

forget the crime against the inhabitants of Halabja and other Kurdish towns and villages.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL F. GILL

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2008*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Riverside, California are exceptional. Riverside has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Paul Gill is one of these individuals. On March 26, 2008, a celebration will be held in honor of Paul Gill's retirement—and of the next chapter in his life of public service as the Chief Operations Officer of Pittsburgh Public Schools.

Paul Gill is the Senior Vice President, Regional Operations, for American Dental Partners, a leading dental practice management services organization. He is responsible for supervising California operations, and building a strong dental network for the West Coast. Since 1993, Paul served as the Administrator for Riverside Dental Group.

Prior to coming to Riverside Dental Group, Paul served as Community Development Director for the City of Moreno Valley. In that capacity, he managed the city activities of Planning, Building, and Code Compliance.

Before his position with the City, Paul served more than 23 years in the United States Air Force, last serving as the Wing Commander at March Air Force Base, California. In the Air Force, Paul served in various commands throughout the country and overseas as a pilot, instructor pilot, evaluator pilot and at various levels of operational staff and command. He has flown approximately 4,000 hours, of which more than 800 were in combat.

Paul has a B.S. degree from Duquesne University, an M.S. from Syracuse University, as well as an M.A. from Creighton University. Among his community activities, he served as Chairman, March Joint Powers Authority Technical Advisory Committee, Director of the Silver Eagles, and the LeMay Foundation. Paul has also served as Chairman of Riverside County's Airport Land Use Commission, Chairman of the Silver Eagles, Director of Riverside County's Regional Hospital Foundation, the Monday Morning Group, and the Moreno Valley Action Committee. He and his wife Mary Anne have four grown children.

Paul's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Riverside, California. I am proud to call Paul a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he retires from the Riverside Dental Group. I wish Paul and his wife all the best as they embark on a new adventure in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. They will be sorely missed.

RECOGNIZING MR. BENSON AU-YEUNG AS THE 2008 MINORITY SMALL BUSINESS CHAMPION OF THE YEAR FOR GUAM

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2008*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Benson Au-Yeung on being named the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2008 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year for Guam.

Benson grew up on Guam and has contributed to our community throughout his life. He was born in Kowloon, Hong Kong where he studied the English language for 13 years. In 1976, his family relocated to Guam. He attended Cathedral Grade School, Bishop Baumgartner Junior High School, and graduated with honors from Father Duenas Memorial School. He then left for a short period to obtain a bachelor of science degree in computer science from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Benson returned to Guam in 1986 to devote his time to the family business, a successful local company geared toward the visitor industry. He combined their services with his experience in computer programming and started Soft Pacific, Inc which equips Guam and Saipan businesses with Japanese language computers.

In 1998, Benson expanded Soft Pacific, Inc. and acquired the 3M Graphics Division on Guam. Eventually this acquisition resulted in the development of Benz Sign Supplies, a successful sign supply company on Guam. Benz Sign Supplies provides a variety of signage products to the local market and has widened its clientele to include the overseas market, including the U.S. mainland and Canada.

After 10 years, Benson's small business continues to provide important products and services to our community. He is an active member of the Guam Contractors Association, Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association, Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Guam, and the Guam Chinese Tennis Club. I congratulate him for his achievement as the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2008 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year for Guam.

IN HONOR OF DR. LAWRENCE S. SYKOFF

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2008*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Lawrence S. Sykoff's lasting contributions and dedication to education. After 15 years as Head of Ranney School, Dr. Sykoff has transformed Ranney into one of the premier independent schools in New Jersey.

Dr. Sykoff has been committed to the field of education for 35 years. Before accepting his position at Ranney, Dr. Sykoff served as Head of the Birch Wathen Lenox School in New York, and as a math teacher at the La Jolla Country Day School. He is nationally acclaimed for his studies in Middle School education and curriculum development, and his

work on the education of pre- and early adolescent children has been used as a model in schools across the country.

At Ranney, Dr. Sykoff has successfully launched an impressive campaign to expand the school and enhance the education of its students by increasing enrollment, building new facilities, and broadening the scope of Ranney's technological capabilities. Under Dr. Sykoff's leadership, Ranney continues to maintain a strong relationship with its neighborhood and Monmouth County by supporting the Tinton Falls Police Youth Academy and the Tinton Falls City Council.

Currently Dr. Sykoff is very active in the community. He sits on the Board of Trustees of the American Cancer Society and the historic Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank, NJ. He is also a past member of the Board of the Monmouth County Family and Children's Service.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating Lawrence Sykoff. His efforts in advancing the quality of education and his commitment to excellence will continue to benefit and inspire my constituents and all NJ residents.

DESIGNATING APRIL 2008 AS 'NATIONAL FACIAL PROTECTION MONTH'

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2008*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker,

Whereas 5 million teeth are knocked out each year during sports activities;

Whereas an athlete participating in contact sports has a 10% chance of sustaining a significant oral-facial injury each season;

Whereas studies indicate that approximately one third of all dental injuries and approximately 19% of head and face injuries are sports-related;

Whereas an athlete is 60 times more likely to sustain damage to the teeth when not wearing a protective mouth guard;

Whereas emerging evidence supports that youth athletes wearing full facial protection during baseball, softball, hockey, and lacrosse can significantly reduce their risk of oral-facial trauma;

Whereas the Task Force on Community Preventive Services found that there is insufficient evidence—due to a lack of available research data—to support intervention programs to encourage the use of helmets, facemasks, and mouth guards to reduce oral-facial trauma in contact sports;

Whereas the Task Force on Community Preventive Services has recommended additional research on the effectiveness of intervention programs to encourage the use of helmets, facemasks, and mouth guards;

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) designates April 2008 as 'National Facial Protection Month';

(2) declares it is critical—

(a) to raise awareness about the importance of using proper dental and facial protection during sporting activities;

(b) to conduct additional research to study the effectiveness of intervention programs to encourage use of helmets, facemasks, and mouth guards;

(3) calls on sports health care professionals, parents, and coaches—

(a) to educate athletes about the importance of protective equipment and encourage the use of all protective devices to ensure the athlete's safety;

(b) to recommend using protective equipment that meets the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) and that the equipment is clearly identified as being in compliance;

(c) to observe National Facial Protection Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

#### TRIBUTE TO CHARLES C. LANHAM

#### HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2008*

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the career and accomplishments of Charles C. Lanham of Point Pleasant, West Virginia.

For the past 50 years, he has been a leader of various civic and professional organizations addressing the needs of his community and small town banks. A graduate of Marshall University and former member of the Army National Guard, Charles began his banking career in Ripley, WV and later took a job as Vice President of Citizens National Bank in nearby Point Pleasant in 1963. He spent the next 40 years as a leader in local community banks and recently retired from his current post as Director Emeritus of the Ohio Valley Banc Corps.

Despite his prominent banking career, he is revered most for his public service. He has successfully brought results through his leadership and involvement with countless community organizations that address the needs of Mason County. His greatest contribution; however, is his work to bring attention to improving Route 35.

Charles and two of his colleagues, David Hofsetter and Jack Fruth formed the Route 35 Committee to address the dangerous stretch of highway in Mason and Putnam Counties in 1996. For the next ten years, Charles spent countless hours traveling from his home in Point Pleasant to our state capitol and the halls of Congress to advocate funding for this project.

His hard work finally paid off in 2003 when funding was first appropriated to begin the upgrade. The link of highway he so tirelessly worked to improve was named in his honor as the Fruth-Lanham Highway. In 2005, Charles answered another call to public service when he was named Senator of 4th Senatorial District where he could work to further his mission for Route 35.

Charles represents the true calling of public service. It is an honor to work with such a distinguished citizen who has contributed so much to our great state. I'm proud to call Charles Lanham a friend and a fellow West Virginian. I wish him all best in his retirement.

CONGRATULATING STAN McNABB  
OF TULLAHOMA, TENNESSEE

#### HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2008*

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, this year, 25,000 individuals from the

automobile industry converged to honor the nominees for Time Magazine's "Dealer of the Year" Award. Today, I'm proud to congratulate Stan McNabb of Tullahoma, Tennessee, on his nomination for the 2008 Time Magazine Dealer of the Year. This prestigious honor is a tribute to his exceptional performance as an auto dealer and his steadfast commitment to community service, and I rise today to recognize Stan's dedication to his trade and to the people of Coffee County.

Robert Weaver, President of the Tennessee Automotive Association, nominated Stan to represent Tennessee as one of the 51 dealers who will compete as finalists for "Dealer of the Year," an award that required a demonstration of successful auto-dealing as well as an ongoing dedication to community service.

Stan, who earned his degree from Middle Tennessee State University, sold cars as a young man at a Chevrolet dealership and quickly discovered that his passion for automobiles could develop into a career. Stan bought his first dealership in 1980, and now owns three businesses in middle Tennessee. In addition, Stan has used his success in business to contribute to the State. As a board member of "Partners for Healing," an organization meant to provide help and support to the working uninsured in Coffee County, Tennessee, Stan exemplifies a charitable spirit that is a model for business owners across the State.

It is a privilege to congratulate Stan McNabb on his nomination for this award, and to recognize him for his success and service.

CONGRATULATING MR. RONNIE  
POIROUX ON THE OCCASION OF  
HIS RETIREMENT

#### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2008*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor Mr. Ronnie Poiroux on the occasion of his retirement after a 37-year public service career with the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT).

After graduating with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of South Alabama, Ronnie joined ALDOT in 1971 as an engineering assistant. Six years later, he was named assistant division maintenance engineer, a position in which he supervised 32 employees. In this capacity, Ronnie was charged with bridge inspection and repair, resurfacing, paint striping, traffic signals, and truck weighing. Just months after this promotion, Ronnie was given the additional responsibilities of overseeing tunnels and lift span bridges, including the supervision of an additional 45 employees.

In 1982, Ronnie was promoted to maintenance engineer for the Ninth Division. ALDOT's Ninth Division encompasses a large portion of the First Congressional District, including Mobile, Baldwin, Escambia, and Conecuh counties. As maintenance engineer for the Ninth Division, Ronnie supervised and administered the railroad safety projects, division resurfacing projects and paved shoulder projects in southwest Alabama. Ronnie managed bridge inspections and helped establish

priorities for bridge replacement projects. He also administered outdoor advertising as well as the interstate logo program.

Ronnie was promoted to division engineer for the Ninth Division in 1994, a position he held until his retirement 14 years later. As division engineer, Ronnie supervised numerous projects in southwest Alabama, including: \$900 million in construction and maintenance projects; \$200 million in preliminary engineering, right of way acquisition and utility relocations; the opening of I-165; completion of the I-165 connector and Bay Bridge relocation to Cochrane Africatown Bridge; completion of replacement bridges over Fish River and Dog River; hurricane evacuation routes and emergency evacuations of south Alabama; preliminary design and planning of proposed Mobile Bay bridge; redesign and construction of the new I-10 interchange in Irvington as well as the connector to Bayou La Batre; the widening of Highway 98; design and construction of Alabama 113 from I-65 to Flomaton; completion of additional lanes and widening projects including Alabama 287 and Alabama 59 in Baldwin County, U.S. 31 in Escambia County and Schillinger Road/Alabama 158 in Mobile County; creation of the award winning Gopher Tortoise Preserve in Mobile County; the installation of osprey nesting platforms in Mobile and Baldwin counties; and construction of Mobile's Traffic Management Center and installation of a fog detection system for the I-10 Bayway Bridge.

Madam Speaker, it is clear Ronnie Poiroux has left an indelible mark on southwest Alabama, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating a dedicated professional and friend to many throughout Alabama. I know Ronnie's colleagues, his family, and his many friends join with me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts over the years on behalf of southwest Alabama and the entire state.

#### HONORING AMY ZIEBER

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Amy Zieber of Cameron, Missouri. Amy is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, and earning the most prestigious award of Girl Scout Gold Award.

Amy has been very active with her troop, participating in many scout activities. In order to receive the prestigious Gold Award, Amy has completed all seven requirements that promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values and leadership skills.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Amy Zieber her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Girl Scout Gold Award.