

or build new ones. While supporters of the motion may attempt to portray it as advancing “green” solutions to our energy challenges, the reality is that the language only required economic considerations to be taken into account and provided no framework or guidance regarding the environmental suitability of potential hydroelectric sites or requirements to account for environmental impact mitigation or wildlife protection.

I am strongly supportive of exploring beneficial ways to increase the role that hydroelectricity plays in our energy mix, and look forward to working with my colleagues on pursuing environmentally responsible hydroelectric options such as installing low-head hydroelectric turbines in existing small dams. It is extremely important that we explore such alternatives, but we must do so in a way that is thoughtful, measured, and responsible. The language in the motion to recommit could have opened the door to reckless, counterproductive hydroelectric projects and so I chose to vote against it.

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IN RECOGNITION OF THE 23RD STREET ASSOCIATION AND ITS 2007 DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN, MR. JOSEPH ROBERTO OF NORTH FORK BANK

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**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the 23rd Street Association, Inc., of New York City, its President, Sharon L. Ullman, and its honoree Joseph Roberto on the occasion of its annual Distinguished Citizen Award Luncheon. This year, the Association is bestowing its Distinguished Citizen Award upon Mr. Joseph Roberto, Divisional Senior Vice President of North Fork Bank, for his outstanding service to the community.

The 23rd Street Association was formed in 1929 by 22 local business leaders to improve environmental conditions and promote economic development in Manhattan. Since that time, the 23rd Street Association and its civic-minded members have devoted themselves to maintaining and improving the quality of life for both businesses and residents of the vital and thriving area of Lower Manhattan between 18th and 28th Streets. Today, the Association plays an active role in the development and growth of the 23rd Street area, including the Gramercy Park and Flatiron neighborhoods and the Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village middle-income housing developments.

The Association also addresses a broad range of citizen complaints and concerns by working closely with local community boards as well as city, state and federal government agencies. Whether forming a partnership with the New York City Department of Transportation to ameliorate traffic congestion in Lower Manhattan or purchasing and planting hundreds of trees in conjunction with the City Parks Department, the Association's commitment to improving the neighborhoods and communities it serves has been truly remarkable. In recent years, the 23rd Street Association worked to block a plant to substitute a nearby women's shelter with a facility for high-

risk men, a proposal forcefully fought by many local businesses and residents.

This year, the 23rd Street Association is honoring Mr. Joseph Roberto of North Fork Bank with its Distinguished Citizen Award. A veteran of New York's business community, Joseph Roberto began his career by working in his family business, a chain of retail stores known as Pzaz, from 1979 through 1998. In 1998, Mr. Roberto joined North Fork Bank, where he currently serves as the Divisional Senior Vice President for Manhattan. Overseeing the bank's 45 Manhattan locations, Mr. Roberto has still found time and boundless energy to devote to his community and to countless worthy causes ranging from the American Cancer Society to United Cerebral Palsy to the Special Olympics.

The 23rd Street Association's president, Sharon L. Ullman, has compiled an exceptional record of service to the community. She spearheaded the establishment of the new Flatiron/23rd Street Partnership Business Improvement District, working tirelessly for 5 years planning the project, raising the funding needed to bring it to fruition, and inspiring the will and energy to make it such an outstanding success for local businesses and residents alike. She has also dedicated herself to the community by serving as the Warden of Madison Square Park and as a longtime board member of worthwhile organizations like the Associated Blind, Inc. Ms. Ullman was also named one of the top 100 New Yorkers by New York Resident magazine.

Madam Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the 23rd Street Association, its president, Sharon L. Ullman, and its honoree, Joseph Roberto, for their outstanding service and dedication to the civic life of our nation's greatest metropolis.

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THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE SECURITY OVERSIGHT ACT

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**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2007*

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Global Climate Change Security Oversight Act.

The nexus between global warming and the national security of the United States is a crucial, yet long-ignored, issue. The adverse consequences of rising global temperatures present not only a potential environmental catastrophe but a national security emergency.

The security-related consequences of global warming will range from hampering U.S. military operations to worsening the scarcity of essential resources in already unstable regions—which can lead to the failed states that are a central breeding ground for terrorism. But because the U.S. intelligence community has never analyzed the potential for global warming to harm our national security, we lack a thorough understanding of what these threats are. This means that the Department of Defense and other security agencies cannot comprehensively plan for the security consequences of global warming the way that they plan for countless other serious contingencies.

Today, I am introducing the “Global Climate Change Security Oversight Act.” This bill is

cosponsored by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BARTLETT) the gentleman from Connecticut, Mr. LARSON, the gentlelady from California, Ms. ESHOO, the gentlelady from California, Ms. SOLIS, the gentlelady from New York, Mr. HALL, the gentleman from Washington, Mr. McDERMOTT, and the gentleman from Massachusetts, Mr. OLVER. This legislation will jump-start U.S. defense planning for the security consequences of global warming by authorizing a National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) to assess the implications of global warming to United States security and military operations. Our bill, the House companion to legislation already introduced by Senator DURBIN and Senator HAGEL, will provide a crucial planning and risk-assessment tool as the Congress seeks innovative solutions to global warming. Developed to assess the most serious threats to the United States, NIEs are the most authoritative intelligence judgments on national security issues. This legislation will also fund research by the Defense Department into the consequences for U.S. military operations posed by global warming.

It seems clear that our geopolitical and national security posture will only grow worse if we do not act forcefully to curb our dangerous dependence on imported oil and reduce our emissions of global warming pollution. At the beginning of February, the world's top scientists, as part of the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), provided a scientific smoking gun that human activities were unequivocally responsible for global warming. Two weeks ago, their second report told us what happens when the climatic bullet hits. The developing world will bear the brunt of the collateral damage from our historic global warming emissions, but the United States will experience its own self-inflicted wounds, including threats to our national security and military readiness.

The United States must act now to understand the security implications of global warming. The Global Climate Change Security Oversight Act will allow us to do so.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. WILLIE BEASLEY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 94TH BIRTHDAY ON APRIL 28TH, 2007

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**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, It is with great pleasure that I rise to congratulate Mr. Willie Beasley on the occasion of his 94th birthday which will take place on April 28, 2007. Madam Speaker, to live a long life is indeed desirable and many of us would find it most desirable. However, to live a long, healthy wholesome and productive life is awesome. Such has been the blessed fate of Mr. Willie Beasley who has been a great husband, wonderful father, tremendous churchman and a civic leader who has understood what it should mean to live in a free and democratic society. For many years, Mr. Beasley was an outstanding leader at the Carey Centenary AME Church, he and his family were anchored in the community and to this day his children Ward and Carol continue in his and the family's tradition.

Therefore, Mr. Beasley, I congratulate you on a long productive and beneficial life, I also commend you and your family for your active civic and community involvement. It has been a pleasure to personally know you and your family and to have had you as part of my life. I thank you Madam Speaker.

**KURT VONNEGUT, JR.'S CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICAN LITERATURE**

**HON. DAVID LOEBSACK**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2007*

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about Kurt Vonnegut Jr. and to extend my condolences to his family on his passing.

While teaching at the Iowa Writers' Workshop, which I am honored to represent in Iowa's Second District, Mr. Vonnegut received the Guggenheim Scholarship to return to Dresden, Germany and begin work on the novel that would eventually come to be known as *Slaughterhouse Five*. Mr. Vonnegut taught at the Workshop from 1965–1967, and Iowa mourns the loss of one of America's finest writers and one of the many fine writers who have helped to carry on the tradition of exceptional writing in Iowa.

Kurt Vonnegut was a writer capable of capturing the imagination of not only his generation, but of America's youth for generations to come. His works examine the moral compass of America, and his often hilarious satirization of the culture of our time has earned him the rightful reputation of America's most celebrated satirist since Mark Twain. Yet he was also a humanist who not only examined some of the most defining moments in our history—most famously World War II in *Slaughterhouse Five*—but also, and in spite of the violence he had seen as a prisoner of war, concluded that human kindness is alive and well. His contributions to American culture are immense and will not soon be forgotten.

Thank you, Mr. Vonnegut, for your contribution to American literature.

**TRIBUTE TO ROBERT E. GUT**

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2007*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a person I am proud to represent, Mr. Robert E. Gut, who will be recognized on Thursday, April 19, 2007 on the occasion of his retirement, for his dedication to education and scholastic sports.

Bob was born in 1932 to Antonina and Frank Gut. He and siblings Nellie, Stanley and Eugene grew up in the City of Passaic until the family purchased a home and moved to Garfield. Bob attended Holy Rosary Elementary and Pope Pius XII High School in Passaic, where his talents began to shine. He earned varsity letters in three sports each year and was captain of the baseball and basketball teams and co-captain of the football team. Upon his retirement, coach and athletic direc-

tor Paul Kelly called Bob, "The greatest athlete he ever coached—bar none," and "a natural." Bob was named to the All State teams in all three sports. His record has stood the test of time; in 2000 he was named a Passaic County "Player of the Century" in football by the Bergen Record and Herald News.

Bob caught the attention of some of our area's most legendary coaches, Al Yaskiw and Manlio Boverini of Passaic, Arthur Argauer of Garfield, and Paul Kelly of Pope Pius XII. They mentored him, and helped him earn numerous football scholarships. He accepted a full football scholarship to the University of Virginia, where he played offensive center and defensive linebacker. He continued to thrive, being part of a defense that in 1952 was number one in the Nation. In 1954, he returned to Passaic to coach football at Passaic High. Later that year, he completed R.O.T.C. and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He was sent to Fort Knox, KY for training in the Armor Division, and assigned to serve in Germany. Bob married his wife, Florence, on April 17, 1955, and they moved together to Wieseck, Germany. While there, their daughter, Karen, was born in Frankfurt, Germany.

In 1956, Bob returned from Germany and began his professional career teaching physical education at School 21 in Paterson. During his first year of teaching, he was transferred to Central High where he taught science and was the school's first track coach. In 1965, Central closed, and Bob moved to the new John F. Kennedy High School. While teaching at Kennedy, Bob coached many teams. He became the head coach of golf, track and tennis and was an assistant to many great football coaches like Nelson Graham, Aubrey Lewis, Joe Biscayan, Bob Smith, and Jim Bradshaw. In 1960–65, he was head football coach at Pope Pius XII while teaching at Kennedy. In 1966 he returned to the assistant coach role at Kennedy, and in 1974 became the Knights head coach. In 1974 the football team had its first undefeated season, going 9–0. Importantly, his team never lost a Thanksgiving game to Eastside, and shut the Ghosts out in four of the six games.

In 1979, Bob became the Athletic Director at Kennedy High, which under his leadership in the 1980s and 90s, became known as "Championship High." The Boys Basketball team won four County titles in a row, and a sectional title; the Girls team won five straight county titles and the Tournament of Champions. Championships, League and Sectional titles were also won by the Track, Cross Country, Soccer, Baseball and Football teams. As Athletic Director, Mr. Gut has organized the annual John F. Kennedy All Sports Awards Dinner, and he was involved in the creation of the Central-Kennedy Athletic Hall of Fame.

Bob's professionalism has extended beyond Passaic County. He has long been a high school referee and umpire. He formerly served as President of the Tri-County Basketball Officials Association, which held tournaments for freshman and JV teams from 32 schools. He has served for the past 28 years as the Chairperson of Bowling in the Northern New Jersey Interscholastic League. He has served for 20 years on the Advisory Board and Eligibility Committee of the NJSIAA, the governing body of high school sports in New Jersey, and has been the chairperson of the Eligibility Committee for the past 10 years. He also volun-

teers his time as part of the Passaic County Coaches Association, the Old Timers Association of Greater Paterson, and The Do-Good House.

What Bob is proudest of is his strong moral and ethical standards, which led his coaches to nickname him "The Monsignor." Sportsmanship has always been his first priority for his players, coaches, and the fans. This effort is shown by the many times the NJSIAA has given Kennedy its "Sportsmanship Award," and the NNJIL Sportsmanship banners they have earned. Always important to Bob has been his family; he and Florence celebrated their 52nd anniversary this month. His daughter lives nearby with her husband Jim Giblin and their two children. His grandson James is a sophomore at The College of New Jersey and his granddaughter Kristen is a senior at Wayne Valley High School.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to working with and recognizing the efforts of dedicated public servants like Bob.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the students of the Paterson Schools, the City of Paterson, the State of New Jersey, Bob's family and friends, and me in recognizing Bob Gut's outstanding service to his community.

**IN HONOR OF PETER SHUGERT**

**HON. ALBIO Sires**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2007*

Mr. Sires. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Peter Shugert, Chief Public Affairs Officer of the Army Corps of Engineers, who is about to retire after more than two decades of dedicated service. Mr. Shugert has worked tirelessly, not only to keep area residents informed of vital Corps operations, but he has also gone above and beyond the call of duty by becoming a treasured liaison during emergencies between government agencies and the people of the New York Metropolitan region.

Mr. Shugert, who earned a reputation as a highly credible spokesperson and media representative for the United States Army, began his professional career in the military. His service in the Vietnam War won him the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal and the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

In 1977, Mr. Shugert became Public Affairs Specialist for the Military Traffic Management Command in Virginia, and in 1982, made important contributions to the Office of the Chief of the Army Reserves, where he developed products to increase public awareness.

In his 20 years as Chief of Public Affairs for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District of New York Division, Mr. Shugert developed and maintained excellent media relations that ensured the best possible image for the Army Corps of Engineers. During his service, Mr. Shugert faced the tragedy of the 9/11 terror attacks and worked around the clock to keep the public informed. His dedication earned him the Locke L. Mouton Award for Excellence in Public Affairs, the Crisis Communications Award, the Superior Civilian Service Medal, and the Civilian Award for Humanitarian Service.