

Duffy was killed when a roadside bomb exploded near his vehicle in eastern Baghdad.

Sergeant Duffy was assigned to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He had served in Iraq since November, where he provided escort security for a general, a colonel and other high-ranking Army officers.

Sergeant Duffy graduated from Cozad High School and then the University of Nebraska at Kearney with a criminal justice degree. He rose to supervisor at a Kearney manufacturing plant before joining the Army in May 2008.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Sgt. Duffy's family and friends. He was known as "The Shepherd" because of his concern for others. This trait drove him to protect even those he didn't know.

We all owe Sgt. Duffy a debt of gratitude we can never repay. His courage, love of family, and strength should set the bench mark for us all.

RECOGNIZING ERNEST P. KLINE

### HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to Ernest "Ernie" P. Kline, the 25th Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania and a tireless public servant.

Since his days as Class President of Rostraver High School, Ernie always took charge to organize and lead in the groups of which he was a member.

Ernie was indefatigable in his work for the people of Pennsylvania. Beginning his political career as a councilman in the City of Beaver Falls, PA, Ernie was elected to the State Senate in 1965 and then as Lieutenant Governor in 1970.

As Lieutenant Governor, Ernie chaired commissions on education and energy, showing his devotion toward creating a better world for future Pennsylvanians.

Beyond public life, Ernie and his beloved wife Josephine were always involved in the community, be it establishing the Ronald McDonald House of Hershey Medical Center or umpiring softball games. Ernie was also president of Kline Associates Ltd., a government consulting firm, which allowed him to continue to serve the State of Pennsylvania after leaving elected office.

Devoted to his Catholic faith, the Democratic Party, and his country, Ernest P. Kline was committed to serving the Commonwealth. Madam Speaker, please join me, Congressman HOLDEN, and all Pennsylvanians, in honoring this great man, whose public service legacy will be fondly remembered by many.

SAVANNAH GARCIA

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Savannah Garcia who has received the Arvada Wheat

Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Savannah Garcia is a 7th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Savannah Garcia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Savannah Garcia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE 248TH MEDICAL  
COMPANY

### HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 248th Medical Company, which is scheduled for deployment to Balad, Iraq on Friday, June 5, 2009, after a month of training at Fort Lewis in Washington State. The 248th is stationed at the Marietta National Guard Armory in my hometown, Marietta, Georgia. As a physician, this group of citizen soldiers holds a special place in my heart as their primary mission while in Iraq will be to treat any medical problems or issues that their fellow troops may experience. The unit includes doctors, nurses and physician assistants who will trade their white lab coats for Army green fatigues to help care for those on the frontlines in the Global War on Terror.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the courage and bravery of each member of the 248th and thanking them for their service to this country. Know that you and your families will be in our thoughts and prayers, and please do not hesitate to contact my office if there is any way that we can assist you over the next twelve months. God Bless you and your families and God bless America.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO  
AUTHORIZE THE NATIONAL  
ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH PARKS

### HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. LUJÁN. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce a bill to authorize the seven National Environmental Research Parks (NERPs) at Department of Energy (DOE) sites, including the Los Alamos Environmental Research Park in my district. These parks are unique outdoor laboratories that offer secure settings for long-term research on a broad range of subjects including, wildlife biology, ecology, climate change effects, environmental remediation, and maintenance of freshwater ecosystems. The parks also provide rich environments for training future researchers and

introducing the public to environmental sciences. They are located within six major ecological regions of the United States which cover more than half of the nation.

In the mid-1970s, DOE developed a policy for current and future research parks. The mission of the parks is to: conduct research and education activities to assess and document environmental effects associated with energy and weapons use; explore methods for eliminating or minimizing adverse effects of energy development and nuclear materials on the environment; train people in ecological and environmental sciences; and educate the public. The Parks maintain several long-term data sets that are available nowhere else in the U.S. or in the world on amphibian populations, bird populations, and soil moisture and plant water stress. These data are uniquely valuable for understanding wildlife biology, ecology, and for the detection of long-term shifts in climate.

The federal government's interest in and need for ecological research evolved after World War II as we sought security and safety by producing nuclear weapons in isolated regions surrounded by large buffer zones of undeveloped land. DOE's predecessor, the Atomic Energy Commission, AEC, recognized a need to track both radioactive fallout from the testing of nuclear weapons and inadvertent radioactive releases from nuclear weapons production facilities into the environment. Out of the radionuclide research grew new technologies for quantifying the movement of natural materials such as nutrients and fluids and of introduced pollutants through the ecosystem. The maintenance of the Parks by DOE conforms with statutory obligations to promote sound environmental stewardship of federal lands and to safeguard sites containing cultural and archeological resources.

In 1972 AEC established the first NERP at the Savannah River Site in South Carolina. The plan for a research park emerged during a formal review of the environmental research activities at Savannah River. The review team consisted of scientists, representatives from other Federal agencies, and members of the newly formed President's Council on Environmental Quality.

The Los Alamos NERP was designated in 1973. Its 40 square miles include the entire site of Los Alamos National Laboratory and a landscape of canyons, mesas, mountains, and the Rio Grande providing a diverse range of ecosystems to explore. The Park's ongoing environmental studies include: interaction between its local ecosystems and the hydrologic cycle; contaminant transport; elk, deer, and raptor population dynamics; landfill cap performance; woodland productivity; and long-term data sets developed to monitor climate change effects, soil moisture, and fire ecology providing valuable baseline reference information. Over 125 publications related to the ecology and interaction between lab operations and the environment have been written about Los Alamos and the Pajarito Plateau it rests on.

The National Environmental Research Parks have been conducting critical activities for our nation and the world's environmental research portfolio for decades. They are one of our nation's most valuable environmental research assets, and it is time for them to be recognized in law and explicitly provided the resources they need to continue their valuable work. This legislation offers guidance for the

Parks' research and monitoring programs as well as their education and outreach activities, and it authorizes a small amount of core funding needed to support their important work. I look forward to working with my colleagues in both parties and both Chambers of Congress to bring this bill to the President's desk as soon as possible.

HONORING ANNUAL SUSAN G.  
KOMEN RACE FOR THE CURE

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 3, 2009*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 109, honoring the 20th Anniversary of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in the Nation's Capital and its transition to the Susan G. Komen Global Race for the Cure on June 6, 2009. I'd like to thank Chairman WAXMAN and the gentleman from Virginia, Representative CONNOLLY, for bringing this resolution to the Floor today. It is my strong hope that twenty years from today we will be celebrating the cure and marveling at all the lives that have been saved.

Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in women worldwide, with more than 1.3 million diagnosed each year. It is also the leading cause of death among women, 465,000 die each year worldwide. Breast cancer is a disease that knows no boundaries based on age, ethnicity, geographic location or socio-economic status. Fortunately, the United States has 2.5 million breast cancer survivors and we need to work together to educate our community and encourage participation in screenings and mammograms.

Madam Speaker, Nancy Brinker promised her dying sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would do everything possible to eradicate breast cancer. By launching Susan G. Komen for the Cure in 1982, a movement began and more than \$1.3 billion in breast cancer research, education, and community health services has been invested by this organization. Today, Susan G. Komen for the Cure is the largest grassroots network fighting breast cancer and is led by thousands of survivors. Local activists are present in 125 communities and have mobilized one million friends for events such as the Komen Race for the Cure. Komen is a unique organization where 75 percent of the net proceeds stay in the communities where they were raised. The remaining 25 percent of the funds are given to Komen's National Grant Program, an innovative leader in breast cancer research. Because of publicly and privately funded research, the five-year survival rate for women with localized breast cancer has increased. In the 1950s, the survival rate was 80 percent and last year the survival rate grew to 98 percent. Last year, the Komen Race for the Cure raised an unprecedented \$3.7 million in the National Capital area. As the National Race for the Cure becomes the Global Race for the Cure, we will work with our partners around the world to eradicate breast cancer, a disease that affects everyone in some way.

As we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Race for the Cure in the Nation's Capital, we

will not rest until a cure is found. I urge all Members to join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 109 and honor the women and men who have lost their lives to breast cancer, and celebrate the survivors and friends who are participating in the Global Race for the Cure. I yield the remainder of my time.

SAMANTHA GREEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samantha Green who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Samantha Green is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samantha Green is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Samantha Green for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

MINNESOTA INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 197 150TH AN-  
NIVERSARY

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2009*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Minnesota Independent School District 197 (ISD197) on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary. For nearly as long as Minnesota has been a state, the school district has provided high quality public education to generations of students in what are now the communities of West St. Paul, Mendota Heights, Lilydale, Mendota, Sunfish Lake, Eagan and Inver Grove Heights.

In 1852, pioneers began to settle in the area now known as the city of West St. Paul. In 1856, the township of West St. Paul and the village of Mendota Heights were formed. As families grew, the need for schools to provide public education for their children became clear. Early on, twelve students were taught by Miss Margaret Brown in the first single-room schoolhouse built in 1859 near what is now the border of West St. Paul and Mendota Heights. The school was relocated in 1863 to the current site of Somerset Elementary School on land donated by Minnesota's first Governor, Henry Sibley. By 1957, schools had grown so large in West St. Paul, Mendota Heights and Eagan, that they were consolidated into Independent School District 197.

For 150 years, the public schools serving West St. Paul, Mendota Heights, Lilydale,

Mendota, Sunfish Lake, Eagan, and Inver Grove Heights have given our children the ability to learn, grow, and follow the American dream. Today, the school district operates five elementary schools, two middle schools and one high school, serving approximately 4,500 students in the surrounding communities. In keeping with the spirit of the early pioneers who traveled the world to settle in this part of Minnesota, students in the district come from all over the world, speaking more than a dozen languages. Faculty, staff, and the community are all working hard to prepare students to compete globally in the 21st Century.

This past April, I had the opportunity to tour several schools in the district with Superintendent Jay Haugen. I visited classes with teachers and students ready and eager to learn and also saw inventive programs such as a lunchroom reuse and recycling project at Heritage Middle School that won a national Energy Star Award.

Public education in our schools is an integral part of our community and our nation, providing a world class opportunity for young people to become engaged citizens who will support a strong democracy and compete in an international economy.

Today in honor of the students, parents, families, community members, teachers and staff in ISD197 public schools, I submit this statement for the official CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I would like to personally congratulate the school district for 150 years of providing high quality public education in our community, and look forward to celebrating milestones in public education in the years to come.

FILM AND TELEVISION  
EXPENSING LEGISLATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2009*

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with my colleague from California, Congressman DAVID DREIER, to introduce legislation to amend Federal tax law to allow for the immediate tax write-off of the first \$15 million (or \$20 million in those select cases where the production is made in a distressed community) of production expenditures for qualifying domestic film and television productions.

This provision, Section 181 of the Internal Revenue Code, was first enacted in the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 and extended in 2008. It was added to protect the U.S. television and film industry that is increasingly filming in foreign locations, such as Canada.

In so doing, Congress recognized the important contribution our television and film production industries make to sustaining jobs in communities across the country. These productions provide good jobs not just for actors, writers and directors, but also for the local carpenters and electricians, the drivers and equipment operators, the caterers and hotel keepers who provide services to these productions.

Adoption of Section 181 also represented Congressional recognition of the fact that this vital sector faces increasing competition from foreign production companies whose governments subsidize television and film production.