, Erin Dirksen and Mackenzie Wheeler.

Host families: Nestor and Laurie Jaramillo, Stephen and Elizabeth Smith, John and Mary O'Toole.

Nuestros Pequenos Hermanos (NPH) Central America: Father Ron Hicks.

The U.S. Embassy in San Salvador: thanks to Consul General Virginia Hotchner and the entire staff of the Consular Section for their assistance in providing non-immigrant visas for the children.

Mr. Chao Lee from my St. Paul office: special thanks to Chao for his hard work and tenacity in working with Friends of the Orphans and the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador to secure non-immigrant visas for the children.

Madam Speaker, in honor of the staff of Friends of the Orphans, U.S. Embassy staff in San Salvador, and the doctors, pediatricians and nurses of the Fairview Southdale Hospital and compassionate citizens who made an impact on the lives of the five Salvadoran orphans, I submit this statement for the official CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BAY AREA REGIONAL WATER RECYCLING PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to be joined by many of my colleagues in introducing legislation to help the San Francisco Bay Area to solve its water challenges. The bill is a revision of legislation I first introduced in the 109th Congress, and will provide local agencies with the Federal partner that they need to implement an ambitious and forward-thinking regional water recycling program.

The City of Pittsburg and the Delta Diablo Sanitation District, in my congressional district, have been leading the charge, investing time, energy, and local funds in developing water recycling projects to help meet regional water needs.

My new legislation, the Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program Authorization Act of 2007, would authorize a federal partner for the effort in Pittsburg, as well as for similar programs in Antioch, Palo Alto, Mountain View, Pacifica, South Santa Clara County, Redwood City, and San Jose.

We put the tools for these Federal-local water recycling partnerships in place with the historic Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992, which not only included my Central Valley Project Improvement Act but featured a provision now known simply as the "Title XVI" water recycling program.

In my introductory remarks for last year's version of the bill, I made the case for the Title XVI program and the importance of water recycling. Although the Bush administration continues to oppose funding water recycling, the case has only gotten stronger since then, as evidenced by the breadth of local support for this bill and for the Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program. I am also including in the record an editorial from the Contra Costa Times supporting the earlier bill.

The Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program is a collaboration of public utilities

that helps to meet our region's and state's growing water needs through a set of recycling and reclamation projects. The projects in this coalition have been repeatedly vetted, both internally at the local level and through each step of the Title XVI review process.

Although these worthy projects have supplied local funding, and secured matching State funding, they still need the Federal partner to step up. There is a clear Federal interest in these projects, as there is in the other successful regional recycling programs like those of Southern California. A good water recycling program stretches existing supplies and provides certainty to all of the water users in the area; conflict can be reduced even in a critically dry year. As we all know, a stable and reliable regional water supply makes good neighbors.

This new bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the following Bay Area water reuse projects: Antioch Recycled Water Project (Delta Diablo Sanitation District, City of Antioch); Pacifica Recycled Water Project (North Coast County Water District); Mountain View/Moffett Area Water Reuse Project (City of Palo Alto, City of Mountain View); Pittsburg Recycled Water Project (Delta Diablo Sanitation District, City of Pittsburg); Redwood City Recycled Water Project; South Santa Clara County Recycled Water Project (Santa Clara Valley Water District, South County Regional Wastewater Authority); and South Bay Advanced Recycled Water Treatment Facility (Santa Clara Valley Water District, City of San Jose).

These seven projects are estimated to make 12,205 acre-feet of water available annually in the short term, and 37,600 acre-feet annually in the long term, all while reducing demand on the Delta and on existing water infrastructure. The new bill also directs the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to fully fund the San Jose Area Water Reclamation and Reuse Project, first authorized in the original Title XVI legislation.

These programs are a fiscal and environmental win-win, and encouraging them is sound federal policy. I commend my original cosponsors for joining in this effort to support our region's water recycling initiative: Reps. ANNA ESHOO, ELLEN TAUSCHER, TOM LANTOS, MIKE HONDA, ZOE LOFGREN, JERRY MCNERNEY, and PETE STARK.

I'm glad to be working with my Bay Area colleagues to help our region's water reuse program, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

[From the Contra Costa Times, Jan. 25, 2007]

FUND WATER RECYCLING

One of the most effective ways to protect our environment and efficiently use natural resources is recycling. It is particularly true of water, which can be used more than once.

There is no good reason to flush wastewater into rivers, bays, estuaries and the ocean if it can be treated and used again for other purposes such as irrigating parks and golf courses.

That is the philosophy behind six Bay Area water recycling projects ready to begin once they are fully funded. They are in Pittsburg, Antioch, Pacifica, Palo Alto-Mountain View, Redwood City and South Santa Clara County.

The recycled water will be treated and piped to water golf courses, parks, school grounds and roadway medians, and will be used by some businesses.

Half of the money for the projects will come from local sources. One-fourth will

come from the state, including Proposition 50 funds. Another one-fourth will come from the federal government under a bill sponsored by Rep. George Miller, D-Martinez.

Pittsburg has taken the lead in the recycling effort, has raised local money, has some of the infrastructure in place and already is doing some recycling. Antioch is not far behind.

Both cities are at the top of the list for the second round of state funding for recycled-water projects.

However, the Department of Water Resources, which can approve the money by administrative decision, needs a bit of prodding by local legislators.

Miller's bill, HR 6218, which has bipartisan support, also needs quick approval.

Together, the six Bay Area projects would recycle nearly 10,000 acre-feet of water per year. That is not a large percentage of the total volume of water used in the area, but it is a significant amount and would help spur more recycling efforts.

The total cost of the six projects is \$74.8 million. But the state and federal governments' share is only \$18.7 million each. The state money already is available, and there is no reason to believe the federal funds will not be forthcoming.

Recycling is not the only way to meet the Bay Area's and California's water needs, but it must be part of the solution. Not only does it use water effectively, it also reduces pollution of the Delta, San Pablo Bay and San Francisco Bay.

We trust state and federal officials will agree and act quickly to help local efforts to recycle an essential resource.

THE WYLAND FOUNDATION'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AQUARIUM OF NIAGARA

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the Wyland Foundation for its outstanding achievements in environmental education programs. Since 1993, the Wyland Foundation has dedicated itself to protecting the earth's oceans by bridging the world of art and science.

The Wyland Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, protecting, and preserving the world's oceans, waterways, and marine life. The foundation, led by the artist Wyland, encourages environmental awareness through education programs, life-size public arts projects, and community events. The Wyland Foundation strives to inspire as many people as possible—especially school children—to learn more about our oceans and aquatic habitats.

Perhaps the Wyland Foundation's best known initiative is the Whaling Walls: Art in Public Places. Through Whaling Walls, the Wyland Foundation works with communities to paint large-scale murals of migrating gray whales, breaching humpbacks, blue whales, and other marine life. The program is predicated on the idea that the best way to teach someone about environmental conservation is to show them what they are conserving.

The 81st Whaling Wall was painted at the Aquarium of Niagara in Niagara Falls, New York in 1998. The project allowed children ranging from three to eighteen years old to