

MALT's success demonstrated that environmentalists and ranchers working together can accomplish their mutual goals. "We tried to develop a different system for protecting land," he said. "You could be going along just great for a few years, and then the political nature of the county changes. We wanted to move away from the political area . . . and be fair to land owners." Protecting this land ensures our nation's food supply ("No farms, no food" is the AFT catchphrase), while preserving our soil, water, wildlife, and rural beauty.

Phyllis Faber, who developed the idea for MALT with rancher Ellen Straus, emphasized Ralph's key role in making the concept work. "He was so respected by the ranchers," she says. "By becoming the first Chair, he secured their interest and support. Ralph was the spark."

Ralph's grandparents emigrated from Switzerland and began ranching in 1896. His father James, one of eleven children, continued the family tradition, as did many of his siblings, establishing the family ranch in 1917. James and his wife Rose, also from a Swiss family, had four children, who learned the business at a young age. Ralph described following his dad around from the age of four or five, then "when we were about seven or eight years old, we got our first chores to do, feeding some calves or taking care of some small livestock."

Ralph later graduated from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, with a degree in agriculture. He continued working on the family ranch and developed the first methane digester West of the Mississippi, becoming an early innovator in converting cow manure into power. Along the way he married college sweetheart Judy Lamb, and the couple has three daughters Amy (married to Brian Carr), Erin, and Katie.

Madam Speaker, although Ralph Grossi will be returning with Judy to the hills and meadows of Marin County to focus on the family's Marindale Ranch, he will continue to champion the cause of farmland preservation. Ralph led the way for so many of us and has been a partner to me in these efforts. I know we will continue to work together to ensure that we protect the lands that are the backbone of this country. I wish Ralph and Judy and their family the very best.

COMPREHENSIVE AMERICAN ENERGY SECURITY AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Comprehensive American Energy Security and Taxpayer Protection Act. This comprehensive energy bill provides a marked change to Republicans' solitary drumbeat of their flawed energy policy which only maintains the oil-consuming status quo. Instead of trying to score cheap political points, Democrats in Congress are paving the way forward with real sound solutions to the pain at the pump the American people are feeling.

The Comprehensive American Energy Security and Taxpayer Protection Act expands

domestic and alternative sources of energy to increase our nation's national security. Additionally, it extends and expands tax incentives for renewable energy and reduces transit fares for commuter rail and buses. Provisions in the bill would responsibly open up the Outer Continental Shelf for drilling with significant environmental protections while demanding that oil companies use the leases they have already been issued.

This bill allows for safe responsible drilling while investing in domestic alternative technologies and green jobs. In return for opening up more areas for drilling, the bill requires oil companies to pay American taxpayers royalties owed to them and ends subsidies to oil companies for drilling. This bill provides long-term solutions to help us achieve real energy independence, strengthen our national security, and reduce global warming.

Under the agreement reached between Florida Democrats and House Leadership, the Comprehensive American Energy Security and Taxpayer Protection Act includes provisions maintaining a 2006 compromise protecting the Eastern Gulf of Mexico from offshore oil drilling. These limitations protect the military areas off the coast of Florida, as well as Florida's tourism and fishing industries.

I am pleased that this bill protects Florida's coast from expanded offshore oil drilling, much to the dismay of the oil men in the White House and corrupt Interior Department officials who were accepting gifts from the oil companies they regulate. Drilling off Florida's coast only further subjects our beaches to oil spills that become exacerbated by hurricane damage and contributes to global climate change. Although the struggle to maintain the existing protections for Florida's coast is far from over, I promise to be the last man standing in the fight to prevent expanded offshore oil drilling in Florida.

HONORING MS. LILLIAN PERRY

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Ms. Lillian Perry, a dedicated public servant in my home district.

Ms. Lillian has been a resident of the area since the 1950s, when she made a move from the state of Georgia to establish roots in Aurora, Illinois. She has spent her life taking up the causes of civil rights, integration, and equality.

As an active member of the community, she has volunteered for various organizations, including Blacks in Politics, the Aurora Youth Job Program, and the Citizens for Neighborhood Improvement Program.

This work above is not the extent of her involvement in the community. Ms. Lillian was part of an effort to establish the Kane County Health Department, and she also speaks out on a regular basis against violence in her community.

Currently, Ms. Lillian serves as a liaison to area communities in the Office of State Representative Linda Chapa LaVia. In this position she works with Representative Chapa LaVia's constituents on a daily basis, and is a strong advocate for their needs.

Her work has not gone unnoticed in the community. She has been the recipient of awards from various city organizations, and was named a Women of Distinction by the Aurora YMCA. This summer, her community selected her as the Grand Marshal of the Aurora Independence Day Parade to honor her work and achievements.

I join the community in thanking her for her continued work for those who face adversity, and I look forward to seeing some of the great things that Ms. Lillian will continue to do for the great people of my congressional district.

CONGRATULATING RALPH "TOM" BROWNING, TRIS S. CASTLE, ROBERT F. DELKER, WILLIAM H. WALLACE—INDUCTEES TO THE ARIZONA VETERANS HALL OF FAME

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ralph "Tom" Browning, Tris S. Castle, Robert F. Delker, and William H. Wallace, the Class of 2008 inductees to the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame. As veterans, these citizens have bravely served our country and their selfless efforts deserve considerable recognition.

The Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society is committed to promoting camaraderie among those who have served and continue to serve the state of Arizona and our country. Its message of perpetuating service and patriotism through recognition is inspirational to the entire community. These individuals have been selected for this prestigious honor by the Office of Governor Janet Napolitano as well as the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services.

These Arizona residents were selected to be part of the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame not just because they honorably served our country, but because they have continued their commitment to the idea of selfless service throughout their lives.

I commend the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society for awarding such deserving citizens. These four people truly exemplify the courage and patriotism that we as Americans value so highly. As members of Hall of Fame Society, I am sure these veterans will continue to serve and inspire future generations.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Ralph Browning, Tris Castle, Robert Delker, and William Wallace's continued service to the community.

RECOGNIZING DR. ALBERT L. LORENZO

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Albert L. Lorenzo, as he retires from the presidency of Macomb Community College after nearly 30 years of devoted and talented service. It has been a distinct honor working with Al Lorenzo throughout the years. I have come to know him as an active and passionate advocate for the education system,

economic development, Macomb County and the State of Michigan.

Al Lorenzo became Macomb County Community College president in July 1979. Macomb Community College provides educational services to more than 59,000 students annually and is the largest grantor of associate's degrees in Michigan. MCC is also a leader in workforce training, school-to-work programs and continuing education programs that support the needs of the community. Al Lorenzo helped to create the University Center on Macomb Community College's Center Campus, which facilitates partnerships with institutions of higher education in offering bachelor level course work. He wrote about that experience, "The University Center: A Collaborative Approach to Baccalaureate Degrees" in The Community College Baccalaureate; Emerging Trends and Policy Issues.

I have had the pleasure of working with Al Lorenzo on key projects to try and advance educational opportunities for Macomb County residents. In 2006, Al Lorenzo served as a member of Governor Jennifer Granholm's Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth in Macomb County. The Commission held a series of public hearings across the county to better understand the area's higher education needs. Its recommendations include stepped-up involvement of Oakland and Wayne State Universities in meeting the county's immediate need for better access to degree programs and support services and authority for Macomb Community College to award bachelor's degrees in specific technical fields. In its report, the Commission stressed that these and other steps should be consistent with the goal of creating a 4-year university in Macomb County.

Since that Commission report, Al Lorenzo has worked to increase the involvement of Oakland University and Wayne State University. In 2007, Al Lorenzo led the effort, partnering with Federal, State and county officials, to bring a branch of Michigan State University's Osteopathic College to Macomb's campus, the first of its kind in the Metro Detroit area.

In addition to his longtime commitment to Macomb Community College, Al Lorenzo has been an integral member of the community. Active on several corporate boards throughout his career, he currently serves on the boards of the Michigan Education Trust and Citizens State Bank, and chairs the board of Henry Ford Macomb Hospitals. He has been appointed by three Michigan Governors to state policy commissions and asked to serve on numerous national advisory committees. His work has been recognized through 12 major leadership awards and 2 Honorary Doctoral degrees.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Al Lorenzo, thanking him for his devoted service and wishing him the best in his retirement. I am confident he will continue to play a role in the area of education, in addition to enjoying a bit of retirement with his wife Katherine and large family.

HONORING THE CITY OF
FAMAGUSTA, REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a city that once represented all that is good about Democracy and free enterprise, of a city that was a vibrant cultural and economic center and of a city that has been rendered a ghost town by an unlawful military occupation.

The city of Famagusta is located in the outer rim of Europe on the island Republic of Cyprus. Before Turkey's 1974 illegal invasion and occupation of the Republic of Cyprus, Famagusta showcased the successes of the newly independent Republic.

Famagusta led the development of the nascent Republic's economy and was known to the world as a great entertainment and tourist destination. The city housed 50 percent of Cyprus's touristic accommodations and also served as Cyprus's principal port, handling over 80 percent of the country's general cargo, and nearly 50 percent of the total passenger traffic to and from the island.

In 1974, 60,000 Cypriots called Famagusta home, and another 15,000 made their living working in the city. During the summer months European holidaymakers swelled the population to more than 100,000.

The vitality and good fortune of Famagusta ended when the Turkish military subjected it to intense aerial bombardment. In the face of the Turkish air force and invading army, the Greek-speaking Cypriot population evacuated the city.

The Turkish military sealed off the Varosha section of the city and has forbidden the entry of human life there for 34 years. Varosha lays frozen in time with the shelves of its department stores stocked with the wares of the 1970s, the hotel's breakfast tables are set for the tourist who never arrived and the roads and buildings are overrun by brush and vermin.

The decline of this once proud and vibrant city has been catalogued by its inclusion on the World Monuments Fund's 2008 Watch List of the 100 Most Endangered Sites in the world.

The Turkish military's continued occupation of the city and exclusion of its lawful inhabitants has been condemned by United Nations Security Council Resolution 550/1984 that calls for the transfer of the occupied, but uninhabited city of Famagusta to the United Nations for the orderly resettlement of the city by its rightful inhabitants.

Following Turkey's illegal invasion and occupation of Cyprus, Congress enacted 22 U.S.C.A. § 2373(a)(5), which sets forth the requirement that United States foreign policy support the United Nations Secretary General's efforts to resettle the occupied, but uninhabited city of Famagusta by its rightful inhabitants.

Once again this June 2, 2008, the Report of the Secretary General on the United Nations Operation in Cyprus holds the Government of Turkey responsible for the failure to hand over Famagusta for resettlement by its rightful inhabitants.

It is on this Remembrance Day of Famagusta that I tell my fellow members of the House that it is high time for Turkey to end its senseless and cruel occupation, and allow the people of this fine city to return to their homes so that they may rebuild and restore her faded glory for the benefit of all Cypriots.

CONGRATULATING NEA CHAIRMAN
DANA GIOIA

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dana Gioia on his accomplished tenure as the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. The NEA has been significantly strengthened under his leadership, which he has recently announced will end in January when he steps down to focus on his writing.

When Mr. Gioia took the reins of the NEA in 2003, federal support for the arts had been badly damaged by decades of partisan feuds. The NEA budget had been cut in half, and many were questioning the long-term viability of the organization. Today, NEA funding has nearly doubled from its 1990s lows and the agency is expanding its efforts. For this, Mr. Gioia deserves much of the credit.

Mr. Gioia's impressive leadership skills helped build bipartisan support for the NEA. He understands the importance of listening to different groups, from artists to politicians to average citizens, and has the savvy to address their needs in creative ways.

One of his first initiatives was Shakespeare in American Communities, a program that brings professional theater companies into schools across the nation. This program has employed nearly 2,000 actors and introduced more than 1 million students to theater. The NEA also launched Operation Homecoming under his leadership, which sends writers to military bases to work with Iraq and Afghanistan veterans.

Mr. Gioia ensured that every congressional district had an opportunity to earn an NEA grant—a move that brought the arts to many new communities and demonstrated to Congress how the NEA's work touches every corner of the country.

As a member of the Congressional Arts Caucus and the National Council on the Arts, I am grateful for Mr. Gioia's leadership. When his tenure at the NEA ends early next year, he will leave behind an organization that is much stronger than it was when he arrived in 2003. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Gioia on his leadership and his tremendous contributions to the arts.

TRIBUTE TO AUCLAIR'S MARKET
IN SOMERSET, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Auclair's Market in Somerset, MA, which is celebrating its 90th