

Catholics and conservative non-Catholics in the 1980s. Although the U.S. Catholic bishops opposed the construction of nuclear weapons and criticized Reagan's movement to expand U.S. armaments, John Paul and Reagan shared an uncompromising anticommunism. Meeting with the pope allowed the president to deflect attention from the American Catholic hierarchy's opposition to his arms buildup. When Reagan appointed an official, full-time ambassador to the Vatican in 1984, the president had established a direct diplomatic line of communication with the pope, and subverted the American bishops. Reagan showed none of Johnson's protocol concerns when deciding to stay an extra night in Alaska to coordinate an informal meeting with the pope, whose plane arrived the next day, in May 1984, a year in which a majority of Catholics voted to help him win reelection.

In the most analogous case with George Bush's position this year, Bill Clinton met with John Paul II in 1999 as a second term president unable to run again for reelection. Absent the Cold War, Clinton aggressively pursued common cause with Pope John Paul II in other areas. Due to Clinton's unapologetic support of legalized abortion and artificial contraception, the policies of this president clashed with the pope's absolute opposition to late-term, or "partial birth" abortions. Yet Clinton sought closer connections between U.S. and Vatican economic assistance programs while the Republican congress planned to curtail funding for foreign aid. The Catholic Church also endorsed Clinton's ambitions to provide government assistance to the poor and immigrants. These efforts may have helped Clinton obtain the meeting and photo opportunity with John Paul II at the same time as two Papal Knights in Congress (House Judiciary Committee Chairperson Henry J. Hyde and his legal counsel David P. Shippers) prepared the case for the president's eventual impeachment.

Since George W. Bush cannot legally compete in the 2008 presidential election, Pope Benedict may have more to gain or lose than the president in this year's papal-presidential meeting. Some reports indicate that the pope will court controversy by highlighting abortion in this presidential election year visit to the United States. If so, many Americans will charge the pope with a partisan appeal which threatens America's recent tolerance for Catholicism and church-state cooperation. If Benedict addresses respect for immigrants and the poor, as well as the unborn, however, he can avoid the appearance of favoring one political party platform over another.

CHIEF STANDING BEAR

SPEECH OF

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of our nation's greatest advocates for Native Americans, Chief Standing Bear.

I have long said a leader does not make people do the right thing—a leader inspires them to do the right thing.

Chief Standing Bear was such a leader.

Born in Nebraska, the Ponca Chief and his tribe were forcibly moved to Oklahoma. In 1879, Chief Standing Bear was arrested and put on trial for leaving Indian Territory to bury his son in their ancestral home.

After a two-day trial, a federal judge recognized Standing Bear as human under the law and freed him, a landmark decision securing constitutional rights for all Native Americans.

I am proud to cosponsor H. Res. 1043, honoring Chief Standing Bear's life, legacy, and contributions to civil rights.

HONORING GERALD WALKER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Gerald Walker upon his retirement from Clovis Unified School District as the Director of Construction and Engineering. Mr. Walker will be honored at a reception on May 3, 2008.

Gerald Walker graduated from Clovis High School in 1953. Shortly after graduation he began to work for the School District. He has served 23 years with the Clovis Unified School District; 16 of those years as a member of the governing board and the past 17 years as the Director of Construction and Engineering. The District was able to complete over a billion dollars of construction related projects and is recognized as a leader in the area of school facilities in California. Under the direction of Mr. Walker, Clovis Unified has successfully completed over 200 projects, including 16 new elementary schools, 3 new intermediate schools, 3 new high schools, and countless modernization and improvement projects. For these accomplishments, Mr. Walker was recognized by the Builder's Exchange in 2007 for "Outstanding Industry Achievement" and by Darden Architects for "Excellence in Building". In addition, Mr. Walker has been a member of the District's Career Technical Education Advisory Committee.

Clovis schools have received many honors over the years, including being named numerous times as a California Distinguished School, a National Blue Ribbon School and National Drug Free Schools Program. Mr. Walker's dedication to providing exemplary school facilities and grounds has assisted Clovis Unified in attaining these achievements.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Gerald Walker upon his retirement from Clovis Unified School District. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Walker many years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, April 30, 2008, I missed the first vote in a series of two votes. I missed rollcall votes Nos. 230, 231, 232, and 233.

Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall vote No. 230: "aye" (on agreeing to the Miller, George amendment to H.R. 5522); rollcall vote No. 231: "aye" (on agreeing to the Wilson (SC) amendment to H.R. 5522); rollcall vote No. 232: "aye" (on motion to recommit H.R. 5522 with instruc-

tions); rollcall vote No. 233: "no" (on final passage of H.R. 5522).

SPOKANE TEACHER RECEIVES PRESIDENTIAL AWARD

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Linda Hutchinson, the Mathematics Department Head at Shadle Park High School in Spokane, Wash., on her outstanding performance as a mathematics teacher. In recognition of her exceptional contribution to the academic wellbeing of her students, Mrs. Hutchinson has been awarded the "Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching Mathematics and Science."

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, PAEMST, is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through 12th-grade mathematics or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States. Mrs. Hutchinson is one of just 108 teachers to receive this honor each year.

Mrs. Hutchinson was evaluated on five dimensions of outstanding teaching. She proved she demonstrated her mastery of mathematics content, and that her teaching methods increase student achievement. In addition, by winning the award, she has demonstrated that she evaluates and improves not only her students' achievement, but how she teaches the material. Finally, Mrs. Hutchinson is committed to improving her personal mastery of the content she teaches. She is also committed to mentoring and supporting other teachers at her school.

Providing quality education is a key to increasing America's competitiveness and creating a skilled, 21st century workforce. Today, over half of China's undergraduate degrees are in math, science, technology and engineering. Yet, only 16 percent of American undergraduates pursue these fields. To meet the demands of an increasingly advanced, global market we must better train and equip our nation's workforce and Mrs. Hutchinson is doing just that. Shadle Park High School is fortunate to have such an inspiring and committed teacher.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Linda Hutchinson for her outstanding work as mathematics teacher. What an honor it is to receive this recognition from the President. I invite my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Mrs. Hutchinson on this great achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I would like to offer a personal explanation of the reason I missed rollcall Vote No. 146 on March 14, 2008. I was meeting off Capitol Hill with over 100 World War II veterans from my

district who flew up on the Emerald Coast Honor Flight.

If present, I would have voted: Rollcall vote No. 227, Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 5522—Worker Protection Against Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Act, “nay”; Rollcall vote No. 228, Rule for H.R. 5522—Worker Protection Against Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Act, “nay.”

CORSON BUILDING RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY—FITTING TRIBUTE TO TONY AND CHRISTOPHER SOUZA

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, on May 16 there will be a very important event in New Bedford, Massachusetts: the ribbon cutting for the newly renovated Corson Building, which will be dedicated on that date as a key component of the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Visitors Center.

I look forward to being joined at the ceremony by my colleague Senator EDWARD KENNEDY and many other people who have played an active role in both the initial establishment of the National Park and in the preservation and restoration of the Corson Building, an important historical structure which was nearly destroyed by fire in 1997. Through a combination of Federal, State and local government financing, along with non-profit funds and efforts, the building, now attached to the existing Visitors Center, will serve as a major educational facility with valuable public meeting space that will be available for both National Park programs and community meetings.

Among those who will be recognized at the celebration on May 16 for their efforts in making the Corson project a reality, there is one individual whose contributions over the years were crucial and deserve special mention. I speak of New Bedford native Tony Souza, who was the long-time Executive Director of the Waterfront Historic Area League, WHALE, the city's leading historic preservation organization.

While Tony and his wife Elsie (who did great work as the Deputy District Director of my Congressional office) moved a couple of years ago to Florida to pursue other opportunities, it is his vision for both the National Park and the Corson Building that we will to a large extent be honoring at the ribbon cutting event. A little known aspect of Tony's efforts to restore the Corson Building and convert it into an educational facility is that he took much of his inspiration for that work from his late son, Christopher Souza, who had been a member of Senator KENNEDY's staff.

Chris, who shared his parents' commitment to both improving New Bedford and preserving its wonderful historical legacy, sadly passed away at the age of 26 in 1994. This was of course a tragic loss for his family, but it was also a loss to the broader community because we were deprived of the talents of a young man who had chosen to dedicate himself to public service. Despite his grief over his son's passing, Tony gave some thought to steps he might take to honor Chris as an individual and

also as someone who exemplified the next generation of young leaders. This consideration led ultimately to the idea of establishing the Corson Building, once it was rebuilt, as a facility with a primary focus on education, so that it could, among other purposes, play a key role in helping tell the young people of New Bedford the remarkable history of their city.

Like many complicated projects involving older structures and various levels of government—not to mention both the vagaries of the Congressional appropriations process and the National Park Service's property management regulations—getting the Corson Building to where it is today involved a slow series of steps with numerous detours. Along the way, it was necessary to stabilize the building after the fire; develop the necessary design for the renovation; and begin to assemble the requisite funds, all of which took time. Tony was consistently the driving force behind the efforts to overcome the obstacles that emerged, and I know that his desire to see the project completed was to a large extent a reflection of his love for his son. Indeed, he only decided to seek new challenges outside Massachusetts when it was clear that his vision for the project was well on its way toward completion.

So, the Corson Building ribbon cutting ceremony will be both a physical and a much more personal homecoming for Tony and Elsie. I join with Senator KENNEDY, and the elected officials, National Park Service representatives and area preservation activists and residents who will also be attending the event, in paying tribute to Tony Souza's vital contributions to this important accomplishment, and to his son Christopher, who was such an important inspiration for his father's work on the project.

IN HONOR OF CEIL CIRILLO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an invaluable member of the Santa Cruz community. After two decades of service, Ceil Cirillo has announced her retirement from her post as director of Redevelopment/Economic Development for the City of Santa Cruz. Ceil began her work in the Santa Cruz community after numerous buildings and homes had been destroyed in the Loma Pieta earthquake of 1989. As a part of her work as a director, Ceil acquired the challenge of reconstructing a devastated historic downtown Santa Cruz. Her success is evident today by the vibrant destination for shopping and dining that Pacific Avenue is today. Yet this endeavor was only the beginning of her accomplishments and contributions that continue to benefit the Santa Cruz community.

To rebuild the commerce affected by the quake, Ceil oversaw local building expansion. Under her direction, the agency created a new department for the redevelopment of downtown, as well as a business outreach program to ensure commercial success both downtown and citywide.

Ceil's humanitarian efforts made a great impact on Santa Cruz citizens who needed help the most. One of these accomplishments was overseeing the construction of low-rent units;

providing housing for families with limited incomes. She also facilitated the installment of emergency housing units, 26 of which are in their planning stages or already under construction. These projects, along with others, have resulted in 407,000 square feet of newly available housing; placing roofs over the heads of those who would otherwise have no place to call home.

In her reconstruction aid, Ceil has not let her artistic side go but rather channeled her passion for the arts in her efforts. She is keen on preserving and cultivating the rich culture of the community, and instituted the Tannery Arts Center and Pacific Avenue Multi-Modal Station, which today serve as outlets for local artists. In addition, in the unique spirit of Santa Cruz, she instated commercial facade projects, murals, landscaping and similar projects all over the city. These public artworks give significant aesthetic appeal to a city that had once been reduced to shambles.

Prior to coming to Santa Cruz, Ceil was the Director of Redevelopment for the City of Signal Hill, California, and in addition to some private sector employment, was a Special Assistant to the City Manager in Pasadena, California. She has received numerous awards in recognition of her works in the Santa Cruz community and has served on the Board of Directors of several local charities.

Madam Speaker, the City of Santa Cruz will miss Ceil's vision and leadership, but there is no doubt that she has left the City in a better place from when she first arrived. I wish Ceil the best in retirement and look forward to her continued involvement in the Santa Cruz community.

WAMU 88.5'S RAY DAVIS CELEBRATES 60 YEARS ON THE AIR

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, Ray Davis, host of The Ray Davis Show on WAMU's Bluegrass Country, celebrates 60 years in broadcasting on May 2. Ray Davis joined WAMU 88.5 in 1985 to host Saturday Bluegrass, and shared hosting duties for the weekday afternoon program, Bluegrass Country, until 2001. He currently hosts 3 live hours of traditional bluegrass music on The Ray Davis Show at 3 p.m., weekdays, and 10 a.m., Sundays, on WAMU's Bluegrass Country, heard in Washington, DC, in HD Radio at 88.5, Channel 2, and online at bluegrasscountry.org.

Davis provides area bluegrass fans and online listeners worldwide with a daily dose of the traditional American art form, from prison songs and “plum pitiful” tunes to the great train rides—and train wrecks—of bluegrass music, all delivered with Davis' encyclopedic knowledge of the artists and the music. More than a DJ, Ray Davis is both a musicologist and an archivist who takes listeners on a stroll down bluegrass music's memory lane. His specialties, the plum pitiful tunes, are tearjerkers that explore universal themes of death, betrayal, and jealousy.

“Ray Davis is a legend in music broadcasting. He has helped define bluegrass music on-air since its earliest days as a discrete genre, and has placed a lasting imprint on it