

increased by 30%, excluding one-time sales; McKesson's and Cardinal's were up 8% and 13%, respectively. Yost's total paycheck last year (including stock options) was \$4.8 million, less than half that of Cardinal's CEO and barely a sixth of McKesson's chief. "He is not flamboyant or flashy," says Banc of America Securities analyst Robert Willoughby, of Yost's inclination to be modest. Adds John W. Ransom of Raymond James & Associates: "At 1% margins, you have to be."

Now he's under even more pressure to watch the bottom line as his customers struggle to stay competitive. Amerisource relies heavily on smaller, independent chains that are fast being gobbled by big players, who may have contracts with the distributor's rivals. But Yost predicts volume will pick up over the long term. "The older we get, the more drugs we take," says Yost, settling comfortably into a 1970s-era plaid chair (the weathered green leather chair at his desk, which he inherited from the previous CEO when he took over in 1997, looks like a yard sale find).

George Barrett, the CEO of Cardinal's drug distribution arm, says that what matters in a leader isn't frugality but foresight. "I don't want our people to see me as cheap but instead very efficient and cognizant of the environment in which we compete," says Barrett. But Yost insists he can be all those things. While he pays competitive salaries to attract talent, he allows employees to fly business class only if they pay for an upgrade themselves. And they must book 30 days in advance to get the best price. Yost is also investing more than \$100 million over the next three to five years to improve customer service technology, and he paid \$400 million to spruce up company distribution centers and consolidate operations.

THE PAYOFF

Of course, new technology also brings new ways to save money. Plant employees now wear wrist bands connected to a thimble device on their finger that uses an infrared laser that reads the bar code of what they unload or pick up. Workers who move more product than average receive bonuses for the time they've saved the company.

If that sounds Orwellian to some, Yost doesn't much care. While the Amerisource chief may not be eager to spend a buck, he certainly knows the value a dollar holds for others. Amerisource has returned more than a third of its free cash flow to shareholders for the last two years and used the rest for core acquisitions. "The landscape is littered with companies that think they can do a lot of businesses well," says Yost, adding that he no longer trots out the cliché "stick to our knitting" because he fears it makes him sound stodgy. "We're focused on knitting faster, better, and more creatively than anyone else."

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to address the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, DBE, and the Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, ACDBE, programs that are vitally important components of the aviation programs we are extending today. These programs are aimed at remedying discrimination

to ensure that all American businesses have a fair chance to participate in the business opportunities available at our Nation's airports. The DBE and ACDBE statutes and regulations have been carefully crafted and narrowly tailored to meet the rigorous constitutional standards established by the Supreme Court in *Adarand v. Peña*. As a result, all of the U.S. Federal circuit courts that have considered the constitutionality of the DBE program since the end of the *Adarand* litigation have found the statute and corresponding Federal regulations to be constitutional.

The bottom line is that, despite the assertions of some critics, the DBE and ACDBE programs remain necessary. Discrimination against minority and women business owners continues to plague airport-related industries in both the traditional contracting arena and in the concessions context. Here in Congress, we see the academic and statistical evidence and we hear the stories of business owners that confront discrimination. We know that the evidence is compelling and abundant. For instance, disparity studies have been conducted across this Nation make clear that minority and women owned businesses receive far fewer contract dollars than we would expect in a discrimination-free market. Each disparity study is a little bit different, but most of them contain both statistical and anecdotal evidence of the ongoing existence of discrimination. When these studies are considered as a group the results couldn't be clearer: discrimination continues to be a problem for African-American, Hispanic-American, Asian-American and Native American business owners and for women business owners. This is true in every airport-related industry and in every corner of our Nation.

Earlier this month, Don O'Bannon, chair of the Airport Minority Advisory Council, AMAC, testified in the Senate about the discrimination that airport-related businesses confront. His testimony revealed the severity of the bias that minority and women owned airport-related businesses continue to confront. At that same hearing Mr. O'Bannon also submitted to the record a few of the many disparity studies that have documented discrimination in airport contracting with statistical evidence. While these studies, from Dallas, Texas, the State of Maryland, Denver, Colorado, Phoenix, Arizona, Nashville, Tennessee and Broward County, Florida, represent only a fraction of the airport-related studies that have been conducted, they all tell the same story: discrimination still makes it impossible for our Nation's minority and women owned businesses to contribute fully to our national economy.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to support the continuation of the DBE and ACDBE program and look forward to working with my colleagues to strengthening and improving these programs in the months ahead.

TRIBUTE TO MASTER WAN KO YEE

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Master Wan Ko Yee, a permanent resident of the United States, on the occasion of the publication of

HH Dorje Chang Buddha III, A Treasury of True Buddha-Dharma, wherein Master Yee has been recognized within the traditions of his religion as the revered master and holy leader of Buddhism.

Buddhism is the world's fourth largest religion after Christianity, Islam and Hinduism, with over 6 million Buddhists in the United States and 360 million adherents of Buddhism world-wide. H.H. Dorje Chang Buddha III, A Treasury of True Buddha-Dharma, is a book that contains testimonies and affirmations through written proclamations in accordance with Buddhist traditions in recognizing the primordial Dorje Chang Buddha.

Copies of H.H. Dorje Chang Buddha III, A Treasury of True Buddha-Dharma were presented to the Library of Congress at a special ceremony I attended with many other Members of Congress and Buddhist Dharma Kings and Rinpoches from around the world. The book was provided to every Member of Congress as a reference source and is being placed in all Buddhist Temples and public libraries by The International Buddhism Sangha Association, a nonprofit organization headquartered in San Francisco, CA.

Master Wan Ko Yee, who was born in Sichuan, China, is now a permanent resident of the United States and resides in California. Like many in the history of our country, he came with his wife and two children, to this land where there is greater opportunity and freedom to teach and practice religion. Master Yee, who is preparing to become a citizen of the United States, stated, "The American people are kind and noble. People can freely believe in religion in the United States, a country that is spiritually wealthy, powerful and blessed."

It is not my intention by this statement to endorse one religion or religious leader over another. Rather I rise to congratulate Master Yee for his many years of selflessly contributing to relieving the suffering of human beings, furthering world peace and promoting spiritual enlightenment through his teachings of Buddhism. I join his peers in recognizing Master Wan Ko Yee as the true incarnation of the primordial Buddha and commend him for his outstanding contributions to his community, his new country, his religion and all human beings throughout the world.

HONORING COREY ALAN STORTS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Corey Alan Storts of Lee's Summit, Missouri. Corey is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Corey has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Corey has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Corey Alan Storts for his

accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE NELSON FAMILY OF COMPANIES OF SONOMA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY, to recognize and honor the Nelson Family of Companies, which has been selected as the Business of the Year by the Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce.

The Nelson Family of Companies is an independently owned group of businesses that provide a wide variety of full-time and contract staffing services as well as software and support services designed to facilitate workforce management.

The first of the "Nelson Companies" opened in 1970 in San Rafael. In 1989 a corporate office was established in Sonoma. The companies currently employ more than 300 people in 25 offices throughout northern California.

In addition to being a major employer itself in Sonoma and providing support services to other local businesses, the Nelson family has been an active participant in community organizations and events. Primary beneficiaries have been the Hanna Boys Center and Sonoma Valley Hospital. The companies have also been sponsors or supporters of the Sonoma Jazz Festival, the Charles Schwab Cup Champion's Tour event at Sonoma Golf Club, the Sonoma Wine Harvest Auction and Festival, the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association annual walk, the Blood Bank of the Redwoods annual blood drive, the Valley of the Moon Boys & Girls Club and the Valley of the Moon Teen Center and the Sonoma Valley Mentoring Alliance.

Madam Speaker, local businesses in the small communities throughout our two Congressional districts are much more than employers. They are the backbone of a support system for projects, nonprofit organizations and civic events that would not be successful without their involvement. No organization better exemplifies this commitment than the Nelson Family of Companies. It is therefore, appropriate for us to honor Chairman Gary D. Nelson and his leadership team and employees, both past and present, for their great work throughout the years.

HONORING MEECO, INC.

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to recognize MEECO on their 60th anniversary. MEECO, Incorporated is a privately-held, fam-

ily-owned manufacturing business headquartered in Warrington, Bucks County, PA. They produce and sell quality gas analysis measurement tools to industries across the globe allowing them to efficiently and safely manufacture their products.

MEECO has played an important role as a small business in our Bucks County community and the world. They employ more than 3 dozen hardworking people from the Bucks County area and have succeeded through an approach that focuses on product innovation, global expansion, and progressive management and manufacturing practices.

MEECO shows no signs of slowing down after winning 2 R&D 100 Awards for its products from R&D Magazine, developing a highly successful, award-winning spin-off company called Tiger Optics and recently celebrated the strongest financial first half in the company's history.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating MEECO, Incorporated for their success and their high business standards. I thank them for the work they do on behalf of our community and across the world.

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the month of October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. During my tenure in Congress, significant progress has been made in calling attention to domestic violence and helping victims and families recover from these abuses. However, much work still remains to be done because senseless acts of violence are still taking place in our homes and communities. Tragically we were reminded of the need for greater efforts to combat domestic violence this past July when tragedy struck in my home State of Kansas. Today, I'd like to share with you the Jana Lynne Mackey story.

On July 20, 1982, Jana Lynne Mackey was born in Harper, Kansas. Jana was raised primarily in Hays, Kansas, where she was an active member of 4-H, an athlete, and a talented musician. But most of all she was a vibrant and caring young woman who fought for those whose voice could not be heard.

Following high school graduation, Jana completed a bachelor's degree where she discovered her passion—advocating for others. She went on to pursue a law degree at the University of Kansas with the goal of using education to further the cause of others. Jana tirelessly fought for equality and social justice through her work with countless local and national organizations. She was also an active volunteer at the Lawrence GaDuGi Safe Center, a facility that aids victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. But on July 3, 2008, Jana's body was found in an ex-boyfriend's home—her own promising life prematurely ended by an act of domestic violence.

All too often we think acts of domestic violence do not transpire in our communities or to

people and families we know. But Jana's story is evidence that no State, community, or family is immune to its far-reaching hands. Domestic violence is a problem that does not discriminate by race, gender, age group, education, or social status and its plague wreaks havoc on our increasingly-stressed healthcare network, our over-flowing criminal justice system, and our day-to-day life within our communities.

Domestic violence continues to impact communities in Kansas and across America. Each year nearly 4 million new incidences of domestic violence are reported in the United States, with many more unaccounted for due to fear and intimidation. Of those 4 million reported cases, nearly 100,000 Kansas women fall victim to domestic violence each year. Each day in America over 53,000 victims receive care through domestic violence programs, the programs Jana Mackey volunteered and advocated for.

Despite the harsh realities of domestic violence that loom, there is hope for a better tomorrow. It is my belief that with continued education, resources, and support, victims of domestic violence can overcome their condition. In the 69 counties I represent, it is that same belief that maintains and encourages the 9 domestic violence centers in my district. These agencies are vital to our communities as they raise awareness of domestic violence, advocate for victims, and provide victims with the support, resources, and care they desperately need.

Jana made a greater impact in her 25 years than many individuals do in a lifetime. While Jana's story is tragic, her example is a lesson and an inspiration for us all to be more active in the fight against domestic violence. This is why her family started the 1100 Torches campaign.

At Jana's funeral, 1,100 people were in attendance, which indicates the magnitude of her impact in the lives of others. In the aftermath of her death, her mother, Christie Brungardt, and stepfather, Curt, along with her family and friends, launched the 1100 Torches campaign to serve as Jana's call to action, that despite our personal politics, we can make a difference in the world and in turn make it a better place to live. It is the campaign's hope that through Jana's story, 1,100 people will be inspired by her to serve others and make a difference in their communities. I encourage my colleagues and all Americans to learn more about Jana's story and the impact of domestic violence by visiting the 1100 Torches campaign Web site at www.1100torches.org and by learning more about this issue in your local community.

We are making progress in raising awareness and drawing attention to domestic violence, yet this is a problem that continues to impact our communities. We must not forget about these violent crimes that destroy homes and families, and devastate lives. This October, let us remember the victims of domestic violence and learn from their courage as we do our best to ensure that our communities are safe places to live, work, and raise our families.

Madam Speaker, I ask for continued support and assistance for domestic violence prevention programs.