

IN HONOR OF THE BEN DAVIS  
BOYS' TRACK AND FIELD TEAM,  
2008 INDIANA STATE CHAMPIONS

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2008*

Mr. CARSON or Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to offer my congratulations to the Ben Davis boys' track and field team. The Giants were crowned Indiana state track and field champions on May 31, 2008 at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.

This is the first time that the Ben Davis boys' track and field team has captured the state championship although they have been state runner-up in 2000, 2002 and 2007. With this victory Ben Davis athletic teams have compiled one of Indiana's most impressive records, winning a total of 22 state championships since 1962.

This year's team was led by a strong class of 23 seniors. Rapheal Williams and LaVarus Williams, along with juniors Colin Hester and Matthew Terrell gave an impressive team performance at the championship meet by taking first place in the 4x100 meter relay. Matthew Terrell also achieved individual success, finishing first in the 200 meter dash and securing his place as the 2008 Ben Davis Varsity Points Leader.

This team's achievements would not have been possible without the support of a wide variety of coaches and school officials. Head Coach Mike Davidson, in his 17th season of coaching at Ben Davis, and his assistant coaching staff provided the players with guidance both on and off the track. Additionally, all the Ben Davis fans, and in particular the always energetic student body, should be recognized for their enthusiasm and pride in the team.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering congratulations to the members of the team, the coaching staff, the school, and the greater Indianapolis community on their accomplishments throughout the season.

TO HONOR WILLIAM ANTHONY  
CARGILE

**HON. NICK LAMPSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2008*

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, I am honored to stand here today to praise the distinguished service of Mr. William Anthony Cargile. Through his service as a Volunteer Firefighter in the Santa Fe Fire and Rescue, he has distinguished himself from his colleagues in a variety of ways. At the age of 14, Anthony (as he is known to his friends and colleagues) started his volunteer firefighting career as a junior fireman. Thirty years later he continues to serve his community not only as a volunteer firefighter but in a number of other roles as well.

Anthony's firefighting credentials are impressive. He holds an Advanced Firefighter Certification as well as a Level II Instructor's Certification from the State Fireman's and Fire Marshal's Association of Texas. Along with serving as President of the Gulf Coast Firemen's

Association from 1999 to 2000, he has served as the Training Commissioner for the Galveston Firefighter's Association from 2001–2003 and Coordinator of the Galveston County Field Day in 2003.

A fitting example of Anthony's character was his effort to establish an Honor Guard for the Santa Fe Fire and Rescue. Anthony did all the necessary research, received approval from his superiors and even designed and assembled the uniforms. Because of his tireless endeavor, he was able to successfully assemble the Honor Guard in 2004, which has performed admirably in a number of ceremonies. As another sign of Anthony's service to the firefighting community, he has received Fireman of the Year from the Santa Fe Fire and Rescue twice, in both 2000 and 2007, and was chosen as the Firefighter of the Year in 2008 by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshal's Association of Texas.

Consequently, it is not surprising that he was nominated for National Firefighter of the Year, an award given by the National Volunteer Fire Council.

Anthony is a model citizen and a true public servant. His actions have distinguished him in his community and the 22nd District of Texas is proud of its son.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEVE  
THOMPSON

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2008*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished public service of Steve Thompson. After more than 30 years with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, he is retiring on August 2nd.

Steve Thompson served as the Director of the Service's California and Nevada Region. In this post he oversaw Service programs in California, Nevada and Klamath Basin that administered the Endangered Species Act and Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and managed 51 national wildlife refuges, and three national fish hatcheries.

Prior to coming to Sacramento, Thompson was based in Atlanta as the Regional Chief for the National Wildlife Refuge System in the Service's Southeast Region. Prior to serving in Atlanta, he spent three years as the Branch Chief for Resource Management for the National Wildlife Refuge System Headquarters in Washington, DC.

Thompson began his career with the Service as a wildlife biologist at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Burns, Oregon, moving on to the Puget Sound National Wildlife Refuge in Olympia, Washington, and Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge in Fallon, Nevada, before becoming refuge manager at Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge in Rio Hondo, Texas.

In 1994 Thompson was chosen as the first "Refuge Manager of the Year" by the National Audubon Society and the National Wildlife Refuge Association. In September 2007, he earned the Distinguished Executive Award, the highest Presidential Rank Award given to career Senior Executive Service employees.

Thompson, was born in Nevada and raised in both Nevada and California, where he graduated in 1976 from Humboldt State University

with a bachelor of science degree in wildlife management. He is a competitive swimmer, avid birdwatcher and hunter.

Throughout his career at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mr. Steve Thompson has been well known for his balanced, common sense approach. His partnership philosophy and demonstrated ability to work with diverse stakeholders will be missed. As he embarks on a new chapter in his life, I wish him continued success and good luck in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DICK RUTAN

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2008*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Glenn "Dick" Rutan, an aerospace pioneer, as he celebrated his 70th birthday on July 1, 2008.

Dick was born in Loma Linda, California, on July 1, 1938. At a young age, Dick developed an avid interest in piloting. By the time he turned 16, Dick was earning both his driver's license and pilot certificate. Dick has always had a passionate thirst for learning, thereby leading him to join the Air Force Aviation Cadet Program at the age of 19 and later receiving a commission as a Lieutenant. Dick went on to obtain a Bachelor of Science Degree at the American Technological University through the Air Force Professional Education "Boot Strap" Program.

When the Vietnam War broke out, Dick established himself as a brave, highly competent, and rigorous leader. As a Tactical Air Command fighter pilot, Dick flew 324 combat missions, 105 of which were as a high-risk classified operation known as the MISTY's. The many achievements Dick accomplished while serving in the Air Force merited him the Silver Star, five Distinguished Flying Crosses, 16 Air Medals, and the Purple Heart.

After Dick's retirement, he joined forces with his brother, Burt Rutan, as the Production Manager and Chief Test Pilot for Rutan Aircraft Factory. He is widely recognized for his successes involving the world speed and distance records set in the Long-EZ, an airplane designed by Burt. To honor Dick's many achievements in record-setting flights, he was awarded the prestigious Louis Bleriot Medal by the Federation Aeronautique Internationale.

In 1981, Dick expanded his wings even further to found Voyager Aircraft, Incorporated and settle in the history books by completing the first-ever around-the-world, non-stop, non-refueled flight. Nine days, three minutes and forty-four seconds after Dick and his copilot Jeana Yeager took off, he landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California. The plane he piloted in this successful quest is now suspended in the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum's "Milestones of Flight" gallery in Washington, D.C. President Ronald Reagan awarded Dick and his team with the Presidential Citizens Medal, four days after the team's outstanding feat.

Time and time again, Dick has delved into projects that allow him to expound upon his knowledge and share his expertise and adventures with others. These have included a sightseeing airplane trek to the North Pole, the

World Quest Project, and the Spirit of EAA Friendship World Tour. He established the Dick Rutan Scholarship Fund to assist youth in furthering their education and is actively involved in the Experimental Aircraft Association's Science, Math and Technology (S-M-T) program.

Today, Dick continues his quest of traveling the world by educating others through the accounts of his many adventures. He exudes dedicated passion, courage of conviction, and wisdom and he exemplifies the true marks of leadership. His distinguished achievements have gained him renowned recognition and respect, and I am pleased to wish him a happy birthday!

#### STEINHAGEN OIL COMPANY

### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2008*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to honor the Steinhagen Oil Company, for their commitment to community service has earned them the 2008 Spindletop Award for outstanding corporate citizenship.

The Steinhagen Oil Company is a third generation, family owned business that owns over 25 gasoline stations across Southeast Texas and supplies numerous others with unbranded fuel. E. Harvey Steinhagen founded the company and began selling fuel in the 1930's. They currently employ over 200 workers across the region.

The Steinhagen Family has a long history of community service. Mark Steinhagen served as Chairman of the Board of the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce from 1970–71 and encouraged a focus on economic development efforts. His son Roy is the current Chairman and Chief Operations Officer for the company. He helped raise \$2.6 million for the construction of a new Salvation Army building. Roy is currently the President of the Lamar University Foundation and is a member of the Texas State Bank advisory board of directors, the Jefferson Theatre Preservation Society, and the advisory board of trustees of Christus St. Elizabeth Hospital.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas, I applaud the Steinhagen Oil Company on its outstanding achievement. They have helped make our world a better place to live, and I applaud their unwavering service and dedication to the community.

#### 71ST ANNUAL SOAP BOX DERBY

### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2008*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the winners and all the participants in the 71st annual All-American Soap Box Derby World Championship at Derby Downs in Akron, Ohio, on July 26, 2008.

A record 609 contestants from forty three states and three foreign countries competed at the legendary Derby Downs for the title of Champion. This race is held annually at Derby

Downs, which was created in 1936 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) after Akron city leaders realized that a permanent track for the race was necessary. The racers, all between the ages of eight and seventeen, compete in six different divisions. All of the cars are powered only by gravity and built by the racers. The racers can reach speeds of thirty miles an hour and the races usually last less than thirty seconds and are decided by mere hundredths of seconds.

I am pleased to note that Elizabeth Underwood, 17, of Barberton, placed 3rd in the Masters division, Joe Puntal, 14, of Youngstown placed 3rd in the Super Stock division, and Johanna Barnowski, 11, of Cuyahoga Falls placed 1st in the Stock division.

Other Akron area racers who participated were Katie Atchison, Brett Chrisman, Dustin Chrisman, Emily Harmon, Tyler Shoff, Sarah Smith, Dennis VanFossen Jr., Cheyenne Wilt and Mary-Kate Wilt. Racers from the Youngstown area included Zachary Krohn of Austintown, Johanna Kuebler of Berlin Center, Julia Castner of Hubbard, Jenn Rodway of Boardman, and Jamie Berndt of Canfield.

I congratulate all the winners on their extraordinary success and commend all those who had a part of this great event.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF COLMA CITY MANAGER DIANE McGRATH

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute this evening to a dedicated public servant, Diane McGrath, the City Manager of the Town of Colma.

Diane retires next month, capping a 36 year career in municipal government, which began in Breckenridge, Colorado. She moved to California in 1985 to serve Foster City as Deputy Executive Director of the Community Development Agency. After seventeen years in that post, she was hired by Colma as Deputy City Manager and impressed the City Council enough to be promoted, two years later, to City Manager.

During her tenure, Ms. McGrath and her staff oversaw the design and construction of a state-of-the-art public safety facility and community center, completed the reconstruction and beautification of Junipero Serra Boulevard and remodeled the Town Hall Council Chamber and rotunda. Most impressive is that all these projects were accomplished in an era of ever-tightening municipal budgets.

Ms. McGrath is a member of the International City Management Association and was President of Municipal Management Assistants of Northern California. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University, Long Beach and a Master of Arts from the University of Colorado.

Madam Speaker, Diane McGrath is a role model to anyone who aspires to a career in government. She handles her professional responsibilities with the unflappable grace that only the mother of 6 children and grandmother of 4 can pull off. A renaissance woman, Diane is a brilliant conversation partner, whether the subject is ballet, politics or Cal football.

While I wish Diane McGrath could continue in her job forever, she has earned her retire-

ment. Along with husband Fred Biagini, she will travel the world and spend more time with her large family. In addition, I am confident that she will continue to be a dynamic force in her community for many years to come.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2008*

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, due to a death in my family, I was absent from the House of Representatives on Tuesday, July 29, and part of Wednesday, July 30, and missed several rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: H.R. 6445—yes; H.R. 6604—yes; H. Res. 1370—yes; H.R. 5892—yes; H. Con. Res. 398—yes; H.R. 2192—yes; H.R. 6113—yes; and H.R. 2490—yes.

#### HOLLYWOOD CONSERVATISM

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 31, 2008*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I would like to submit the following article published in The Washington Times newspaper on July 23, 2008. It outlines the prevalence of conservatism among actors and leaders in the film and entertainment industry. Moreover, it is encouraging to learn that support for our troops and traditional values are shared by Americans from all walks of life.

#### HOLLYWOOD'S CONSERVATIVE UNDERGROUND

(By Amy Fagan)

A group of politically conservative and centrist Hollywood figures organized by actor Gary Sinise and others has been meeting quietly in restaurants and private homes, forming a loose-knit network of entertainers who share common beliefs like supporting U.S. troops and traditional American values.

Some of those involved are taking more public steps to counter the entertainment industry's tilt toward liberalism and Democratic politics, such as campaigning for Republican Sen. John McCain or crafting projects to portray America in a more positive light.

The group, whose members call themselves "Friends of Abe" after Abraham Lincoln, was organized as an underground movement because of fears that prominent industry titans with outspoken liberal views would retaliate, said participants. They often were reluctant to name members of the group in interviews for fear it would hurt their careers.

"It's a growing movement, and word is getting out that there's many of us in this business . . .," said 1950s singer Pat Boone, one of the few conservatives to talk about the movement publicly. "If certain studio execs—hires and firers—learn that this is a movement and growing, and that some of these people that they hire are of this inclination, these people could be unemployed."

Friends of Abe has functioned like a support group, organizing informal gatherings where actors, producers, screenwriters, key grips and other industry types can share common values or discuss concerns like anti-