

H.R. 1105 incorrectly named me as a requestor of the "Ohio Hub Cleveland—Columbus Rail Corridor, OH" project in the Research and Development Account of the Federal Rail Administration. I did not request this project.

IN RECOGNITION OF JANICE  
KAMINIS PLATT IN HONOR OF  
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, in recognition of Women's History Month, I rise today to honor Janice Kaminis Platt, a devoted advocate for our natural environment, high ethical standards, and education in the Tampa Bay area. Ms. Platt's life is an example of true integrity in public service.

Ms. Platt was born in St. Petersburg, Florida and is a 1958 graduate of Florida State University where she was the Vice-President of the student body, President of the Student Council and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi, Mortar Board, and Hall of Fame. Later in life, from 2004–2006, Ms. Platt returned to her roots, serving as the Chair of the Tampa Bay Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association.

Ms. Platt's love of Tampa Bay's natural environment formed her strong advocacy for growth management and environmental protections. She was never afraid to say "no" to special interests who sought unwise or untimely permission to promote development or environmental harm.

Ms. Platt was elected to serve on the Tampa City Council from 1974–1978 and then elected to serve as a commissioner on the Hillsborough Board of County Commissioners from 1978–1994 and from 1996–2004. She also served as chair of the commission several times during her tenure.

Ms. Platt was named as a member of the American Library Association's "Freedom to Read Honor Roll" and received the "Best Friend of the Year" award from the Friends of the Library of Hillsborough County, Inc. in 1999. In honor of her committed work with libraries and education, the Jan Kaminis Platt Regional Library was dedicated to her on December 11, 2000. Hillsborough Head Start is viewed as a model among other institutions nationwide because of Jan Platt's guiding hand over many years.

Her extensive list of awards and achievements is remarkable. She has received more than fifty, demonstrating how much time and energy she devotes to truly making a difference. Her awards include: the Florida State University Distinguished Alumna for the College of Social Sciences Award, The University of Tampa Ethics Award, the Mortar Board Distinguished Lifetime Member Award, and the Don Hansen Conservationist of the Year Award.

In her lifetime as a public servant Ms. Platt has been a member of more than 40 community Boards and has served as chair of more than 20 of these organizations. Ms. Platt was also a distinguished member of the Constitutional Revision Commission.

Madam Speaker, Jan Platt is an incredible woman who has dedicated her life to improv-

ing reading education in Tampa. I was proud to call her a colleague. She served as one of my most important role models of what a public servant should be. I join many others to applaud her lifelong contribution to the Tampa Bay community.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT PUBLIC SERVANTS BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND CONTINUED SERVICE TO THE NATION DURING PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK, MAY 4 THROUGH MAY 10, 2009

**HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, the week of May 4 through May 10, 2009 marks the 25th anniversary of Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW). PSRW is a week set aside to commemorate the hard work, dedication, and sacrifice made by our Nation's Federal, State and local government employees. As Chairman of the Federal Workforce, Postal Service, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee, I am proud to introduce this resolution honoring public service and public servants.

PSRW offers an opportunity for all Americans to both recognize and learn about the significant contributions public sector employees make on a daily basis to our local communities, states, and country. Whether fighting crime, educating future generations, or serving on the front line to protect our nation, public servants touch every aspect of our lives.

While Public Service Week lasts only seven days, I believe that the contributions and sacrifices of public servants ought to be recognized and appreciated throughout the entire year. By honoring public servants we show younger generations the importance of public service and inspire them to consider entering the field, whether on the federal, State, or local level of government.

We, as a nation, have a responsibility to honor the commitment of government employees and to recognize that our country runs on their diligence and hard work. The commemoration of Public Service Recognition Week stands as a reminder to every citizen that the sacrifices and contributions made by American public employees is what makes our country a more perfect union and our government one that is truly of the people, for the people and by the people.

CONGRATULATING THE MADISON COUNTY, OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MARY JO KILROY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Madison County Chamber of Commerce on the celebration of its 50th anniversary. The Chamber of Commerce has

been extremely important in building and growing hundreds of businesses in Madison County. At this significant moment in time, with much volatility and uncertainty in our economy, it is important to recognize the role that local chambers of commerce play.

The Madison County Chamber of Commerce's purpose is to serve the businesses and entrepreneurs in the local community. The Chamber plays an integral role in bringing new ideas and jobs to the area while sustaining small businesses and working on their behalf. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. They have continued to employ American workers through some of the toughest times in history. These businesses stay true to their employees and do everything they can to positively impact their local community.

The Madison County Chamber of Commerce is working hard to ensure jobs stay at home in Central Ohio. Just last week the Chamber of Commerce announced nearly 15,000 jobs are available in Madison County. These competitive jobs require high levels of training; with my support and the support of the Chamber of Commerce, we are committed to providing the proper resources to equip our workforce with the tools they need to prosper in the 21st Century work environment.

Madam Speaker, I wish that our work here in Washington did not cause me to miss tonight's gathering. As the Madison County Chamber of Commerce begins its anniversary celebration, I am reminded of the importance of Main St. in our national economy and dedicate my efforts to continuing a partnership that benefits central Ohio.

I want to thank all of the businesses that contribute so much to Madison County and Central Ohio. I want to specifically acknowledge the Chamber's current leadership: Executive Director Sean Hughes, President of the Board of Directors Tim Suter, 1st Vice President Brenda Adams, 2nd Vice President Joan Denes, 3rd Vice President Pamela Peterman and Secretary-Treasurer Sarah Hankins-Miller. May the next 50 years be prosperous and successful. I ask that my colleagues join me to acknowledge and celebrate this milestone with my friends at the Madison Chamber of Commerce.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ELLIE RICKER TO THE SCOTTSDALE SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION

**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ellie Ricker for the many significant contributions she has made to the Scottsdale Sister Cities Association. She has spent the last 30 years of her life working with Scottsdale's sister cities of Alamos, Mexico; Cairns, Australia; Kingston, Canada; and Interlaken, Switzerland.

Ellie, who is now retiring, was recently honored by Scottsdale Sister Cities for her three decades of loyal, dedicated work for the association and the people who benefit from their labor. She has served as secretary and representative to Cairns and chair of the Alamos and Kingston home-stay committees. Her passionate activism has ranged from organizing

trips to welcoming exchange students into her home.

Last fall, Ellie, along with volunteers from Scottsdale, helped mobilize relief efforts when Alamos, Mexico was struck by a devastating hurricane. She helped provide clothing, food, and relief funds to the residents of Alamos in their mission to rebuild their town.

Ellie and her husband John have had the privilege of traveling all over the world in support of Sister Cities' programs, forming long-standing relationships along their way. Her incredible commitment has raised the bar for all of our citizens and has already inspired many to follow in her path.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Ellie Ricker's 30 years of work and dedication to Scottsdale Sister Cities and the peoples' lives she has touched.

IN HONOR OF WOODROW WILSON  
HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATING ITS  
80TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Woodrow Wilson High School which will celebrate its eightieth anniversary on April 25, 2009.

Since its founding, Woodrow has always been a special part of Dallas. This historic high school was designed by famed Dallas architect Mark Lemmon. To honor its namesake, the school's cornerstone included a piece of wedding cake from Jesse Wilson Sayre, President Woodrow Wilson's daughter. Over the course of its history, Woodrow has educated thousands of bright individuals, nurturing their talent while providing them with a wonderful learning environment as well as many fond memories. In 2006 and 2008, Woodrow made it to Newsweek's list of America's Top Public High Schools.

It is also the only public high school in the United States proudly hailed as the alma maters of two Heisman Trophy winners: Davey O'Brien and Tim Brown. Other notable alumni include legendary real estate developer Trammell Crow, Congressman SAM JOHNSON, Congressman Jim Collins, Texas Attorney General Jim Maddox, Chief Justice Tom Phillips of the Texas Supreme Court, civic leader Ruth Sharp Altshuler, and seven Dallas area mayors. As Woodrow celebrates eighty years, I know it will continue to be a beacon of academic excellence in Dallas.

I ask my colleagues to join me in offering our heartiest congratulations to the faculty, staff, students, and alumni of Woodrow Wilson High School.

HONORING RON LAWSON

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ron Lawson upon being named as a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. Mr.

Lawson was honored on Saturday, January 31, 2009.

Mr. Lawson was born in Los Angeles and attended high school in Bell, California. At seventeen he enlisted in the United States Army. He completed basic training at Fort Ord, California and was on his way to Korea. Once in Korea, he joined the First Cavalry for thirteen months, serving with a heavy weapons infantry unit with duties along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). He was then transferred to Germany where he served for five years with the First ARB 46th Infantry and with the 24th Infantry Division. He had duty in Berlin along the wall at Checkpoint Charlie. Upon his return to the U.S. he was assigned as a weapons instructor at Fort Polk, Louisiana.

He was at Fort Polk for a short amount of time before returning to Korea for a second tour. He served in the 7th Cavalry with the 2nd Infantry Division. When he returned to the U.S., he was selected as an instructor at the Drill Sergeant Academy at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. After completion of the academy, he served as a drill sergeant for new recruits, readying them for advanced training and deployment to Vietnam. In 1970, Mr. Lawson was deployed to Southeast Asia and joined the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. He was assigned to Team 25 and Mobile Advisory Team 97; Team 25 worked with South Vietnamese Regional Forces in the Central Highlands of II Corps. He provided expert advice to the regional soldiers in tactics while accompanying them on operations against Viet Cong and NVA forces in heavy jungle canopy and rugged mountain terrain. His units also worked with and fought alongside native Montagnard tribesmen. Mr. Lawson was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his actions while serving with Team 25 and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry for action with Mobile Team 97.

After completing twelve months in Vietnam, Mr. Lawson returned to Fort Ord and reassigned duties as a drill sergeant. He was reassigned to Germany and joined the 1st Armored Division as Operations Sergeant. He returned to Fort Ord to serve as a first sergeant for the 7th Light Infantry Division until he retired.

During Mr. Lawson's time in the Army he completed many training courses including German Language School, the 24th division NCO Academy, Instructor Preparation Course, Pre-commissioning Course at Fort Benning, Officer Leadership at Fort Ord, Infantry Armor NCO Advanced Course at Fort Benning, the NCO Republic of Vietnam Orientation Course and Drill Sergeant Academy. For his service he was awarded the Bronze Star, the Army Meritorious Service Medal, four Army Commendation Medals, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with a Gold Star, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, the Army Occupation award, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Berlin and Korea), Korean Defense Medal, National Defense Service Medal and the Combat Infantry Badge. Mr. Lawson received six letters of commendation and was honored as Fort Ord Drill Sergeant of the Year.

After Mr. Lawson retired he and his family moved to Chowchilla, California and he was employed as a maintenance supervisor. He is a member of the Young Men's Institute, Saint Columba Church and has served as a member of the City of Chowchilla Planning Com-

mission for twenty-one years. He is a life member of the Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896 and member of the American Legion Post 148. He is also the Past Commander of Post 9896 and has held the position of Post Quartermaster for several years. Mr. Lawson currently resides in Chowchilla with his wife Mathilda, they have two children and two grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Ron Lawson upon being named as a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Lawson many years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, during rollcall 161 on the amendment offered by Representative GOODLATTE to H.R. 1404, the Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement Act, I recorded a "yes" vote. This was in error; I intended to vote "no."

This amendment would create a new contract authority for the Secretary of the Agriculture to enter into contracts with states regarding projects on National Forest System lands. I, and many of my colleagues, were concerned that these new contracts might not be subject to Davis-Bacon protections or other relevant federal laws that provide wage protections for workers.

I have been a strong and consistent supporter of Davis-Bacon and of ensuring that America's workers are paid a fair wage. Recently, I voted "no" on an amendment to H.R. 1262, the Water Quality Investment Act, that would have removed all Davis-Bacon prevailing wage provisions from the bill.

I regret the error and am pleased that the Goodlatte amendment did not pass.

TRIBUTE TO RON SILVER

**HON. MARY BONO MACK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Mrs. BONO MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Ron Silver and mourn his untimely passing.

Ron Silver's talent and passion as an artist was evident on the screen, television and the stage. He received numerous awards and accolades from his peers for his memorable performances and his ability to entertain audiences. He cared about his craft and was beloved by the people who had the good fortune to work with him.

It's rare that an individual can successfully navigate through the personalities and politics of both Hollywood and Washington, but Ron Silver was able to master both and gain the respect of all he touched along the way. Ron's good nature and principled patriotism led him to be accepted and trusted by Republicans, Democrats and Independents alike. He was able to accomplish this because no matter