

Prentiss County, Mississippi, She not only supported her husband in his role as the long serving supervisor of the fourth district of Prentiss County, she also supported her son-in-law in that same role. Edna herself later became the supervisor of the fourth District of Prentiss County and is the only woman to ever hold the position. Today, she and her family continue their tradition of service with her daughter, Judy, serving as mayor of the Town of Marietta. Edna worked hard for many years making an honest living at the town's only factory. A member of the Marietta Church of Christ for her whole life, she is one of the longest serving members of the congregation. I am proud to honor her on this milestone birthday and wish her many more. I thank her for her wisdom and humor. Edna has been a lifelong friend to me and my family and I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating her on this occasion.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL LATINO  
AIDS AWARENESS DAY

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the sixth annual National Latino AIDS Awareness Day which will be observed on October 15, 2008.

National Latino AIDS Awareness Day is a call to action for all Latinos to protect their lives and the lives of those they love by getting tested and learning about HIV.

In my district in Orange County, CA, over half of all new HIV infections take place among Latinos. Nationwide, Latinos continue to be affected by HIV at a disproportionately high rate, representing over 20 percent of HIV/AIDS cases.

The AIDS Services Foundation of Orange County is a critical resource that works to prevent the spread of HIV and improve the lives of men, women, and children affected by HIV/AIDS. This year, they have arranged for rapid HIV testing to be available at the Community Health Fair taking place in downtown Santa Ana, in my district, as a part of Binational Health Week in October 2008.

In addition, the AIDS Services Foundation of Orange County offers invaluable services to our community by providing food, transportation, housing, emergency financial assistance, kids and family programs, counseling, education, and prevention services.

We all must work together to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS in our families, communities, cities, States, Nation, and around the globe. To do this we must not let differences in language and culture be a barrier to providing access to preventative measures, healthcare, and support services.

In honor of National Latino AIDS Day, I urge my colleagues in Congress and all Americans to renew our commitment to the fight to stop the spread of HIV and AIDS.

TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF PLANE  
CRASH

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest condolences to the families of IBWC U.S. Commissioner Carlos Marin, IWBC Mexican Commissioner Arturo Herrera, Executive Director of the Rio Grande Council of Governments Jake Brisbin, Jr., and pilot Matthew Peter Juneau. These four men were tragically killed in a plane crash.

I had the privilege of working with Commissioners Marin and Herrera on numerous issues affecting south Texas. They were strong advocates of continued cooperation between the United States and Mexico. Their service to the IBWC was matched by their dedication to improving the quality of life between the two nations.

I will keep the families in my thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO PAT O'BRIEN, GEN-  
ERAL MANAGER OF THE EAST  
BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join with my colleagues ELLEN TAUSCHER, BARBARA LEE, PETE STARK, and JERRY MCNERNEY in honoring Pat O'Brien for his many accomplishments and contributions to the East Bay Regional Park District, a world-class system of parks and trails throughout Alameda and Contra Costa Counties in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Pat O'Brien has provided remarkable leadership as the general manager of the East Bay Regional Park District, and our congressional districts have been greatly enhanced by his two decades of service. On the 20th anniversary of his leadership there, it is our great privilege to pay tribute to his work in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

His service to public parks and recreation in California began at the Southgate Recreation and Park District in the Sacramento area. Due to his innovative ideas and pioneering work at Southgate, he was hired as the East Bay Regional Park District's general manager. Over the next 20 years, Pat has accomplished more than many could in a lifetime of service.

Under his leadership, the park district has acquired over 32,000 acres of new parklands, and has added 17 parks and more than 100 miles of regional trails. The East Bay Regional Park District today includes 98,000 acres and 65 parks, a remarkable achievement in protecting and providing open space access to the citizens of one of the densely developed regions of the country. And while expanding to ensure that all of our communities are served, Pat O'Brien and the East Bay Regional Park District have built strong relationships throughout the region so that their important projects and initiatives have widespread support.

The East Bay Regional Park District during Pat O'Brien's tenure has been a wise steward

not only over the parks, trails, and natural and cultural resources of the East Bay Area, but of the taxpayers' money as well. The Park District has brought in more than \$75 million in matching funds, and they have worked through ballot measures and assessment districts to provide stable funding for their good work.

Pat O'Brien's public service is an example to us all, and we are lucky to have his vision and his commitment in the East Bay. We have all benefited by his leadership, and on behalf of all of our constituents, it is an honor to recognize Pat O'Brien on the occasion of his 20th anniversary as general manager of the East Bay Regional Park District.

HONORING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF  
PAUL GUERRERO

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate Paul Guerrero on his 80th birthday. Mr. Guerrero is a long-time advocate for minority small business concerns and was named San Joaquin County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Advocate of the Year in 2006. Prior to moving to the Central Valley, Mr. Guerrero and his family lived in Santa Clara County, and I worked closely with him to ensure that minority and women contractors had a fair opportunity to bid on government contracts. Mr. Guerrero serves on the Board of Directors for the California Small Business Association and is the President and CEO of the California Small Business Entrepreneurs, Inc. Mr. Guerrero is a strong leader of the small business community, and I am honored to have him as a friend.

On behalf of Mr. Guerrero's family and friends, I would like to congratulate him on this milestone birthday and wish him many more to come.

HONORING JAMES "JIMMY" C.  
PHARR

**HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor James "Jimmy" C. Pharr on his 74th birthday. Jimmy has a long record as a leader in the Marietta, Prentiss County, Mississippi community. He served for years as an alderman and mayor of Marietta and the community has grown under his leadership. He was also one of the founding members of the Prentiss County Development Association, an entity that continues to be the cornerstone for economic growth in Prentiss County. Jimmy continues to support Marietta's schools, churches, and civic organizations and is the owner of local sawmills, employing hard-working people in the town. At an age when many others choose to retire, he goes to work at the sawmill every day. I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing James "Jimmy" C. Pharr, for whom I have great respect, for his life of service to the town of

Marietta, Prentiss County and the great State of Mississippi on his 74th birthday.

**HONORING SUNKIST ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL IN ANAHEIM, CA ON ITS  
50TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sunkist Elementary School in Anaheim, California to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

I am especially thrilled to honor Sunkist Elementary today, because aside from being one of the fine elementary schools in my district, Sunkist Elementary is also the elementary school that I attended.

For the past 50 years, my alma mater has provided a fun and welcoming environment to each student that has stepped foot on campus.

On my last visit to Sunkist Elementary, I met with their after-school program, Anaheim Achieves.

Anaheim Achieves focuses on providing students with additional individual assistance that they need to excel in the classroom.

I'm proud that Sunkist Elementary has recognized this need and worked to assure that every student has the tools they need to achieve academic success.

Congratulations to Sunkist Elementary on providing 50 years of excellence in student learning.

**CONGRATULATING NEW HOPE  
INTERNATIONAL CHURCH ON  
THEIR NEW FACILITY**

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the New Hope International Church in Sunnyvale, CA on their new facility. The New Hope International Church, led by Pastor John Christenson, will have a dedication ceremony on October 5, 2008 for the 34,000-square-foot building. The New Hope International Church is an asset to the Greater Bay Area community, and this new facility will help the church further its mission. I would like to commend Pastor Christenson and his congregation on this momentous achievement.

**SUNSET MEMORIAL**

**HON. TRENT FRANKS**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, September 27, 2008*

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this House with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is September 27, 2008 in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000

more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today, Madam Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 13,032 days since the tragedy called Roe v. Wade was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common. First, they were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone, and each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government." The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Mr. Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth.

It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Madam Speaker, it is who we are.

And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

So, Madam Speaker, let me conclude this Sunset Memorial in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard it tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies; that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express; and that 13,032 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that it is time that we stood up together again, and remembered that we are the same America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust; and we are still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

Madam Speaker, as we consider the plight of unborn America tonight, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each one of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of innocent unborn children. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny, little American brothers and sisters from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is September 27, 2008, 13,032 days since Roe versus Wade first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children; this in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

**IN HONOR OF WORLD PHILOSOPHY  
DAY 2008**

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, September 28, 2008*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize World Philosophy Day 2008, sponsored by the Philosophy Program of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). This year, World Philosophy Day will take place on November 20. On this occasion, numerous events to recognize this day occur in many UNESCO member states, and Delaware is privileged to join with these organizations and schools in doing so.

It is especially fitting that World Philosophy Day be recognized and celebrated in the United States, as it has been since 2002. The United States is perhaps unique in the world as a nation founded on the ideas of liberty, equality, and democracy. Thomas Jefferson, in drafting our "Declaration of Independence", drew heavily from the writings of British Philosopher John Locke. Likewise, the framers of the United States Constitution were greatly influenced by the French Philosophers Voltaire, Jean Jacques Rousseau and Baron de Montesquieu, the latter shaping the American understanding of separation of governmental powers. Philosophy continues to play a profound role in the development of American thought in many areas, including public policy, religion, the sciences, and jurisprudence.

It is also especially fitting that World Philosophy Day be recognized and celebrated in Delaware. The American Philosophical Association (APA), founded in 1901, is headquartered at the University of Delaware in Newark, Delaware. The APA is the largest philosophical society in the world, with over 11,000 members. According to its mission, this long-standing organization focuses on promoting philosophical research and scholarly endeavors, improving the quality of philosophical education in American schools and universities, and working to better equip American students to face the challenges of our rapidly changing and greatly diversified world.

Once again, I am pleased to stand to recognize World Philosophy Day 2008. The critical and analytical skills that remain at the core of philosophy are increasingly vital to education in our State of Delaware, our nation, and our world. For this reason it is particularly appropriate to join with UNESCO in setting aside November 20 to celebrate the ancient yet always relevant discipline of philosophy.