

West Morgan High School has always upheld the highest standards of excellence in all its endeavors, and this team of outstanding athletes is no exception.

We commend the leadership of Principal Billy Hopkins and Coaches Keith Harris, Alesha Hutto, and Kenda Bradford on their successful careers with West Morgan High, and we look forward to the continuation of a tradition of solid and consistent performance in both academics and athletics.

Madam Speaker, we congratulate each member of the dedicated Lady Rebels softball team—Hannah Harris; Haley Willingham; Madison Jones; Whitlee Potter; Hayden Hamby; Brittany Thompson; Ashley Hooper; Rachel Harbin; Brilley Stephenson; Hallie Cunningham; Lauren Seibert; Hannah Amos; Hannah Draper; Heather Amos; Mary Kelley; Chelsea Boston; Delissa Tidwell; Baylee Carpenter; Mikinzie Steele; Ashley Crow; Jamie Rohr; Katie Brazier; Alexis Casteel; Kimberlee Denard; Bari Jones; Kristen Parrish—and their staff for their commitment to achieving this championship.

IN HONOR OF RON SARGENT

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to extend warm greetings and offer my congratulations to Ron Sargent as he retires from the YMCA Retirement Fund. When Ron came to the Newark YMCA 40 years ago, I immediately saw his potential. He was eager to do the job as a well prepared and dedicated employee. During his 40 years in various roles with multiple YMCAs, he has been a credit to the YMCA's programs and we owe him our respect and gratitude for a job well done. It was a pleasure for me to personally work with him during his tenure with the YMWCA of Newark and Vicinity.

As Ron Sargent begins a new phase in his life, I want him to know the dedication and commitment he exhibited during his YMCA career will always be appreciated. It takes a special person to contribute to society in the way of YMCA service. Fortunately, while acting in his different capacities, he was able to make a difference in the lives of many through the programs he was involved in and/or instituted. Ron's effectiveness and creativity led to multiple awards being presented to him and his programs were featured in the YMCA Discovery Magazine. His career with the YMCA has certainly been one of accomplishment and leadership by example. As he is feted at a dinner in his honor on July 31, 2009, Ron should know that his many years of service to the YMCA are true testaments of his character and that his significant contributions will never be forgotten.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues agree that Ron Sargent has been a true asset to the YMCA and that they join me in wishing him well as he enters his retirement years.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NAOMI
DURST BOWDEN

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Naomi Jane Durst Bowden.

Mrs. Bowden was born in Custer, South Dakota, on June 13, 1915, and lived there until 1948. She was the daughter of pioneers and a loving mother and homemaker. She moved to Jesup, Georgia in 1948 and was an integral part of the community, serving as a founding member and Lay Leader of the Epworth United Methodist Church. She taught as a substitute teacher in the Jesup schools, and, for a number of years, hosted a women's radio program on WBGR in Jesup. She had six sons, eighteen grandchildren, and twenty-four great grandchildren. Up until a short time before her death, she could name the names of all her grandchildren and great grandchildren—something she routinely did before she fell asleep. At age 93, Naomi Jane Durst Bowden passed away in her sleep on Monday, May 25th in Athens, Georgia.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life and works of Naomi Jane Durst Bowden.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE FOREST
COUNTY POTAWATOMI COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION'S 20TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation. The Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation was created in 1999 founded on the Potawatomi belief "to take what we need and give back what we can."

A review of the history of the Forest County Potawatomi Tribe will help to understand their desire to give back to the community. The tribe was forcibly removed from its homeland, endured strained relationships with governments, and lived in hardship and poverty. They survived by relying upon their internal strength and sharing with each other.

Through its foundation, the Forest County Potawatomi Tribe now provides to others who are struggling in the community. I believe that despite of or rather because of these centuries' old struggles, the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation has emerged to reflect their tribal values and beliefs to return assistance to the communities where they live and work. The Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation supports civic and community projects, such as public health care issues, education, economic development, and the arts. They have funded many different types of organizations ranging from large, well known associations to small grass-

roots organizations. The foundation meets with any organization that applies for a grant and, if funded, works in partnership with the group to ensure success. The foundation feels each agency it funds allows them to carry on the Potawatomi tradition of "giving back what we can."

Now celebrating their 20th Anniversary, the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation has delivered over \$18 million dollars to more than 250 charities and nonprofit organizations throughout the Greater Milwaukee area. I am grateful for their empathetic spirit of giving.

Madam Speaker for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to the Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation for their support, dedication and service to the people of my district and throughout Wisconsin.

HONORING MRS. MELENA
BOGHOSIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an Armenian Genocide survivor, Mrs. Melena Boghosian. She passed away at her home in Fresno, California at the age of one hundred and three.

A fifty-five year resident of Fresno, California, Mrs. Boghosian was known around the community for her amazing survival story during the First World War, when the Ottoman Turks massacred an estimated 1.5 million Armenians. Born in Erzurum Turkey, she fled her home as a young child after her parents and siblings were murdered, in an attempt by the Ottoman Empire to eliminate any Armenian presence in the area. Missionaries took young Melena to an orphanage in Syria where she lived for several years.

During her stay at the orphanage, Melena began corresponding with her future husband Avedis Gegaregian. At the age of sixteen, she left the orphanage and married Avedis in Beirut, Lebanon. Shortly after they were married, the two traveled by ship to the United States and immigrated through Ellis Island in New York City. Avedis and Melena settled in Camden, New Jersey until Avedis' death in the mid-1950's.

After the death of her first husband, Melena moved to the Central Valley of California, to be closer to family and friends. While living in Fresno, she worked in alterations at Berkeley's Department Store. She later met, and married, her second husband, Nooregan Boghosian, and they lived together until his death. Melena was an active member of the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church and a life long member of the Armenian Relief Society. She is survived by her daughter Jessy Shahbazian.

Madam Speaker, I stand today to honor the extraordinary life of Mrs. Melena Boghosian. I invite my colleagues to join me in this tribute to this incredible woman, and hope that her legacy lives on for future generations.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
NCIS DIRECTOR THOMAS A. BETRO

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Special Agent Thomas A. Betro, Director of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, who announced his retirement from that organization in August 2009 after nearly 27 years of highly distinguished service. In addition to his service to NCIS and the nation, Director Betro is among the notable graduates of Colby College, in Waterville, ME.

Mr. Betro joined NCIS in 1982, and during his tenure he has served in a variety of organizational assignments and mission areas, both within the United States and overseas. As a Special Agent, Mr. Betro served overseas in both the Republic of the Philippines and in Iceland. Domestically he held leadership positions in Philadelphia, PA and Newport, RI. He served two separate tours as an NCIS Special Agent Afloat during deployments of the USS *John F. Kennedy* and USS *Enterprise*.

As Deputy Assistant Director, DAD, for Counterintelligence, CI, investigations and operations, Mr. Betro oversaw the development and implementation of the NCIS response to the USS *Cole* bombing, which led to the significant increase of NCIS force protection support to Naval expeditionary forces. Further, he established new criteria for on-the-ground NCIS port visit support, opened new NCIS offices to increase CI support to in-transit units, and greatly expanded counterterrorism, CT, operations for safeguarding naval equities.

In April 2001, Mr. Betro was selected to serve as a Deputy to the National Counterintelligence Executive, NCIX. He later was appointed to the position of National Counterintelligence Executive (Acting) by the NCIX Board of Directors, on behalf of the President of the United States. Mr. Betro was promoted to the Senior Executive Service in March 2002.

Upon returning to NCIS in January 2003, Mr. Betro served as Executive Assistant Director, EAD, for CI until August 2003, when he was promoted to Deputy Director for Operations, DDO. During his time as DDO, NCIS established its Contingency Response Field Office, CRFO, located aboard the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick, GA. CRFO trains NCIS personnel to be rapidly deployed globally in support of the NCIS core missions of criminal investigations, counterterrorism investigations and operations, counterintelligence investigations and operations, protective operations, and force protection/antiterrorism operations.

On January 8, 2006 Mr. Betro was appointed Director of NCIS and at that time became the agency's third civilian director. Under Director Betro's leadership, NCIS has filled every validated Combatant Commander request for forces for Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Horn of Africa on a volunteer basis. Since 2002, there have been approximately 700 NCIS personnel that have deployed to the above mentioned locations as well as to Kuwait, Djibouti, Guantanamo Bay, and other sites.

In February 2007, Director Betro established the NCIS Diversity Office, which is charged

with developing and sustaining a model program that recognizes the critical role diversity plays in the NCIS global mission. Key functions that are aligned under the Diversity office at NCIS include the Equal Opportunity Program; Alternative Dispute Resolution; Diversity Research and Analysis; and Recruiting Outreach. Through his leadership in action, Director Betro has ensured that diversity awareness is now reflected in all core business functions at NCIS and that NCIS is a model for other agencies to follow.

Mr. Betro has received numerous commendations and awards. He is a recipient of the Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award, as well as the Department of the Navy, DON, Distinguished Civilian Service Award and the U.S. Attorney's Award for Outstanding Leadership. He was recognized in 2008 with the Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership and is a prior recipient of the DON Meritorious Civilian Service Award. While assigned to NCIX, he received the National Intelligence Certificate of Distinction and a Meritorious Unit Citation.

In addition to his Bachelor of Arts degree in Government from Colby College, Mr. Betro holds a Master of Arts degree from the Naval War College, where he earned the James Forrestal Award for "Excellence in Strategy and Force Planning."

Though he is formally retiring from NCIS, Mr. Betro has accepted a position with an international security firm based in New York.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Betro for his 27 years of outstanding public service and to wish him fair winds and following seas as he begins the next chapter of his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING
OF CHARLES SHANKLIN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Charles E. Shanklin, a Northwest Florida community leader who passed away on August 26, 2009. Charles spent his entire life serving his community and family, and I am proud to honor his life of dedication and service.

Charles Shanklin was born in Oak Park, Illinois in 1929. He attended Bowling Green State University and Ohio State University, earning his Juris Doctor in 1952. Charles became a brilliant and outstanding attorney at Baker & Hostetter in Columbus, Ohio, and served as the managing partner. He remained at the firm for thirty-two years. After his retirement from Baker & Hostetter, Charles became the owner and manager of Marion Steel in 1981, where he worked until 1989.

In 1990, Charles purchased Crestview Aerospace in Crestview, Florida. He operated the company as a family business until 2006, when it became a part of the L-3 Communications Corporation. During his years in Northwest Florida, Charles became an integral part of the business and local communities. Over his lifetime, he worked with Bowling Green State University, the Sigma Chi Fraternity organization, the American Bar Association, Urbana University, and the Niceville Exchange

Club. Charles was awarded Director Emeritus of Bowling Green in 2009, and the school endowed a meritorious scholarship in his name to recognize excellence in original research by graduate students.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor Mr. Charles Shanklin. Charles will be remembered by all as loving husband and father, a successful lawyer and businessman, and an important part of our Northwest Florida community. Vicki and I will keep his wife, Bernice, and children, Chuck, John, Tom, Jean, and Ann, in our prayers.

HONORING MARINE LANCE
CORPORAL BRIAN K. SCHRAMM

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN LEE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor fallen Marine Brian Schramm, the first resident of the 26th Congressional District to lose his life in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

On June 20, 2009, President Obama signed into law H.R. 1595, legislation renaming the post office at 3245 Latta Road in Greece, New York in honor of Lance Corporal Schramm.

Brian Schramm made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the values that sustain this country—family, community, hard work, and freedom. It is no surprise that one friend of Brian's described him as the "most genuine person you'd ever meet in your entire life." That is why I introduced legislation to rename the post office just a few miles down the road from where Brian grew up in his honor. I am heartened that the people of the Town of Greece will have this opportunity to pay lasting tribute to Brian's life and legacy.

Lance Corporal Schramm was born and raised in the Town of Greece, Brian fulfilled a lifelong dream by signing up for the Marines shortly after graduating from Greece Olympia High School in 2001. On his second tour of Iraq, Marine Lance Corporal Schramm was assigned to the 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, based out of Camp Lejeune, N.C. On Oct. 15, 2004, he died as a result of enemy action in Babil province, Iraq. He was 22.

Brian is survived by his parents, Keith and Mary Ellen, his older sister, Jennifer, and his two younger brothers, Kyle and Michael. Mary Ellen is a co-founder of the Rochester chapter of Gold Star Mothers.

Madam Speaker, in recognition this selfless individual and brave patriot who gave his life to protect this nation, I ask this Honorable Body to join me in honoring the legacy of Lance Corporal Brian K. Schramm.

H.R. 2014, AWARDING A CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO WOMEN
AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

Mr. EDWARDS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise as an original co-sponsor of this bill,