

Street in 1948, with strong support from his family—especially his mother's famous spaghetti. It was not long until Nick met his wife Maryann, who was with him every step of the way, until he passed away in 2007.

Throughout his entire life, Nick's generous and friendly presence personified Saint Paul hospitality. Nick's greatest pleasure was greeting his customers and making them feel at home. Nick also delighted in serenading diners with his beautiful accordian music. Nick's sons Pat and John now own the restaurant, continuing the tradition of hospitality with the help of the whole family, including their mother, children and Nick's sister Bertha. Their many loyal employees feel like they are part of the family.

Hospitality was the cornerstone of Nick's business success, growing through the years from a tiny bar to a 600-seat steakhouse. Mancini's has been a crossroads of who's who in sports, Hollywood and politics. Nick's son John estimates that 300 photographs of notable patrons line the walls of the lounge. Mancini's 1986 major expansion even attracted the attention of singer Tony Bennett, who lent his voice and star power to the celebration.

Despite Mancini's great success, the family restaurant has remained focused on its neighborhood roots. Among their most loyal customers are the families who grew up with Nick and his family. Mancini's Sports Hall of Fame pays tribute to nearly 150 Saint Paul athletes who are leaders in teaching, coaching or supporting amateur or professional athletics in Saint Paul.

Hospitality continues to be the biggest draw at Mancini's—but their fantastic steaks don't hurt either. In recent years, their famous 12-ounce Mancini's sirloins have been enjoyed worldwide. Through an ambitious effort called "Serving Our Troops," Mancini's has partnered with several other family-owned Saint Paul restaurants, other local businesses and hundreds of volunteers to stage several major picnics for Minnesota National Guard troops and their families. Since 2004, they have donated their time and thousands of steaks to bring Saint Paul hospitality to troops and their families in Mississippi, Oklahoma, Kosovo and Iraq. "Serving Our Troops" truly speaks to the community spirit and hospitality epitomized by the Mancini family. Many people talk about supporting our military families, but the Mancini family has gone above and beyond the call of duty in sharing Saint Paul hospitality.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the Mancini family and all employees of Mancini's Char House and Lounge on the first 60 years of a remarkable Saint Paul institution. We look forward to many more.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR MEMBERS OF THE VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute today to the men and women of Southeastern Arizona who for the past two years have served as members of my Veterans Advisory Council.

These former members of our Armed Forces live throughout my 8th Congressional District, they come from all walks of life and they represent every branch of military service and every military conflict from World War II to the present time.

They are a very diverse and multi-talented group and yet they all have one important thing in common. They all willingly contributed their time, experience and knowledge as advisors to me on issues concerning veterans.

Their wise counsel and insights have been invaluable to me. By serving on my Veterans Advisory Council, they have continued to serve their country and the men in women who have put on the uniform. We owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude.

The Members of my Veterans Advisory Council are: Stan Abrams, Sergio Arellano, Bob Berry, John Cronin, Jim Ellars, Johnny Fajardo, Mary Figura, Terrie Gent, Dale Halstead, Frank Hartline, Amy Hartline, Thomas Heaney, Mike Klier, Mel Kloor, Col. Joey Strickland, Pepe Mendoza, Tommy Mendoza, Able Moreno, Pam Murphy, Norma Navarre, Chuck Larry Ohara, Bob Parson, Dan Ross, DuWayne Smith, John Soltero Sr., Mary Pat Sullivan, Christian Vasquez, Bob Walton, Barbara Williams, Don Williams, and Bob Winchester.

I am grateful to them for their advice and their advocacy on behalf of our veterans and I look forward to their continued assistance in the next two years.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican earmark guidance, I am submitting the following project that was included in H.R. 2638, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2009:

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2009.

Project Name: Lafayette Escadrille Memorial.

Account: American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Air Force.

Address of Requesting Entity: HQ USAF/CC, 1670 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, DC 20330.

Description of Request: Provide \$500,000.00 to conduct an updated engineering study of the Lafayette Escadrille Memorial to determine the long term recurring costs to preserve and maintain the memorial at ABMC standards.

HONORING CESILIA LOMELI-PEREZ, FNP, MPH

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cesilia "CeCe" Lomeli-

Perez upon being awarded with the "Community Health Champions Award" at the 2008 West Fresno Health Care Coalition's 4th annual "This is Your Life of Service" dinner and award ceremony. This year the ceremony will be held at the Radisson Hotel Conference Center in Fresno, California on Friday, October 24th.

CeCe Lomeli-Perez grew up in Patterson, California. She attended Patterson High School and Modesto Junior College where she received her Associate's of Science and Registered Nurse degrees. She moved to Fresno, California to further her education and earned her Bachelors of Science degree in nursing (BSN) from California State University, Fresno. After completing her Bachelors degree she started working at Valley Children's Hospital in the neo-natal intensive care unit. She worked there for five years and decided to continue her education. She returned to California State University, Fresno to earn her Masters in nursing with a specialty in family practice, a Masters in public health and is currently working on her Ph.D. in public health.

Mrs. Lomeli-Perez is a nurse practitioner for the Holy Cross Clinic in Fresno, a community outreach clinic of Saint Agnes Medical Center located within the Poverello House. The clinic provides free medical and dental services to the poor and homeless; the only eligibility requirement is that patients cannot have medical insurance. Throughout her career she has run health fairs, health screenings for schools, eyeglass programs and taught classes on diabetes and prenatal care. She has also served as Chair of the Adult Task Force to help secure funding for mental health services for Fresno County. She is very involved in her church, the Poverello House, the Rescue Mission, the Salvation Army and the Youth Orchestra of Fresno. She has organized the "Mujeres de Valor," a group of women of color who walk annually in the Komen Foundation's Walk for the Cure. In 2005 she received a "Top 10 Business and Professional Women of the Year" award from the Marjaree Mason Center, and the University of California, San Francisco Fresno Latino Center Award for medical education and research. She has also received the annual Leadership Award in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month. In 2008 she was a presenter at the annual Veritas Forum at California State University, Fresno. Mrs. Lomeli-Perez has been a champion in reaching out to those who are poor, homeless and uninsured. She has served the community for over fifteen years.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Cesilia "CeCe" Lomeli-Perez upon being awarded with "Community Health Champions Award". I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Lomeli-Perez many years of continued success.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL MICHAEL PAULK FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE U.S. MARINE CORPS

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a fellow Georgian, LTC Michael

Paulk. Lieutenant Colonel Paulk is retiring after more than 25 years of service in the United States Marine Corps. He was raised in Stone Mountain, Georgia, where he graduated from Tucker High School in 1982 before attending the University of West Georgia.

Lieutenant Colonel Paulk has served in a variety of assignments throughout his distinguished career beginning at Parris Island, South Carolina, where he attended basic training in 1983. He then went to his military occupation school, MOS, at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, California, where he was one of the top candidates at the school, earning the field radio operator MOS.

Private First Class Paulk was then assigned to the 4th Forward Area Air Defense Battery, Detachment Alpha, Marietta, Georgia as a field radio operator with 2nd Squad, 1st Platoon, Alpha Company. In 1986, Corporal Paulk was selected to participate in the Platoon Leaders Class and attended Officer Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia. He graduated from the University of West Georgia in Carrollton, Georgia in April 1987, with a bachelor of arts degree in history, and then received a commission as a Marine Corps second lieutenant.

From April through November 1987, Lieutenant Colonel Paulk attended the Basic School, graduating in the top third of his class. Upon completion of The Basic School he attended Aviation Maintenance Officer's School in Pensacola, Florida.

From May 1988 through June 1999, Lieutenant Colonel Paulk served with Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 533, in Cherry Point, North Carolina, deploying to Norway, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, Guam, and Wake Island. He also served in Marine Aircraft Group 42, in Marietta, Georgia, deploying with Marine Observation Squadron 4 and Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 773 to a multitude of counter-narcotic missions throughout the United States and the Caribbean. Lastly, during this time he also served in the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing, serving as the rotary wing class desk officer and as the executive officer for Headquarters Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Reserve in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In June 2000, Lieutenant Colonel Paulk graduated from the U.S. Naval War College with a master of arts, National Security and Strategic Studies, degree and transferred to U.S. Marine Corps Forces Atlantic in Norfolk, Virginia. He served in the Operations and Plans Division overseeing the deployment of marines to Central and South America, as well as to the Caribbean.

From April 2002 until May 2008, Lieutenant Colonel Paulk served on recruiting duty in Marietta, Georgia and Quantico, Virginia. During this tour he deployed to Fallujah, Iraq, participating in Operation Al Fajr and supporting Iraq's first free elections. He earned the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in connection with combat operations while serving as the plans officer and operations officer for the 4th Civil Affairs Group.

Lieutenant Colonel Paulk served as a congressional liaison officer with the Office of Legislative Affairs, Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, DC, during his last 8 months of service. In his position, Lieutenant Colonel Paulk carried the Corps' message to these hallowed halls, providing Members of

this body the information necessary to determine how best to equip, maintain, and support the United States Marine Corps.

Lieutenant Colonel Paulk has made a lasting contribution to the capability of today's Marine Corps' and the future shape of tomorrow's Corps. His superior performance of duties highlights the culmination of more than 25 years of honorable and dedicated Marine Corps service. My home State of Georgia and our country are proud of Lieutenant Colonel Paulk's exemplary professional competence, sound judgment, and total dedication to duty. He has reflected great credit upon himself and has always upheld the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps. I wish Michael, his wife, April, and their daughters, Mallory and Maggie, all the best in their future endeavors as they return to life together in Georgia.

ROBERT C. FISHER

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a minute and pay tribute to an old friend and former staffer, Robert C. Fisher. Bob is a man of strong ideals and integrity.

I first met Bob when we were in our first year of law school at McGeorge Law School in California. Our friendship began then and has been strong ever since. After law school, Bob and I went our separate ways. Bob worked first at the State Lands Department and then had a private law practice. I went to work in the California State Senate in Sacramento. Ten years later I was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, and when I became Chairman of the Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power, I encouraged Bob to become the staff director of the committee. He graciously accepted the position, and he and his lovely wife, Joyce, moved to the Washington area.

Bob was born in Kansas City, Missouri and grew up in Oregon, Michigan, Indiana and California. He attended high school in La Sierra, California. While in high school, Bob showed his talent of teaching in his early years. He would often help tutor his fellow students at his home, and eventually the group got so large that the class asked their teacher if Bob could teach the class, since he was able to better relate to his peers. The teacher allowed Bob to teach the class for about 2 weeks under his supervision.

After high school, Bob attended Andrews University in Southwestern Michigan where he majored in journalism. He earned his undergraduate degree in 3 years after successfully testing out of 1 year of classes. While at Andrews, he met Joyce in the communications department, and the two have been married for 35 years now. They have one son, Robert Jr., who is 14 years old.

Bob has the gift of being able to teach people in both personal and professional situations. When he was living in California, Bob taught Sunday school at his local church and has been involved with it ever since. He currently teaches the adult group at his local church in Leesburg, Virginia and has recently started writing about Jesus and the New Testament.

I am very grateful for Bob's friendship, and I look forward to the many years ahead we have as friends. I wish him and his Family much happiness and success.

HONORING ST. DOMINIC'S PARISH
IN BREESE, ILLINOIS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Dominic's Parish in Breese, Illinois. For 150 years, St. Dominic's has represented the spread of Catholicism in rural America and has also acted as one of its community's cornerstones. The first church building was used from 1858 to 1868 and measured 40 feet by 60 feet. In 1858 Father August Reineke was called to act as the first pastor of St. Dominic's and served until 1909. A larger church was needed due to the growing number of settlers in the area. The parishioners donated the land as well as the stone and limestone for construction of the present church still in use today.

The original parish began with 70 Catholic families and today has grown to 867 families. One of St. Dominic's largest accomplishments was the establishment of Mater Dei High School. The men and women of St. Dominic's help by reaching out to their community and world with the parish's volunteer efforts. St. Monica's Altar Sodality and St. Joseph's Men's Sodality donate money to the parish's Vacation Bible School, food pantry and youth ministry. The ladies of the parish are currently sponsoring a child in Guatemala, while the men have donated over \$20,000 to the new multi-purpose room.

I join with my fellow Representatives to congratulate St. Dominic's on 150 years of faith and service.

CONGRATULATING THE HONORABLE HELEN MARSHALL ON RECEIVING THE "GREEN LEADERSHIP AWARD"

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Queens Borough President Helen Marshall for receiving the prestigious "Green Leadership Award" from the Alley Pond Environmental Center (APEC) on November 13th, 2008. APEC, located in Douglaston, Queens, is a superb educational center committed to environmental understanding and awareness. Helen's dedication and support of environmental education, public parks and responsible zoning and land-use in Queens is a great example of how we can promote "green living" around the nation through local political leadership.

Thanks to Helen's aggressive efforts, over \$60 million has been allocated to maintain, improve and expand the parks and playgrounds of Queens. Recently, Helen was instrumental in procuring resources to help begin construction of APEC's new environmental educational