

are needed for homeless veteran families and women veterans. The Department of Labor's Veteran Employment and Training Service would administer the program within their successful Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program (HVRP).

The bill also requires that the current biennial reports to Congress include data that shows results and outcomes of the services provided to the homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with dependent children. The bill authorizes appropriations of \$10,000,000 for each fiscal year for the program.

If this bill is enacted, it would provide valuable services to this vulnerable population of veterans and help stem the tide of chronic homelessness. I urge my colleagues to support and co-sponsor the measure.

HONORING DAVID "NICK" LYNCH

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Suitland High School head football coach David "Nick" Lynch, who was killed in a car accident last week, at the age of 43. Nick Lynch was one of the most respected football coaches in Maryland, leading the Suitland High team for 12 years and taking it to two state championships.

More than his coaching success, though, Coach Lynch was set apart by his devotion to his players and outsized role in the Prince George's County community. As Suitland Principal Mark Fossett said, "He's had an impact on so many people's lives—not only football players, but students in general. It wasn't like Nick was just the head coach of football. This is a devastating loss to our community, to our family." Many of his current and former players echoed that thought, speaking of Coach Lynch's commitment to shaping the lives of his players off the field, inviting them to church and meals, and acting as the caring authority figure that many of them had lacked. Keith Brown, one of Suitland's players, put it simply after Coach Lynch's memorial service: "That's my father."

At a service in which some mourners squeezed into stairways or sat in aisles, nearly 3,000 members of the Prince George's community gathered to honor Nick Lynch's impact on the lives of so many young men. Though Coach Lynch is gone, his influence will no doubt endure in all the lives he touched.

HONORING LEROY RADANOVICH

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Leroy Radanovich. Mr. Radanovich was recognized by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors on December 9, 2008.

Leroy Radanovich was born and raised in Mariposa County, CA. As a child, Yosemite National Park was his playground. He grew up

learning to appreciate his surroundings and his community. Through his love of nature, Mr. Radanovich began photographing areas of Mariposa and Yosemite Valley. Because of his talented eye for beauty today many of his photographs can be found in numerous books and museums. Although his photography has spread his name around the world, it is his community activities that have made him a leader in Mariposa.

Mr. Radanovich is a local business owner. Though retired from the pharmacy business, he currently operates a photography business. He has served his community as a volunteer firefighter, past president of the Lions Club, and past president of the Mariposa County Water Agency. He served as president of the Mariposa Chamber of Commerce and assisted in establishing multiple tourism and economic development programs. From 1985 through 1988, Mr. Radanovich was elected as the supervisor of District 4 in Mariposa County. During his role as supervisor he served as the chairman of the board in 1987 and the president of the San Joaquin Valley Supervisors Association in 1988. In 1987 he was instrumental in obtaining the designation of the Kern and Merced Rivers as "National Wild and Scenic River" by the Federal Government. From 1996 until 2003 he was a member of the Mariposa Planning Commission and assisted in developing the comprehensive update of the General Plan. Mr. Radanovich is a member of the Historical Sites and Records Preservation Commission, the Cemetery Advisory Committee, and was influential in the restoration of the Mariposa County Courthouse. Since 2006, he has served as the director of the Yosemite/Mariposa County Tourism Bureau. Mr. Radanovich has been involved with nearly every significant project in Mariposa County since the 1960s.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Leroy Radanovich. Although he is going to move away from the public role, I am certain that his influences will still be noticed. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his accomplishments and wishing him the best in future endeavors.

HONORING JAMES ALBON MATTOX

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the late James Mattox.

Jim Mattox was a lifelong Dallasite. A graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School, he also worked his way through the Baylor School of Business and earned a law degree from SMU. He served as an assistant district attorney in Dallas County before beginning his long political career in 1973 when he took office as a State representative from East Dallas. From there he was elected to Congress for three terms and ended his political service in 1991 when he stepped down from his post as Texas attorney general.

Jim Mattox will be remembered as a man who fought for average, working Texans, and who left an unforgettable mark on Texas government in politics. He took on airlines and the insurance industry—among many other cor-

porations—on behalf of Texas consumers. He was one of the greatest attorney generals in the State's history.

After his political career Jim Mattox became known as the "People's Lawyer" and built a truly modern law practice. He and his staff handled more than 2 million cases, won judgments totaling more than \$2.5 billion for the State, and opened up the diversity of the office by hiring more women and minority lawyers than the top 10 Texas law firms of that era combined.

Madam Speaker, Jim Mattox is survived by his wife Marta and their two children, Jim and Janet, as well as his sister, Janice, and brother, Jerry, both of Dallas. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring the memory of Jim Mattox. Although he has departed from us in body, his memory will live on in each of us.

HORSE TRANSPORTATION SAFETY
ACT OF 2009

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today Representative STEVE COHEN and I introduced the Horse Transportation Safety Act of 2009.

In Wadsworth, IL, on Saturday, October 27, 2007, a double decker cattle truck carrying 59 Belgian draft horses overturned when the driver ran a red light and hit another vehicle.

Residents at the scene could hear the animals kicking and screaming, panicked by their inability to escape. Eight horses died on the scene while another ten had to be euthanized. After the crash, Wayne Pacelle, president and CEO of The Humane Society of the United States said, "What a gory mess we saw recently in Illinois. It must never happen again . . ."

It is time that we heed these words by putting an end to using double decker trucks to transport horses. This legislation, endorsed by the Humane Society, Animal Welfare Institute, Hooved Animal Rescue and Protection Society, and the Communication Alliance to Network Thoroughbred Ex-Racehorses would take steps toward preventing this disaster from occurring again.

This bill prohibits the interstate transport of horses in a motor vehicle containing two or more levels stacked on top of one another as well as creates civil penalties between \$100 and \$500 for each horse involved.

In my own State of Illinois, the State General Assembly has already moved forward and passed similar legislation. I urge my colleagues to become a cosponsor of this bipartisan commonsense legislation.

STEVE AND SHARON RUSNAK TO
RETIRE: 70 YEARS OF COMBINED
SERVICE

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity to acknowledge the support staff that keeps the House up and running year-

round and regardless of which party is in power. Specifically, I would like to pay tribute to Steve and Sharon Rusnak, a truly unique couple who will both be retired within the next few months after serving “behind the scenes” in the House of Representatives for a truly remarkable combined service of 70 years.

Most of our colleagues, along with countless numbers of our constituents, have been on the other side of Steve’s camera lens and have benefited from the skill, talent, and quiet dignity that he has brought to his work in the Office of Photography for the past 32 years. Steve joined the staff of the House in January of 1977 and has been witness to and chronicled the tremendous changes that have occurred within the Congress and the Nation for more than three decades.

After attending Ohio State University, Steve began his career as a lab technician and just retired from the House as senior photographer, having also served as acting manager for the Office of Photography last year. Through his skill, hard work, and long hours Steve has made an important contribution to the archives of the House, providing a visual recorded history and account of the House’s work for these many years.

In addition to being on hand to photograph the annual State of the Union Address and other official events inside and outside of the House chamber, Steve has traveled the four corners of the world to record on film the work of Members of the House. And for so many years he has rushed from office to office and to the steps of the House chamber, in all kinds of weather, to photograph the visits made by our constituents and other groups to Washington.

In addition to the professionalism and ability he brings to his job as an official House photographer, his kind manner and ready smile have put many people at ease and given them a visual reminder of their visit to Capitol Hill which for many is a once in a lifetime opportunity. There is no telling how many people Steve has photographed and touched in such a unique way. Steve worked long hours and missed many lunches to do his job and to do it so well, and he was supported throughout the process by a woman who is no stranger to the long hours and unique workplace that exists here in the “people’s House.”

Sharon Rusnak began her service in the House in 1967, as a summer intern to the late Congressman Carl D. Perkins, D-KY. After graduating from Berea College, she worked in his official office and went on to serve as executive assistant for him, and after his death, for his son Carl C. Perkins until 1993. In addition to maintaining a very full Hill schedule, Sharon earned a master’s degree in education from George Washington University.

After serving as office manager to former Representative Lynn Schenk, D-CA, Sharon joined the staff of former Congressman E “Kika” de la Garza, D-TX, and served as scheduler for the House Committee on Agriculture until Kika’s retirement in 1996. For the next 8 years, she served as office manager for the committee’s ranking minority member, former Congressman Charlie Stenholm, D-TX. Sharon is currently serving as chief administrative officer for the Agriculture Committee chaired by Congressman Collin C. Peterson, D-MN, and will remain in that position for the next few months.

Despite the long hours and hectic schedules, Steve and Sharon Rusnak have enjoyed

a happy and productive life away from the halls of Congress. They married in 1973 and raised two daughters, Shelley Brooke and Stacey LeeAnn, and took an active hand in helping nurture their children’s educational and athletic abilities. Steve served as a youth basketball coach, youth soccer coach, and little league coach. A soccer player in her own right, Sharon also coached youth soccer, worked as a referee, and has experience as a liturgical dancer.

Steve and Sharon’s commitment to their children is clear. Shelley graduated from Christopher Newport University and Stacey took her first degree from Virginia Tech, subsequently earning a nursing degree from Marymount University in Arlington, VA.

There is an expression that “slow and steady wins the race.” For more than three decades the House of Representatives has benefited from the tireless service of these very capable civil servants. You won’t see their names on the election ballot every 2 years, but the work of this body would be impossible without individuals such as Steve and Sharon Rusnak. Their dedication to their jobs, their country and their family are an inspiration to us all and I would like to thank and commend them for their selfless service to this body. And I hasten to wish them a long, happy, and healthy retirement. They have certainly earned it.

VIOLENCE IN ISRAEL AND GAZA

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address an issue that is very much on the minds of my constituents right now—the violence in Israel and Gaza.

This is a difficult time for Israel, and as its ally, I believe we must support its right to self-defense.

Before I joined Congress, I had the privilege of visiting Israel. It was a trip that I will never forget. I have always considered myself a friend of Israel, but that trip made me realize just how much our two nations have in common.

We all want peace, Madam Speaker, but clearly there can be no peace while Hamas continues to launch unprovoked rocket attacks into Israel.

We would not let Hamas launch rockets into the United States, and I do not know how we could expect Israel to permit these attacks either.

I am deeply saddened by the casualties the recent conflict has inflicted, especially the civilian casualties. Each one of these is a tragedy, and I sincerely hope that both sides will do everything possible to avoid them.

I am encouraged by Israel’s decision to temporarily pause its military operations to allow delivery of humanitarian aid, and by Hamas’s decision to cease rocket launches during these deliveries. While only three hours, this is an important step forward. I hope that a longer lasting peace can be achieved soon.

CONGRATULATING RIVERHEAD BLUE WAVES FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the exceptional achievements of the Riverhead Blue Waves Football Team: 2008 Long Island Class II Champions and the first Long Island squad in history to compile a record of 12–0. The Blue Waves also earned the overall championship for Suffolk County and the Rutgers Award as the county’s consensus best team.

As always, Riverhead’s success was built on strong teamwork, solid coaching, and the contributions of talented individuals. Anchoring a potent offense that averaged 35 points per game, senior running back Miguel Maysonet was voted the top offensive player in Suffolk County by opposing coaches. The same group recognized one of their own, Riverhead Coach Leif Shay, as coach of the year.

Madam Speaker, the success of Riverhead’s football team has brought great pride to their school and the community. I am pleased to join all residents of Riverhead in congratulating the Blue Waves on their accomplishments, and wish the departing seniors the best of luck in their future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF PAUL WEYRICH

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on December 18, Paul Weyrich, one of the founders of the modern conservative movement, died. He successfully worked to evolve conservatism from a status of negativism to a dynamic movement promoting creative and meaningful reforms. I personally saw his success firsthand with the American Legislative Exchange Council developing State legislative reforms. And with Dr. Robert Kriebler, I served on the delegation in August 1991 of the Kriebler Institute to Sofia, Bulgaria, where Paul Weyrich gave presentations to the newly elected democrats of the National Assembly who helped Bulgaria emerge from the darkness of totalitarian Communism. Bulgaria today is a model free market democracy as a valued member of NATO and the European Union. His service to our nation will always be appreciated.

John Gizzi, columnist for Human Events professionally penned the following thoughtful tribute to Mr. Weyrich on the day of his passing.

[From Human Events, Dec. 18, 2008]

PAUL WEYRICH: RIP

(By John Gizzi)

Paul Weyrich—“The midwife of the New Right” . . . “Pope Paul” . . . “The Man Who Taught Conservatives to Network”—passed away this morning after a long illness.

Weyrich was called a lot of things—and some of them that originated on the left are unprintable—but one thing admirers and enemies of Paul Weyrich found inarguable: that in 66 years of life, the man who