

her relentless spirit, and modesty. She would probably tell me get to work rather than offer this tribute, but she deserves every bit of praise. The people of California and our price-less environment have lost a dear friend. I assure you, Dorothy, we will fight on.

GEORGE A. BEACH, PHILADELPHIA'S PIONEERING CREATIVE COMMUNICATOR

### HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in saluting George A. Beach, a pioneering African-American businessman in Philadelphia, who is being honored for a half-century of achievement in the fields of design, advertising, graphics and public relations.

George Beach is founder and chairman of Beach Creative Communications, the nation's first and oldest African-American owned advertising agency—a firm whose name and motto summarize the Beach “brand” for creativity and communication: “A full service agency providing creative solutions for today's diverse marketplace.”

George Beach has won numerous awards and commissions for his design and artistic flair, his business skills and his broad and generous reach into civic and charitable activities. Now he adds a new honor, as the African-American Chamber of Commerce in Philadelphia presents “A Golden Tribute to George Beach,” celebrating his 50 years in business, on Friday, November 21, 2008.

George Albert Beach was born in Harlem, New York City, on August 14, 1936. By the age of 10 he had moved with his family to Philadelphia, his adopted home town. His educational background stretches from Gratz High School and the University of the Arts in Philadelphia to Paris, where he studied at the L'Academie de la Grande Chaumiere and L'Alliance Francaise.

Already an artist and designer, George Beach became a young man of business in 1958 when, fresh from college, he founded the Creative Art and Design Studio as a groundbreaking minority enterprise. In another pioneering step, he was the first African American elected president of the Artist Guild of Delaware Valley, a position he held from 1964 to 1967. In 1970, he and two colleagues launched the fully illustrated African American Historical Calendar, which is marking publication of its 40th annual edition.

The Studio evolved into Beach Advertising in 1974, assuming its present name in 2001. The Beach roster of clients and accounts has included Pfizer U.S. Pharmaceuticals, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, the University of Pennsylvania, McDonald's, plus health firms, governmental agencies and public utilities.

George Beach's personal artistic work was impacted by the onset of rheumatoid arthritis. Pain and joint destruction forced him to set aside painting for a quarter century. But as with everything else in his achieving life, this became a challenge and an opportunity. Today, painting once again, Mr. Beach brings his special expertise to the Advisory Council of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculo-

skeletal and Skin Diseases (NAIMS), where he serves under appointment by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services.

And his career as an artist flourishes. He has completed a new series of oil on canvas paintings that include “Indivisible,” a haunting skeleton of the World Trade Center Towers embracing an American flag under a full moon, which has been exhibited at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

Now, as his varied, productive career continues beyond the half-century mark, with wife Mary and sons Timothy and Matthew, George Albert Beach carries forward with his varied, productive career—always communicating, ever creative. He has earned the gratitude and admiration of Philadelphians and many beyond our city. Thank you, George.

### EARMARK DISCLOSURE

### HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2638.

Defense Division of H.R. 2638—OM, ARNG—Non-foam, Special Polymer Twin Hemisphere Pad Sets for Personnel Armor System for Ground Troops Helmet Retrofit Kits—\$1,280,000.

Defense Division of H.R. 2638—OM, N—Personnel Armor System for Ground Troops Helmet Retrofit Kits to Sustain Navy IPE Pool—\$1,120,000.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: SKYDEX Technologies, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 12503 E. Euclid Drive, Suite 60, Centennial, Colorado 80111.

Description of Request: Both earmarks will address an unfunded requirement of the Army National Guard and the Navy to improve shock-absorption padding to retrofit helmets. The replacement material is a durable and protective polymer. This funding would build on roughly \$2 million that has been allocated for this purpose over the last two years.

### HONORING HARRY OVITT

### HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry Ovitt, a resident and community leader from San Miguel, California, for his outstanding and exemplary service and leadership to the residents of San Luis Obispo County during his tenure as County Supervisor from 1989 through 2008.

Harry has been a longtime leader in local government who has established and participated in a extensive list of civic organizations, all in the pursuit of improving the community he represents. During his 19-year tenure on

the Board of Supervisors, he served as Chairman in 1993, 1999, and 2004, and Vice-Chairman in 1992, 1998, and 2003. He also was active on various local boards, including the Children-At-Risk Task Force, the Mental Health Advisory Board, the Economic Vitality Committee, and the Resource Conservation District.

During his time on the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors, Harry devoted himself to many issues to improve the lives of the residents within the County. He worked to secure funds to help construct both the Heritage Ranch Fire Station and the Meridian Fire Station. He established the North County Government Center in Templeton, which has a Sheriff's Substation and a County Agricultural Office. He was also instrumental in bringing a new courthouse to Paso Robles.

Harry understood the importance of having adequate transportation infrastructure, and worked tirelessly to ensure residents had sufficient and safe roads as the County continued to grow. To that end, he has been a passionate advocate of making State Highway 46 safer for drivers through a widening project of this 2-lane highway as well as developing the North County Shuttle. He also worked to obtain mobile healthcare units, which visit communities around the County to provide basic medical services to residents so they do not have to incur the cost of traveling long distances to obtain medical services. Harry also worked to improve water quality and accessibility in the County. He formed the North County Water Forum, which examines the impacts of residential and agricultural development on the Paso Robles Water Basin, chaired the Lake Nacimiento Commission that has worked on the Nacimiento Water Pipeline Project, and is chairman of the North County Water Task Force.

Prior to serving on the County Board of Supervisors, Harry was a Paso Robles City Councilman, a member of the Paso Robles Airport Planning Commission, and a past chairman of the Paso Robles Planning Commission. In addition to the public offices he has held, Harry always remained active in the local community. He was the Elks Club Citizen of the Year in the late 1980s and an Outstanding Jaycee of the Year. He was also a member of the Paso Robles Historical Society, the Santa Lucia Boy Scouts Executive Council, the Paso Robles Trail Riders, and a past chairman of the United Way North County Campaign. He is also a founder of the Clark-Ovitt Foundation, a nonprofit organization that has served the County since 1992.

A true mark of leadership is the generosity of time and talents that one gives on behalf of his neighbors and community. Harry Ovitt exemplifies this time-honored tradition. I commend Harry for his service and leadership in San Luis Obispo County, and wish him well.

### HONORING WILLIAM NEUFELD

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with Congressmen RADANOVICH, to congratulate William Neufeld upon his induction into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame. Mr.

Neufeld will be honored at the 50th anniversary enshrinement dinner of the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame on Thursday, November 6, 2008.

Born third in a family of nine children in the Ukraine at the turn of the 20th century, William Neufeld moved to the United States and blossomed into a world-class track and field performer in the javelin and other throwing events. His father, a Mennonite minister, eventually settled the family in Reedley, California, where the 6-foot-2, 201-pound teenager played football, basketball, baseball and track and field in high school while earning money working in the fields. He went to Bethel College in Kansas where he played basketball and starred in track and field. Mr. Neufeld then decided to follow his brother Henry to the University of California, Berkeley. It was a perfect match, as he dominated the throwing events and led the Bears to the national collegiate title in 1923.

The following year, Mr. Neufeld won the discus title at the collegiate nationals, but he was just getting started. He won the javelin competition at the U.S. Olympic Trials in Cambridge, Massachusetts, by more than five feet, throwing for 191½ feet. Following a week-long voyage across the Atlantic Ocean, he placed fifth in the javelin in the 1924 Olympics in Paris. William Neufeld was a familiar face at many Olympics to follow.

After coaching at Riverside College and Harvard, Mr. Neufeld entered the Navy during World War II and later returned to Harvard as the Director of Physical Education. When Neufeld's competitive career ended, he traveled the globe as a coach and athletics liaison for the U.S. State Department. He served as a liaison to the 1952 Japanese Olympic team and also coached sports in Iran, Taiwan and Africa. Mr. Neufeld passed away at the age of ninety-one in Riverside, California in 1992.

Madam Speaker, we rise today to posthumously honor William Neufeld's achievements and for his induction into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame. I invite my colleagues to join me in offering my congratulations in memory of Mr. Neufeld's many accomplishments.

#### TRIBUTE TO VIRGINIA KREBS

#### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Virginia Krebs, my former colleague on the Johnson County Community College Board, JCCC, who recently stepped down from that position at the age of 89.

My tenure on the JCCC overlapped with Virginia Krebs for 6 years in the 1990s. She is truly a distinguished public servant whose concern for our community has benefited her friends in neighbors, both in tangible and intangible ways, since the 1960s. Today, Sun Publications of Johnson County posted an editorial reflecting on her distinguished service and an article detailing some of the ways in which she served Johnson County and the JCCC over the past several decades. These two pieces tell her story much better than could I. I include them in the RECORD for review by the House membership and wish my

good friend, Virginia Krebs, many happy returns on her long-delayed retirement, although I am certain she will continue to find ways of being indispensable to the JCCC and Johnson County.

[From Sun Publications, Nov. 19, 2008]

#### A MODEL FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

The departure of Virginia Krebs from the Johnson County Community College Board of Trustees is a reminder of her long and distinguished service to the college. Her leadership, from JCCC's beginning, helped bring it recognition as one of the nation's most prestigious community colleges.

Actually, her dedication predates the life of the college. Krebs served on the task force, appointed by the county commission in 1963, to examine the feasibility of a community college here. That three-year chore led to establishment of the college district and, in 1967, voter approval of a tax to support it.

Rather than running for the board of trustees, as she was urged to do, Krebs signed on as the first employee, a part-time job as the board secretary. Later she became special assistant to the governing body. In that role she worked closely with the trustees in forming the mission and fundamental objectives of the college, along with the hiring of its first president.

Her career at the college mirrored the widespread entry of women into the professions and work force. She was in her late 40s and the mother of four sons, two of them elementary school age and younger, in the early years of her time at the college. She knew from personal experience the needs of working women.

As the college's director of community services—its first—in the 1970s and '80s, Krebs played a major part in creating one of the most highly respected continuing education programs in the Midwest.

Her awareness of societal and economic changes led to creation of a program for women who, having raised their families, were interested in work outside the home. It helped prepare women for a new career.

Krebs was on the leading edge of many activities that enriched our cultural and intellectual life. She helped organize the first county arts council, a JCCC "Evening With the Stars," an astronomy venture for the public, and a speakers bureau that arranged for faculty members to appear at meetings of civic, service and community groups.

A year after she retired from the college in 1984, Krebs found another way to serve. She ran for and was elected to the JCCC Board of Trustees. Voters returned her to the board six times, the most recent in 2005. She retired in mid-October.

As a trustee, Krebs drew from her experience on the faculty to bring the needs of continuing education to the board. She was known as a good listener, well-read and with the ability to analyze issues with keen insight. She was not a frequent speaker at trustee meetings, but when she spoke, her comments were considered a valuable addition to the discussion and decision at hand.

Virginia Krebs has been an imaginative, innovative force in this community. She deserves our praise and gratitude.

[From Sun Publications, Nov. 19, 2008]

#### RETIRING JCCC ICON WILL BE MISSED

(By Kristin Babcock)

The history book about Johnson County Community College is dedicated to her. As Charles Bishop, professor emeritus at the college, researched and wrote the book, one influential name appeared more than any other: Virginia Krebs.

"Dedicating it to her was a very easy decision," Bishop said. "When I looked at the

history, she was someone who was instrumental from the beginning. There was no easier choice than Virginia Krebs."

Krebs, who became the college's first employee in 1967, recently resigned from her position on the college's Board of Trustees. Krebs, who turned 89 this year, said she was ready to stop driving to meetings. She also hopes to become more involved in her retirement community, she said.

"It was not any big thing, and I still hope to do some things with the college," Krebs said.

Her desire to be involved started in childhood, Krebs said. In grade school she started her own civics clubs.

In adulthood she helped form and lead several parent-teacher associations. She served as program chair for Kansas State PTA. She served on state task forces to revise state school codes and to consolidate area school districts.

"She just always had interest in organizing," Virginia's son Fred Krebs said. "There was always an emphasis of trying to group things that brought people together in the community. The community college came along and they were born to meet."

In 1963, the board of county commissioners appointed Virginia to study the feasibility of building a community college in Johnson County. In 1967, county voters approved a taxing district to fund the college. Before the college had its own buildings, Virginia became the college's first employee as assistant to the first board of trustees.

"Community colleges were kind of the new kid on the block in the '60s and '70s," Bishop said. "She always had her ears to the community and tuned into the higher-end world as well. She did a nice job of marrying higher education and community needs."

Those marriages were seen most prominently when Virginia became JCCC's director of community services in 1969. Under her leadership, organizations formed to include senior citizens, art supporters and community civic groups. Through her efforts, students, children and adults found a place to be involved, educated and entertained at the college.

"She is kind of a matriarch of Johnson County Community College," Charles Carlsen, former JCCC president, said. "She was well-networked and promoted relationships between groups and the college."

Some groups Virginia called "among the most interesting" were programs that helped women educate themselves to enter the working world in the 1960s and 1970s.

"It helped ease the transition for literally hundreds of women in the county," Bishop said.

Virginia also helped form a speakers bureau at the college. Professors spoke to civic organizations about a variety of topics. Although it involved extra work with no extra pay for professors, they would volunteer when she asked, Bishop said.

"A lot of professors like to squirrel down in their office and read books, and she got them to get out there," Bishop said. "Her arms were long and her grip was wide. She reached out to aspects of the community, involved people and got you in there. She has a fire in her belly when she needs to."

Virginia retired from work at the college in 1984. She ran for a position on the board of trustees and was elected in 1985.

"I was not surprised when she ran for the board," Fred said. "She felt she had important things to do. She felt she was making a contribution. It was very important to her."

Fred predicted that even in retirement people will still use his mother as a resource. "She still has contributions to make," Fred said. "Lots of people still think of her as a mentor. She has a legacy we all have to follow."