

These inexpensive and safe facilities range from high-rise buildings with hundreds of beds to small remote hostels in rural setting found throughout Alaska.

Hostel volunteers act as ambassadors for their communities and for our nation by administering travel education programs to young and old. Alaskan hostels have welcomed and housed guests since the early 1960's, in a diverse set of locations including: Central Juneau, Ketchikan, Nome, Anchorage, Delta Junction, Fairbanks, Haines, Homer, Sitka, Tok, Willow, Girdwood, Slana and Ninilchik.

I commend Hostelling International USA for its 75 years of continued quality service.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
MAYOR, THE COMMON COUNCIL
AND THE RESIDENTS OF THE
CITY OF LACKAWANNA ON THE
OCCASION OF THE 100TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THEIR MUNICIPAL
INCORPORATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to the Mayor, the Common Council and the residents of the City of Lackawanna on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of their municipal incorporation.

The fortunes of this great City are emblematic of the struggles of the entire region. Having experienced the difficulties associated with the decline of heavy industry in recent decades, Lackawanna has turned the corner and now demonstrates a new spirit of hope and optimism under the leadership of its esteemed Mayor and Council.

Due in significant part to the diligence and hard work of the Mayor and the Council, the site of the former Bethlehem Steel plant—long a symbol of post-industrial decay and disinvestment, is now a beacon of progress as it is home to the nation's largest urban wind farm. This project is a testament to the tenacity of the Mayor, the Council and the people of this great city, and has been a symbol of the resurgence of the entire region. Through this effort, Lackawanna has demonstrated that the time has come to build upon our industrial past and move toward a prosperous, green future.

On this 100th Anniversary, I would like to congratulate the great City of Lackawanna on its recent successes and to thank the leadership for shepherding innovative ideas to preserve and enhance the Great City of Lackawanna. I commend and thank Lackawanna residents for the example they have set for other communities in Western New York. As we celebrate our history, we also acknowledge that our best days are immediately in front of us, and that progress and prosperity are on the horizon. I wish the leadership in the City of Lackawanna and its people the best of luck in the future as it continues to grow and prosper.

HONORING THE LOUISIANA HONORAIR VETERANS

HON. JOHN FLEMING

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a very special group from Northwest Louisiana.

On May 16, 2009 a group of 104 veterans and their guardians flew to Washington with a very special program. Louisiana HonorAir is providing the opportunity for these Louisiana veterans to visit Washington, DC on a chartered flight, free of charge. For many, this will be the first and only opportunity to visit the memorials created in their honor. These brave men and women, from my home state of Louisiana, deserve the thanks of a grateful nation for everything they have sacrificed for our freedom.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thank them for their unselfish service.

Robert M. Acosta, Edward E. Allen, William J. Archambeau, Francis W. Artley, Carl A. Barr, Clifford A. Birchfield, Joe E. Bizet, Richard E. Blake, Dudley H. Boddie, Roy Timon Buckner, Robert L. Bufkin, Jesse E. Burkheart, Adolph B. Campbell, Willard E. Charrier, James A. Clark, George Cockerham, Claude M. Corbett, Joe R. Crain, Alonza Crawford, Joe H. Curtis, Willie V. Dark, R. Debusk, Sammuel D. Doles, Thomas B. Erwin, Jack B. Evans, James E. Evans, Frank H. Falkenberry, Daniel W. Fallin, James, L. Fallin, James H. Fisher, Frank H. Ford, John C. Foster, Paul D. Gandy, Jesus Garcia, James C. Gardner, Leo J. Garner, Leon C. Green, Claude Gulley, Joseph Warren Harris, Tom N. Havard, James W. Helton, Charles M. Henley, Edward J. Heuer, John N. Holman, John L. Iles, Joe M. Ivey, Loin Jacob, James Prentice Johnson, Alvin B. Kessler, Oscar C. Laborde, Charles A. Lammons, Joseph H. LeBeau, Gus D. Levy, Clayton E. Manning, W.C. Mayfield, Mary E. McMahon, Leonard S. Micinski, Charles E. Monson, McLuther Monzingo, Donald R. Moreau, Lucien L. Oldham, Elmore C. Owens, Lester L. Pace, Frederick E. Parker, Robert A. Peiser, J.L. Pennington, Carlos B. Perez, Wallace P. Perryman, James Ferrell Reeder, James E. Rigal, Kenneth Roberts, Richard Roy, James G. Sandifer, Ira R. Schulling, Luther E. Self, Geroge E. Shanks, Whilman G. Sheets, James L. Shelton, Cecil O. Simmons, Shirley R. Simmons, Richard D. Smart, Shurman C. Smith, Robert A. Stacy, Roy E. Stickman, Fletcher Thorne-Thomsen, Maurice S. Thrasher, Carroll E. Timmons, Bobby G. Turrentine, Howard V. Walker, Clomer Walton, Ray M. Ward, William B. Wardlaw, Carl J. Waters, Billy J. Wells, Claude O. West, G.F. White, James Wilson, Allen J. Wiltz, Marcus D. Wren.

HONORING MR. HELMUTH J.H. BAERWALD

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Helmuth J.H. Baerwald who is

retiring after faithfully serving the residents, businesses and elected officials of East Norriton Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania for 32 years.

Mr. Baerwald's distinguished career of public service to East Norriton started in May 1977 when he became the Township's Finance Officer and Assistant Manager. A little more than three years later, he was appointed Township Manager and Secretary/Treasurer.

Evidence of Mr. Baerwald's outstanding leadership during the last four decades abounds. He was instrumental in the building of a Veterans Memorial at Old Stanbridge Street and Germantown Pike. He was a driving force in establishing a sister city program between East Norriton and Treptow-Kopenick, Germany. And his prudent investment and management practices helped the Township acquire a 35-acre municipal complex, including the Township offices, storage facility and highway department garage.

Mr. Baerwald earned the respect of his peers and elected officials with his sharp administrative skills, which have been invaluable as the Township has grown. In addition to serving the Township, Mr. Baerwald selflessly gave his time to several organizations, including the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors and the Montgomery County Association of Township Officials.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the outstanding service and extraordinary career of Helmuth J. H. Baerwald and all who dedicate their careers to serving the public.

A LIFETIME OF SERVICE BY MARGE JOHANNES OF SAUK RAPIDS, MINNESOTA

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Marge Johannes of Sauk Rapids, Minnesota as she celebrates her 90th birthday. Marge is known as "Grandma Marge" to the students at Pleasantview Elementary School, where she volunteers as a Foster Grandparent, a role she has played for over 20 years.

As a Foster Grandma, Marge spends four hours a day helping students and assisting the teachers. She even takes time to provide childcare for the Adult Basic Education classes. When many students and teachers are taking a break from school, Grandma Marge helps with the summer school programs in the Sauk Rapids-Rice School District. She is the definition of grace, bringing a love of learning to the schools at which she volunteers and sharing a smile with all she meets. All the students know that her favorite book is the dictionary, because she likes to learn something new every day and she spreads that kind of earnest enthusiasm everywhere she goes.

It is my honor to rise to wish Grandma Marge a "Happy Ninetieth Birthday" today and to thank her for her lifetime of service to her community. She is a teacher to us all, demonstrating the important values of service and citizenship. But, to the children, she is so much more: She's a member of their family; their Grandma Marge.

RECOGNIZING AMERICAN RED CROSS EVERYDAY HEROES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today on behalf of one of our country's most honored and respected organizations, the American Red Cross. Each year, the Genesee-Lapeer Chapter of the Red Cross acknowledges individuals who have shown tremendous courage, kindness, and selflessness through acts of goodwill and heroism. 14 individuals will be honored at the annual "Salute to Everyday Heroes" on Friday, May 29th in Grand Blanc, Michigan.

Everyday Heroes are selected for acts of bravery related to fire, rescue, and lifesaving, and are awarded to those who live in Genesee or Lapeer Counties, or if the rescue occurred in one of the two counties.

This year Trooper Bradley Ross and Trooper David Stokes will receive the Law Enforcement Award. Robert Elliott and Timothy Knott will be recognized with the Emergency Medical Response Award. Firefighters Jason Abbey, Dustin Lucius, Al Morea, Nick Schulz, Josh Sturgis, and Pat Whalen will be honored for their work. The Youth Good Samaritan Award will be given to Brandon Howe and the Adult Good Samaritan Award will be given to Jack and Jean Seibert. Myla Swanson will be recognized with the Workplace Good Samaritan Award. Judge Robert E. Weiss will be posthumously honored with the Community Good Samaritan Award.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and applaud the courageous, altruistic accomplishments of these 14 persons. They have generously acted without thought to their own safety to assist others in danger. They have earned the title of "hero" and I am grateful for their service to our community.

HONORING TYNGSBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Ms. TSONGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the bicentennial anniversary of the town of Tyngsborough, Massachusetts. Known as the "gateway to the White Mountains," Tyngsborough is a unique and diverse community, defined by innovative businesses, rich history, and hardworking families. I am proud to honor the people of Tyngsborough for their spirit of innovation and success as they celebrate this milestone.

With its distinct location along the Route 3 corridor between Boston and New Hampshire's mountains, Tyngsborough continues to draw new residents and businesses as it grows in both size and prosperity. Leading companies in the fields of software, energy, materials, and technology have chosen Tyngsborough for their headquarters.

Tyngsborough's location also makes it a popular leisure destination thanks to the 1,000-acre Lowell-Dracut-Tyngsboro State

Forest, which features miles of trails for hiking, cycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling as well as ponds and streams for fishing and water sports. This land has long held special significance to the Native Americans who first settled along the banks of the Merrimack River above the Pawtucket Falls. The preservation of the natural beauty afforded by the river and woods is an important goal of the community and one that I particularly applaud.

I am proud to honor Tyngsborough's bicentennial, and I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the people of Tyngsborough another 200 years of innovation and success.

HONORING THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LIGHT OF CHRIST COUNCIL 8726

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Knights of Columbus, Light of Christ Council 8726, for its 25 years of outstanding charitable work and dedicated service to three parishes in western Berks County, Pennsylvania.

Since its founding in June 1984 at the St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, Council 8726 has grown to more than 200 members committed to nurturing spiritual growth and a tremendous desire to help anyone in need.

The members' selfless service has included financial backing and volunteer work in support of St. Mary's Shelter for single mothers, a Veterans Memorial monument in Whitfield, a Special Olympics basketball tournament, and weekend soup kitchens that feed hundreds who would otherwise go hungry in the Reading area.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the Knights of Columbus, Light of Christ Council 8726, upon its 25th Anniversary and recognizing the exemplary efforts of the Council's members in serving and supporting Berks County churches, communities and charities.

NEW CHARGES BROUGHT UP AGAINST BAHAI LEADERS IN IRAN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, May 14 marked the one-year anniversary of the imprisonment of the seven member national committee of the Iranian Baha'is. According to CNN reports, the seven Baha'i leaders may now face charges of "spreading of corruption on Earth" which carries the threat of the death penalty under Iran's penal code. The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom recently released their 2009 report which recommends that the State Department designate Iran a country of particular concern due to its gross violations of religious freedom. Such violations include the execution of over 200 Baha'i leaders since 1979, the desecra-

tion of Baha'i cemeteries and places of worship, and the violent arrest and harassment of members of the Baha'i faith. As the Administration seeks diplomatic engagement with Iran, I urge them to make human rights and religious freedom an integral part of the dialogue. Human dignity and freedom must not be made a sidebar as the Administration seeks to engage the Iranians.

HONORING STEPHEN REISTER

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor America's entrepreneurs, those distinguished individuals who support our communities, drive innovation, and keep our nation strong. Small businesses bring fresh ideas to the table, develop the resources to meet the demands of an ever-changing world, and make a meaningful impact on our neighborhoods. Entrepreneurs are responsible for providing 60 to 80 percent of all new jobs, giving them the potential to propel rapid economic growth and expand ever-developing fields. Some of the country's largest companies began as start-ups in small offices, homes and garages exploring these new fields. Limited only by their imagination, these firms performed cutting-edge work in emerging industries that have become the very foundation of our society.

As our nation and the world face the most difficult economic conditions in decades, entrepreneurs have the potential to lead us back to prosperity. The resiliency and adaptability shown by small businesses in past recessions demonstrate their capability to meet the challenges standing in their way and emerge stronger than ever. America's small businesses will drive the economic recovery from this downturn and our economy will rebound. Times may be tough, but America's entrepreneurial spirit is tougher.

To recognize the monumental achievements of our nation's small firms, the Small Business Administration (SBA) has declared May 17-23 as the 46th Annual National Small Business Week. The House Small Business Committee is celebrating all our country's hard-working entrepreneurs by saluting the Heroes of Small Business, those men and women who have shown the strength, leadership, and resourcefulness that keeps our economy moving forward.

I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in recognizing and thanking Mr. Stephen Reister for his tremendous accomplishments on behalf of small businesses. Mr. Reister has been with Steel-T Heating and Air Conditioning for nearly 20 years, joining the company after it was purchased by his family in 1989. The company is one of the leading heating and air conditioning contractors in the Denver and northern Colorado area. Mr. Reister's contributions to the industry have earned him a place on the national furnace PID team for Carrier Corporation, the world's leader in heating and cooling solutions, and several awards for raising awareness and sales of more environmentally friendly products.

Mr. Reister is an active member of his community, serving as a board member of the Col umbine Valley Water and Sanitation District.