

will be expected. Bill Gates Sr. knows it, and has spent his life ascribing this principle and instilling it in his children. I stand here today to honor this extraordinary civic leader, champion for education, and lion of the causes of the powerless. His commitment to improving the lives of not only the children of our state, but all children no matter the circumstances of their birth, is deserving of our highest recognition. Therefore, I have joined with my colleagues in nominating Bill Gates, Sr. for the Presidential Medal of Freedom—our Nation's highest civilian honor.

As the co-founder and CEO of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, one of our Nation's leading charities, Bill Gates Sr. has shown dedication to improving the lives of people he has never met. As our Speaker recently quoted, "It is the mark of a truly intelligent person to be moved by statistics." Bill Gates Sr. shows his compassion increasingly, as he works to bring vaccines to suffering peoples, education and access to underserved communities, medical relief to the sick, and opportunities to the optionless every day. The impact of the Gates Foundation is immense, but its guiding philosophy is simple, and one that Bill Gates, Sr. has always espoused: every life has equal value, and all people deserve the chance to live a healthy, productive life.

As a Seattleite and a Washingtonian I have had the opportunity to see his work in my own backyard. Bill Gates Sr. might have the most visibility as co-chair of the Gates Foundation to the rest of the world, but he also has a long record of leadership in our community. He once remarked, "Your wealth is a function of being an American", insisting that businesses and individuals have an obligation to give back to the society that enabled them to prosper. Most recently he led the University of Washington's exceptionally successful Creating Futures capital campaign, which will breathe life into "The Husky Promise", ensuring that academically deserving low- and middle-income Washington state students will have their tuition costs covered at the University of Washington. Whether as a lawyer in the 1970's leading the Seattle school levy campaign, in his role as founder of the Technology Alliance, or now as a regent for the UW, Mr. Gates has a demonstrated record of commitment and passion for giving back to his community.

I am very proud to honor Bill Gates, Sr. for his unstinting commitment to service in communities all across the world. A low-income student from Washington State can attend college because of his dedication to ensuring academic opportunities are available to all; a child in Africa received lifesaving drugs and with them, a life touched by kindness. Libraries in rural towns are connected to the world through information technology donated under Mr. Gates' care, while young students in my own district have the incentive to reach higher and grasp the promised fruit of a college scholarship. He has changed many lives and communities for the better. With my gratitude and great esteem, I commend Bill Gates, Sr. for his lifetime of service.

## HONORING PERSON-TO-PERSON

### HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Person-To-Person, an organization dedicated to supporting people in Fairfield County.

For 40 years, this important organization has made profound contributions to our society by offering individuals assistance through their many programs designed to help improve lives. Person-to-Person has reached out teaching independent living skills to individuals who may be facing homelessness, severe financial challenges and through helping citizens cope with these problems.

Person-to-Person is a pillar of strength because of their commitment to help people put their lives back together facing severe challenges. I am grateful for the members of this important organization who have helped to make Fairfield County a better place to live and work.

### SUSAN MARONE'S RETIREMENT FROM FEDERAL SERVICE

### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the upcoming retirement from federal service of Susan Marone who has served the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and the House since April 1995. Since returning to Congressional service on Capitol Hill in 1995, Susan has been responsible for the day-to-day management of the Resume Referral Service/Outplacement Resource Center—a service of the Chief Administrative Officer providing vacancy announcement and placement services to Member and Committee offices, while assisting individual House employees and prospective applicants from outside the Congress with the process of applying for positions in the House. In her capacity of overseeing the Resume Referral Service, Susan has brought her considerable experience in the political arena to her work for the House which has enabled her to provide a strong understanding of the functions and day-to-day operations of a Congressional office in assisting Members, Chiefs of Staff and Staff Directors in finding ideal candidates for their office positions.

Susan's retirement marks a milestone of her long history of service to the Nation and its citizens. In addition to having previously worked for a United States Congressman and two United States Senators, her career of public service includes work with the New York State Legislature and the Mayor's office in New York City. She has also worked for two U.S. Presidents, a U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, and the U.S. Ambassador to UNESCO in Paris.

As Susan marks her retirement from the Federal Government and the House, she can do so in knowing the gratitude that we have for the exceptional service that she has delivered to the Members and Committees of the

House through the Resume Referral Service, where she created a vacancy announcement posting process that has been both timely and responsive to the fast-paced environment of Capitol Hill. In 2007 alone, Susan posted 486 positions for over 227 different offices, a thirteen percent increase in the number of postings over the previous year and a twenty-six percent increase in the number of Member and Committee offices served in that same year. This extent and volume of service is indicative of Susan's track record over her thirteen years with the Resume Referral Service in expanding its capability and responsiveness in serving the needs of Congressional and Committee offices and in positioning it as a vital resource in helping to meet the critical hiring needs of the Members of the House.

As Susan prepares for her retirement later this year and her move to Montepulciano, Italy next year, I extend to her the best wishes of the House and our appreciation for her years of dedicated and unwavering public service to the Congress and our Nation.

### IN HONOR OF EDWARD L. ELLEBRUCK

### HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. HOBSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Edward L. Ellebruck of Springfield, Ohio. Throughout his lifetime, he served his country and his community with dignity and honor.

Mr. Ellebruck began his career in public service by serving in the United States Air Force, where he was trained as an interpreter at the U.S. Army Language School in Monterey, California. There, he learned Russian, and was later assigned to serve in northern Japan with the Air Force Security Service to monitor Soviet military operations. He was also part of space exploration history. In 1961, he intercepted the voice transmission of the second Russian cosmonaut launched into space, Gherman Titov. Mr. Ellebruck also used his linguistic skills to assist Japanese students and their families in studying the English language.

Upon his return to civilian life, he spent the remaining 43 years giving back to his community and country in other ways. This included his work to help provide opportunities for individuals who were mentally retarded or had developmental disabilities. For many years, he served as a member, and later as the Chairman of the Clark County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (MRDD).

Mr. Ellebruck was also instrumental in the establishment of a not-for-profit work center for the mentally retarded known as Town & Country (TAC) Industries. The facility, located in Springfield, Ohio, employs an estimated 400 handicapped individuals from throughout the region, and provides them with employment opportunities that help them develop marketable and life skills.

For 25 years, he served as President of the Board of Directors of TAC Industries, where he and others helped to secure work contracts involving the U.S. Air Force and other government agencies through the National Industries

for the Severely Handicapped (NISH). These opportunities have made a real difference in enhancing the quality of life for TAC's participants.

While our community and country have lost a leader and a devoted citizen, Mr. Ellebruck's legacy of service is an example for all of us on what one individual can do for others.

#### HONORING THE SAGINAW RIVER COAST GUARD STATION

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the personnel stationed at the Saginaw River Coast Guard Station. The Zion Lutheran Church of Bay City Michigan is holding a program and reception on October 12th to recognize the hard work of these dedicated service members.

The lighthouse constructed in 1842 was the first time the U.S. Coast Guard established a presence at the mouth of the Saginaw River. The original lighthouse was replaced in 1876 with the Saginaw River Rear Range Light and in 1939 it became the Coast Guard Station of the Saginaw River. The Coast Guard built a new Rear Range Light in 1964 and a new station across the Saginaw River from the original location in 1980.

Under the command of Gerald Backus, the station currently houses 27 active duty personnel and 5 reserve personnel. Their area of responsibility runs from Point Lookout to Oak Point along the Saginaw Bay and Lake Huron shore, and up river to Green Point in Saginaw. They are responsible for servicing 134 aids to navigation from Alpena to river buoy 89 at the Carrollton turning basin. The station averages 110 search and rescue runs a year. They work closely with State and local law enforcement and emergency personnel to coordinate response efforts. To fulfill their mission the station is home to 8 boats including a 20-foot ice rescue air boat and a 49-foot buoy utility stern loading boat.

The station is the ICCE, Ice Capabilities Center for Excellence, formal training site for the U.S. Coast Guard. The crew serves as the instructors in ice rescue procedures and policies during the ice season and is considered the subject matter specialists on the topic of ice rescue. The station averages 40 ice rescues a year.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding the work of the Coast Guard personnel at the Saginaw River Coast Guard Station. Their commitment to the safety, security and welfare of the persons traveling on the waters of the Great Lakes is to be commended. I would like to congratulate them on a job well done and pray they will continue to serve for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING LAKE PROVIDENCE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH ON ITS 140TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church and offer my heartfelt congratulations on its 140th anniversary.

Founded in 1868, five years after the Emancipation Proclamation, the first members of the congregation were former slaves and their children, who worshiped together on former slave plantations. These faithful few endured many hardships, yet the congregation flourished under the guidance of their first pastor, Rev. Larry A. Thompson. Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church grew from a scattering of plantations, establishing a permanent structure and soon becoming a beacon for the surrounding community.

Over the past 140 years, Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church has seen over 20 pastors. Currently, Rev. H. Bruce Maxwell serves as pastor of the church, which has grown under each successive pastor. Today, the sanctuary seats over 3,700. Lake Providence Missionary Baptist now houses a range of ministries, offering programs for youth, young adults, and senior citizens. In the community it promotes health awareness, runs a prison ministry and offers bereavement assistance and counseling. Lake Providence Missionary Baptist stands firm in its vision to touch all citizens, no matter their age.

Madam Speaker, I join everyone in Tennessee's Fifth District in applauding Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church. I ask my colleagues in the 110th Congress to join me in commending the church for continuing to shape the lives of the Nashville community and serving as a vital link in Nashville's history.

#### RECOGNIZING RICHMOND, TX MAYOR HILMAR MOORE

**HON. NICK LAMPSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. LAMPSON, Madam Speaker, I am privileged to recognize Mayor Hilmar Moore of Richmond, Texas, who became the longest-serving mayor in United States' history this year. Mayor Moore served his community for 59 consecutive years and has led a life of distinction, service, and honor.

Mayor Moore is a native of Richmond and began his mayoral post in September of 1949, following his active duty in World War II. He is a fifth-generation Texan whose ancestors were among the Old 300 Colony of Settlers brought into the Fort Bend County area by Stephen F. Austin. In his lifetime, Mayor Moore has made significant contributions to a wide range of civic and business activities, including operating a successful 186-year-old family cattle business and serving as chairman of the Texas Department of Human Resources and director of the King Ranch, just to name a few.

To commemorate this milestone, in October of 2008, the Historic Richmond Association will honor Mayor Moore for his 59 consecutive years of dedicated service through the building of a plaza in downtown Richmond. The plaza will include a life-size sculpture of the Mayor and will be surrounded by beautiful landscaping, benches, and a paved walking area.

Richmond has been blessed for several decades with a strong and dedicated leader. Every community deserves a public servant as devoted as Mayor Hilmar Moore. His service cannot be overstated and I am proud to commend such a remarkable individual.

#### RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RICHARD LESLIE COMBS

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the exemplary career of Denver architect Mr. Richard Leslie Combs, who will be retiring at the end of this year. Throughout his career, Mr. Combs has made significant contributions to the practice of architecture on the local and national levels.

Richard Leslie Combs was born in Glendale, California on July 17, 1945. The son of Leslie and Annabelle Combs, Dick grew up in Hereford, Texas with his brothers Greg and Brent. In 1970, Mr. Combs obtained a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. Shortly after graduation, he relocated to Denver, Colorado where in January 1971 he was hired by the office of Charles S. Sink, Architect. Serving in the role of project architect and project manager, Mr. Combs' contribution to the office was immediate and he was named an associate that same year.

As a licensed architect with his certification from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), he managed some of the firm's most influential projects, including the McNichols Sports Arena. Upon its completion in 1975, McNichols was hailed as one of the first major league event centers in the country and quickly became an iconic piece of architecture for the city of Denver.

In 1979, Mr. Combs became a principle of the firm, whose name was changed to Sink Combs and Associates. He served as Vice President and Secretary and acted as the firm's quality control officer, ensuring that the work executed by the firm was of the highest professional standard. During this time, Mr. Combs oversaw projects such as the Panorama Point Office Building, 183 Inverness Office Building, SOCO Place, and 1900 Grant Office Building.

In 1985, with the addition of Don Dethlefs as a principal, the firm—now Sink Combs Dethlefs and Associates—began to expand its sports architecture expertise throughout the local and national markets and in Canada, completing projects such as the Fargodome in Fargo, North Dakota, the San Jose Arena, which is now known as the HP Pavilion, the Save Mart Center at Fresno State University, and the MTS Centre in Winnipeg, Canada. The successful completion of those projects enabled Mr. Combs and the firm and to build