

Berkeley and received a Masters Degree in 1970 in Social Welfare with a Psychiatric Casework Specialty. He also holds a Clinical Social Work license.

Mr. Kears performed his internship at the Sonoma State Hospital and Children's Guidance Clinic in Palo Alto. After graduation, he went to work as a Psychiatric Social Worker at Napa State Hospital. He thrived in that setting from 1970 to 1974 and advanced to Assistant Program Director.

He began his career with Alameda County as a Psychiatric Social Worker in 1974 and held a number of major department head positions in the Health Care Services Agency. In March 1986, Mr. Kears was appointed to the Agency Director position, at which time he not only took over the weighty matters of the Agency but also became Acting Director of Highland General Hospital during a time of reorganization.

Currently, as director of the Health Care Services Agency, Mr. Kears provides overall direction, consultation and troubleshooting to the four major departments comprising the agency which include Indigent Care; Public Health Department; Environmental Health Services and Behavioral Health Care Services. From 1993 to 1998, Mr. Kears assumed the additional responsibility for developing a public/private Medi-Cal managed care program, the Alameda Alliance for Health, pursuant to the State of California Department of Health Services' directive. The Alliance is now a fully licensed HMO comprised of traditional Medi-Cal and safety net county and community providers.

Mr. Kears' most recent major program responsibilities included coordinating the County's Indigent Medical Care System and monitoring contracts with the Alameda County Medical Center and a broad network of community-based primary care providers.

A number of non-profit organizations, commissions, government agencies and health systems have benefited from Mr. Kears' leadership, vast knowledge and experience in the development and implementation of county and state health care policies.

I join Dave Kears' colleagues in thanking him for his years of commitment and service in making a difference in the lives of others.

HONORING ANDREW NEAULT FOR HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 9, 2009*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a young man from Georgia's 11th Congressional District who has distinguished himself as an excellent student and leader and has committed to serving his country. I am proud to announce that Andrew Neault from Kennesaw, Georgia has received an appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

Andrew attends Paulding County High School where he has a 3.7 Grade Point Aver-

age and is a member of the BETA Club. Andrew has been very active with the JROTC where he has excelled as a State Champion JROTC raider. He also served as the Athletic Director and Chief Petty Officer for the Navy Delayed Entry Program.

In addition to Andrew's focus on academics and military preparation, he has remained very active in extracurricular activities. Andrew is on Paulding's football and wrestling teams and is a four-time nominee for the "People to People" student ambassador program. He is also very involved in community service, having volunteered at the Sunbelt Christian Youth Ranch in Mississippi, Thanksgiving for the Homeless, Thanksgiving for Youth Penitentiary, and Operation North Pole.

Andrew Neault is an incredibly well-rounded young man, and I am honored to have the privilege to nominate him for an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. I ask that my colleagues take this time to congratulate Andrew as well as his parents, Raymond and Lynette Neault, for his accomplishments. It is because of dedicated young people like Andrew that America has the finest military in the world. Our nation is fortunate to have his service.

HONORING THE WORK OF LOUISE BALLERSTEDT RAGGIO, MOTHER OF THE TEXAS FAMILY CODE

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 9, 2009*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Louise Ballerstedt Raggio, a trailblazer and an advocate who has spent her life making sure that women and families have equal rights under the law.

Mrs. Raggio was born in Manor, Texas and spent the early part of her life as the daughter of a hardworking, Texas farm family. From an early age, she learned the importance of perseverance and dedication to a cause, and these traits have remained persistent throughout her life. She graduated first in her class from high school and went on to earn an undergraduate degree with highest honors from the University of Texas at Austin.

After marrying and giving birth to two children, Mrs. Raggio began law school at Southern Methodist University in a time when it was not typical for a woman to do so. During law school, she gave birth to a third son, and although it was difficult, she persisted, graduated, and passed the Texas State Bar in 1952. Later, she took a job in the Dallas County District Attorney's office and took over all child and family cases. She was soon promoted and began doing criminal prosecution. During this time, she became active with the Texas State Bar and joined the newly-formed Family Law Section of the State Bar in 1960. She would eventually become Chairwoman of the committee, making her the first woman in Texas history to become Chair of any such committee.

As Chairwoman, Mrs. Raggio and her committee uncovered 44 state laws which discriminated against women, and notably, married

women. She began a campaign to enact a Marital Property Bill and after seven drafts, Governor Connally signed it into law, marking the end of a three-year effort. She was so successful that she was asked to undertake the entire revision of all family laws in Texas and after ten years the Family Law Section of the Texas State Bar created the first complete Family Code of laws in the world.

Today, Mrs. Raggio has garnered numerous recognitions and honors including being elected the first female director of the State Bar of Texas. She is consistently regarded as the Mother of the Texas Family Code and Southern Methodist University has developed an annual Louise Ballerstedt Raggio Lecture Series in her honor. I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring the work of Mrs. Raggio and her lifelong commitment to a fair and just legal system.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SUSAN M. BRITTON

**HON. PAUL TONKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 9, 2009*

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, New York State American Legion Auxiliary President, Susan M. Britton, has served with distinction during her term in office from July 2008 through July 2009. Mrs. Britton traveled to all 62 counties in the great state of New York, inspiring the members of the American Legion Auxiliary to honor and serve the veterans of New York State.

Susan Britton is a 35 year member of Clarke White Unit 589, American Legion Auxiliary in Albany County. She has remained an active and vital member of the organization, volunteering her services to veterans at the Stratton VA Medical Center in Albany and at the Albany VA Fisher House.

This year Department President Britton has chosen "Operation Purple" as her special project. Operation Purple began in 2004 and is sponsored through the National Military Family Association (NMFA). Operation Purple is the only program open to children of personnel from all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces ("purple" representing inclusion of the branches). The program focuses on helping military children deal with the challenges and stress that come with deployment by providing free weeks of summer camp at different locations to bring children together in a fun and healthy environment.

As word has spread about Operation Purple, there is a pressing need for additional support to allow as many children as possible to attend this specialized program. All funds donated will support resident children within New York State. There are two camps, located in Lewis and Orange counties.

Special fundraising projects have been conducted to support Operation Purple, including those by the American Legion Family, which include The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and the Sons of the American Legion. To date, over \$60,000 has been raised to provide military children in New York with the opportunity to attend one of these camps.

A TRIBUTE IN REMEMBRANCE OF  
THEORA KING

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 9, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Theora King, a community leader and educator who has contributed enormously to the lives of many children in need.

Theora King has worked in the field of education for over forty years. She has a bachelor of science degree in education from Mercy College where she graduated magna cum laude. In 1990, Ms. King received the Educator of the Year Award from a parent organization in District 17. Ms. King has worked in several programs including Big Apple, Head Start, Learning Through Science, Title I, Latch Key, Summer Early Childhood Program, and Platform For Learning and Special Education.

Theora King often goes above and beyond what is required of her in order to keep children who are in need from being deprived of opportunities that are afforded to other children who have supportive families. Her love for children is demonstrated by using personal monies to pay for trips, breakfast, lunch, clothing and other essentials needed when a child's parents are unable to provide for them. Ms. King has volunteered her personal time to tutor children in reading to help them gain self-confidence, a love for reading, and reading proficiency to pass State Reading Examinations.

During her career, children have demonstrated love and respect toward Ms. King and children often come to her for advice and assistance to handle difficulties they encounter at home and in school. Ms. King is never too busy to take time from her personal life to help a child and his or her family who may be in need of assistance. Ms. King is also a member of the Open Door Church of God and Christ and she has served on the Usher Board. In the past, Ms. King served as Acting Parent Teacher's Association president and secretary when her children were students at P.S. 316. Ms. King has also chaired the Social Committee at P.S. 316 from 1968 to 2005.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Theora King.

IN HONOR OF THE NAVAL  
POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 9, 2009*

Mr. FARR. Madam President, today the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Founded a century ago as the School of Marine Engineering at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, the Naval Postgraduate School has grown in response to a changing world. The school moved to Monterey, California in 1951, taking over the landmark Hotel Del Monte resort. Today, NPS is a global leader in national security and defense-related education and research.

The Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) is a unique graduate school—an institution dedi-

cated to providing education and research with a focus on relevance to the defense and security arenas and on recognizing and innovatively solving problems in support of our military forces, our country's global partners and our national security.

NPS provides high-quality, relevant and unique advanced education and research programs that increase the combat effectiveness of the Naval Services, other Armed Forces of the U.S. and our partners, to enhance our national security.

NPS is one of the oldest and most prestigious institutions belonging to the United States Department of Defense. Since its inception almost a century ago, NPS has been found to be worthy of the investment that both the Navy and the nation has made in it. The school has educated some of the most brilliant and effective leaders of our nation and of the world. Countless numbers of NPS graduates have made significant contributions to global stability and national security, and some remarkable breakthroughs in research at NPS have saved the lives of the men and women who so bravely defend their nations daily.

Madam President, I want to wish a happy 100th birthday to the Naval Postgraduate School.

NATHANIEL MARTINEZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 9, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nathaniel Martinez who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Nathaniel Martinez is a senior at Jefferson High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nathaniel Martinez 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 Nathaniel Martinez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO COMPANY  
B, 202D ENGINEER COMBAT  
BATTALLION

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 9, 2009*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to pay a very special tribute to a brave group of men in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Company B of the 202d Engineer Combat Battalion is celebrating their sixty-sixth anniversary.

Madam Speaker, there is no question the military is one of the key building blocks of our

country. From the earliest days of our Nation's history, courageous men and women have fought for the freedom and safety of the American people. Our soldiers have opened doors for America's citizens and allowed our children to live in a nation that is peaceful and free.

During World War II, Company B served in campaigns in Normandy, Central Europe, Northern France, Ardennes and the Rhineland. They were the only group to serve in all five campaigns and receive five battle stars in World War II.

The servicemen of Company B also fought alongside the 1st, 2d, 3d, 9th, and the 15th U.S. Army, the British 2d Army and the U.S. Navy throughout the war in 10 countries. One of their most significant contributions to the War effort was the construction of the longest Treadway Pontoon Bridge in the world at 1152 feet, which was built in less than six hours while facing enemy fire.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Company B of the 202d Engineer Combat Battalion. Our communities are well served by having dedicated servicemen who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to protect our beloved Nation. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Ohio, I am proud to recognize this great group of men on their sixty-sixth anniversary.

INTRODUCTION OF MOLALLA WILD  
AND SCENIC RIVER BILL

**HON. KURT SCHRADER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 9, 2009*

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce The Molalla Wild and Scenic River Bill. This legislation would designate 21.3 miles of the Molalla River as "wild and scenic" and would provide federal designation in preserving the character of this section of the Molalla River.

This legislation is supported by numerous elected officials, civic leaders, and recreational and environmental groups in Clackamas and Marion counties including American Rivers, the City of Molalla, the Oregon State Police, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wild Salmon Center, and the Willamette Riverkeepers. All of these groups recognize the social, cultural and economic benefits of this bill.

In Oregon, the Molalla River is known for its many recreational purposes which include hiking, diving, fishing, kayaking, whitewater rafting, picnicking, mountain biking, and horseback riding. It still serves as a water source for many citizens in Canby and Molalla, Oregon, and is nationally recognized for its beautiful and scenic wildlife. It provides spawning beds for threatened Steelhead Trout and Chinook salmon and is also an essential wildlife area for the pileated woodpecker, red tree vole, red-legged frog, northern spotted owl, Pacific giant salamander, and both golden and bald eagles.

Designating this section of the Molalla River as "wild and scenic" would permanently ensure its protection and preservation as one of Oregon's many natural state treasures. It would guarantee that future generations can experience the river's rich historical, cultural,