

Ocala Regional Airport has seen tremendous growth over the past 10 years as people from all over the world come to enjoy north-west Florida's finest offerings. With over \$90 million in airport improvements, Jerry has transformed the airport into a modern, welcoming gateway for visitors and residents. His dedication and passion will be greatly missed.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate Jerry Sealy on his retirement and wish him many more years of success and happiness.

#### TRIBUTE TO CAROL SILVA

#### HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 15, 2008*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of Georgia's 3rd Congressional District, I'd like to extend my congratulations to Carol Silva, named the 2007 Harris County Citizen of the Year by the county's newspaper.

Silva dedicated 20 years to serving the people of Harris County and retired recently from her post as county manager. During Silva's tenure, she provided the county with a steady and patient hand of leadership at a time of exponential population growth.

Before Harris County fell in love with Carol Silva, Carol Silva and her family fell in love with Harris County. The Silvas decided to plant roots in Harris when her husband began working for the National Weather Service in neighboring Muscogee County. They bought property there 30 years ago and enrolled their children in the local elementary schools. Then, 20 years ago, she became the receptionist for the Harris County Commission.

Silva's dedication and people skills quickly led to greater responsibilities. She became the county clerk and chief financial officer in 1992 and then the county manager in 1999.

In addition to providing Harris with leadership, she steadfastly advocated for her employees. County Clerk Nancy McMichael worked for Silva for 15 years. Speaking of her boss, she told the Harris County Journal: "She is honest and ethical and treated everyone with integrity and forthrightness. You always knew where you stood with her, and her door was always open for employees and citizens alike."

Harris County Commission Chairman echoed that praise, saying that Silva put "her heart and soul in her job."

Madam Speaker, I would like to personally thank Carol Silva for her many years of public service. As an elected official, I know it is often the professional staff working behind the scenes who meet the day-to-day needs of Georgians. They don't do it for glory and they don't do it for riches. They do it because they care and they want to help their fellow citizens.

Carol Silva's career with Harris County exemplifies the best of public service. I congratulate her on this honor and I wish her much happiness in her retirement.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF HENRY O'LEARY

#### HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 15, 2008*

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Henry O'Leary, a true American hero who dedicated his life to serving this country. As a member of the U.S. Navy for 21 years, Henry saw combat in both World War II and Korea, and later supported the American mission in Vietnam. When he retired from the Navy in 1963, Henry began his new life in San Diego, California, where he dedicated himself to serving the local community.

Henry was born on April 17, 1925, in Worcester, Massachusetts, and enlisted in the Navy in 1942. Ten years later, Henry was recommended by his command for the Silver Star with Valor for single-handedly saving his burning ship while under intense enemy fire and, along with it, the lives of his shipmates. For his courage and selflessness, he was awarded the Bronze Star.

After serving in the Navy, Henry worked at San Diego State University for 23 years until his retirement. While many often see retirement as an opportunity to travel and experience new things for themselves, Henry saw retirement as an opportunity to serve others in the community, including our veterans. He was a regular volunteer at both San Diego's VA hospital and Kaiser Permanente, where his humor is said to have brought smiles to many faces. Additionally, throughout his life, he volunteered for church ministries, community programs, political campaigns, and was involved in the activities of his children.

Most notably, Henry never turned his back on anyone in need. Whether it was dangerously exposing himself to enemy fire to save the lives of his shipmates or volunteering countless hours at the VA hospital, Henry always put others before himself. He was a practitioner of good citizenship and remains a shining example of the courage and selflessness that continue to carry our Nation forward.

President Ronald Reagan once said, "Good citizenship is vitally important if democracy is to survive and flourish. It means keeping abreast of the important issues of the day and knowing the stakes involved in the great conflicts of our time. It means bearing arms when necessary to fight for your country, for right, and for freedom. Good citizenship and defending democracy means living up to the ideals and values that make this country great. Today the world looks to America for leadership. They look to what they call our miracle economy for an answer to how they may give their people a better life. And they look to our courage and might to protect them from the forces of tyranny, brutality and injustice." Madam Speaker, when President Reagan spoke these words, he was referring directly to Americans like Henry, who were willing to sacrifice their lives for this country and commit themselves to benefiting the lives of others.

I extend my prayers and deepest condolences to Henry's loving wife of more than 50 years, Miriam, and his children Jeff, Colleen, Patti and Shawn, and ask that my colleagues join me today in paying tribute to the life and memory of this American hero.

#### HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF FIRE CHIEF TERRY L. WEBB

#### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 15, 2008*

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Terry L. Webb on the occasion of his retirement as Fire Chief for Duncanville, Texas.

Over the past 34 years, Chief Terry Webb has worked tirelessly to promote efforts that ensure the safety and well-being for the citizens of Duncanville. During his career he has advanced through the ranks of the department serving in such positions as an Emergency Medical Technician, Paramedic, Lieutenant, Captain and Assistant Fire Chief. In 1999, he was appointed by the mayor to serve as Emergency Management Coordinator. Chief Webb is currently the senior employee for the City of Duncanville.

Chief Terry Webb has received numerous awards for his outstanding service. He was named the City of Duncanville 2001 Man of the Year, the Duncanville High School Distinguished Alumni in 2003, the Duncanville Fire Department Meritorious Service Award and the American Legion Local, Regional and State Firefighter of the Year.

Chief Webb is an active member of many fire and civic associations including the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, the North Central Texas Fire Chief Association, the Dallas County Fire Chiefs, the National Fire Protection Association, and the Emergency Management Association of Texas. He has also served as President of the Duncanville Lions Club and was named Lion of the Year from 1994-1995. He belongs to the Board of Directors for the Duncanville Educational Foundation and is the Chairman of the Board for the Duncanville Outreach Ministries.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate Chief Terry L. Webb on all of his accomplishments. His numerous years of service and dedication to the City of Duncanville is worthy of recognition. It is an honor to represent Chief Webb in the 24th District of Texas and I wish him continued success in the years to come.

#### HONORING MS. TAMMY DODSON

#### HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 15, 2008*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Tammy Dodson from Colorado's 6th Congressional District for being recognized as a finalist for the American School Counselor Association's first School Counselor of the Year award.

As a former educator, I understand the constructive job counseling takes in the development of our children. The roles and responsibilities of student guidance counselors have increased over the past few decades, and so too has the quality and professionalism of their work. This month, the American School Counselor Association seeks to nationally commemorate the finest counselors our nation has

to offer. Chosen by a diverse group of educational specialists and public officials, ten individuals are to receive this year's precedent award. Ms. Dodson is one of these fine individuals!

As an additional honor, Ms. Dodson and her fellow finalist will have the chance to participate in a congressional briefing to discuss the role of school counselors in obtaining student achievement. I am certain the experiences and insights these accomplished individuals share will enable them to provide Members with unique and valuable insight into this area.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me today in celebrating the accomplishments of Ms. Dodson. She is a shining example of excellence in her field; may her achievements inspire others to be the same.

HONORING RETIRING TOWN OF  
CONCORD COUNCILMAN RAY-  
MOND HUBERT

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 15, 2008*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call to the House's attention the dedicated public service of Raymond Hubert, upon the occasion of his retirement from active service as a member of the Concord Town Board.

A well respected leader in the community and staunch advocate for his Town, Ray Hubert has effectively represented his community and has consistently held an open hear to the concerns and ideas of his constituents. Ray's commitment to fellow citizens and taxpayers has been most noteworthy, and his work represents a lasting contribution to our community.

The Town of Concord has been doubly blessed by the Hubert family. Ray's wife Mary served for several years as a Town Justice. Their sacrifice in making the choice to serve their community in this way must be an inspiration to all who serve in public office.

Madam Speaker, I ask that this Congress join me in expressing appreciation to Ray Hubert for his years of dedicated service and commitment to his community. We wish Ray and Mary and their entire family only the very best of health and happiness long in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF W.L. GORE & AS-  
SOCIATES, INC.

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 15, 2008*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. This company, for six decades, has been committed to providing exceptional products for their customers while demonstrating exemplary business practices.

Founded in 1958, W.L. Gore & Associates has grown to be the global leader in fabrics, medical, industrial, and electronic products. The organization's success has grown from

the dedication, passion, and their commitment of their employees to excellence. For ten consecutive years, they have earned the recognition on FORTUNE magazines "100 Best Companies to Work For," and in 2007 was ranked tenth overall.

To this day, W.L. Gore & Associates is recognized for its unique corporate culture. With a mission of creativity and personal responsibility, their organization adopted a management structure driven by personal interaction. Corporate decisions are made based on knowledge and experience, rather than by official titles or positions. As envisioned by founders' Bill and Vieve Gore, they hoped that associates would constantly be encouraged to grow through knowledge, skill, and individual accountability.

On this 50th anniversary, I would like to recognize the many accomplishments of W.L. Gore & Associates. Their commitment to their customers and employees should be an example for all. I commend the W.L. Gore & Associates family for their commitment to the Delaware community and the nation, and I wish them all the best on this momentous anniversary.

HONORING SERGEANT BRYAN J.  
TUTTEN

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 15, 2008*

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Sergeant Bryan J. Tutten, 33, who died Christmas Day, December 25, 2007 while serving our nation in Iraq during his second tour of duty.

Prior to joining the Army, Sgt. Tutten, born in St. Augustine, Florida, graduated from St. Augustine High School and attended St. Johns River Community College. He was also a member of Holy Greek Orthodox Church in St. Augustine.

We should all remember Sgt. Tutten's courage and his ultimate sacrifice for our nation. The freedom and liberty we enjoy and peace in the world for others for which he fought are part of the great legacy that Sgt. Tutten leaves behind. He was laid to rest at San Lorenzo Cemetery in St. Augustine, Florida on January 4, 2008.

After the devastating events of September 11, 2001, Sgt. Tutten enrolled in the Army. His family remembers him as an avid sportsman who loved to fish and cook, and how he enjoyed the time he had playing with his daughter, Catherine. He was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division based in Fort Bragg, North Carolina which was deployed to Iraq.

With the passing of Sgt. Tutten, America has lost an outstanding citizen and a shining example of service to our nation. He will be remembered as a patriotic American, a pillar of our community and a compassionate husband and a loving father.

To his wife Constantina, his daughter Catherine, his son Gareth, his mother Ms. Sylvia Smallwood and his loving family and friends, we offer our deepest sympathy.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Sgt. Bryan J. Tutten's contributions and to ask all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives of the 110th Congress to join me

in recognizing his service in our nation's Armed Forces and remembering a great American hero.

HONORING FIRE CAPTAIN SCOTT  
KNEPSHIELD

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 15, 2008*

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Scott Kneppshield, Fire Captain in the Wayne Fire Department, upon his retirement from a distinguished 22-year career in Wayne, Michigan.

Fire Captain Kneppshield has dedicated his life to helping others. Upon graduation from Churchill High School in Livonia, Michigan, Scott joined the United States Army and served honorably from 1975 to 1977. Following his service to our country, Scott attended Madonna University, where he received his emergency Medical Technician certification. Scott joined the Wayne Fire Department on June 26, 1985, and continued his employment with the department for 22 years. Scott has been a valuable member of the Department, being promoted to Lieutenant on January 2, 1998, and Fire Captain in February 2000, where he served until December 12, 2007.

In his pursuit of public service, Fire Captain Kneppshield has attended the National Fire Academy in Emmetsburg, Maryland, served as a Michigan State Fire Inspector, and earned a certification from the State of Michigan as a licensed Paramedic. Fire Captain Kneppshield has also been associated with the Metropolitan Detroit Fire Inspectors, the Michigan Fire Inspectors Society, and has been an energetic and vocal member of the Wayne Fire Fighters Local 1620 for his entire career. Scott looks forward to more time with his wife of 32 years, Mary, and their daughter Melissa, who attends college at Grand Valley State University.

Madam Speaker, in honor of his commitment to protecting the citizens of Michigan and his dedication to serving the residents of Wayne, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Fire Captain Scott Kneppshield for his years of service to our community and our country.

HONORING RETIRING BOSTON  
TOWN COUNCILMAN DENNIS MEAD

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 15, 2008*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the public career of one of the Town of Boston's most revered leaders, Town Councilman Dennis Mead.

For twelve years, Dennis faithfully represented the Town of Boston, serving with unwavering work ethic and a steadfast commitment to his town's progress. Dennis served honorably as the voice of the people of his community and his service has been a model for others to follow.

Although Dennis will no longer serve on the Boston Town Board come January 1, 2008,