

In June 2009, OMB and the Recovery and Accountability and Transparency Board (RATB) selected an existing data management system used by the Environmental Protection Agency called the Central Data Exchange or CDX for short. The great efficiency of the interagency work allowed the website, Recovery.gov, to open several weeks later in August for both the government and the public to access. The system is also flexible enough that OMB and RATB continue to guide and improve reporting requirements through a separate data collection site, FederalReporting.gov on a daily basis.

The Recovery Board and the EPA partnered with CGI Federal to develop and implement the site. CGI Federal built the site and added enhancements and still continues to validate the site's information. The tireless work and outstanding effort of this partnership led to the successful implementation of this system.

FederalReporting.gov is the first centralized reporting strategy that spans all participating federal agencies. As a result, agencies do not have to spend funds to implement independent solutions for data collection. Also, FederalReporting.gov is one of the first federal reporting systems to be entirely paperless. The success of the site proves that a paperless system does not result in a large number of non-compliant recipients but opens the door for future green government efforts.

FederalReporting.gov shows us that there are examples of successful collaboration and partnership between government agencies and the private sector that help move our country forward.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I regrettably missed a rollcall vote on June 8, 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 337.

#### HOH INDIAN TRIBE SAFE HOMELANDS ACT

SPEECH OF

##### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 8, 2010*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, as a member of the Native American Caucus, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1061, the Hoh Indian Tribe Safe Homelands Act, which declares that certain federal land in the state of Washington is held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Hoh Indian Tribe.

I would like to thank Speaker PELOSI for her leadership in bringing this important bill to the floor. I would also like to thank my colleague Congressman NORM DICKS, the author of this legislation, who worked so hard to help this tribe solve the serious land and water problems they face.

Madam Speaker, the Hoh Indian Tribe Safe Homelands Act directs the Secretary of the Interior, on conveyance of certain nonfederal

land owned by the Tribe to the Secretary, to take such land into trust for the Tribe. This bill prohibits the placement of commercial, residential, or industrial buildings or other structures, any actions that would adversely affect the natural environment, or logging and hunting activities. H.R. 1061 also directs the Secretary and the Tribe to make cooperative agreements for mutual emergency fire aid and to provide opportunities for the public to learn more about the Tribe's culture and traditions.

As a long time friend and supporter of the Native American community, I am so pleased to champion a bill such as H.R. 1061, which will help the Hoh tribe grow and prosper on lands that are safe for their children and elders.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1061.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, yesterday I was absent and missed rollcall votes 337 and 338.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 337 and "aye" on rollcall 338.

#### TRIBUTE TO NELDA BARTON-COLLINGS

##### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Nelda Barton-Collings, a business savvy Kentuckian who adopted a passion for public service through her family legacy and through her own determination, improved our region.

Nelda Barton-Collings is a pioneer for women in business and entrepreneurship in Kentucky. Nelda's career was shaped by her hard-working family. Her father spent 20 years as a county commissioner while also running the family grocery store with her mother. Her parents laid a firm foundation of strong work ethic and civic responsibility. Nelda dedicated her life to those values and became the first woman to chair the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce.

Nelda faced several challenges along her journey to success. At the age of 48, she suffered through the death of her husband and became a widow with five children. Determined to support her family, Nelda went back to college to learn more about business, entrepreneurship and healthcare. She soon joined her late husband's business partner to bring his original business dreams to life. Today, they own nursing homes, newspapers, banks and a pharmacy. Nelda's tenacity and spirit carried her through many challenging times to now see the fruits of her hard labor shared among families across the state.

For 28 years, Nelda was the Republican National Committee-Woman from Kentucky. She was the first woman from Kentucky to address the RNC and call the meeting to order.

As an ambassador for our fine Commonwealth, Mrs. Barton-Collings greeted every U.S. President with her sweet southern hospitality and gave them a priceless bluegrass welcome. She made such a lasting impression, that President Ronald Reagan appointed her to the Federal Council on Aging and President George H.W. Bush appointed her to the President's Council on Rural America.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Nelda Barton-Collings, a true friend to Kentucky, our great nation and a mentor to women in business and entrepreneurship.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, on June 8, 2010, I was unavoidably unable to cast my votes for rollcall 337 and rollcall 338 due to a delayed flight. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### DEDICATION OF STATUE AT MICKLEY MANTLE FIELD IN COMMERCE, OKLAHOMA

##### HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, my congressional district in eastern Oklahoma is home to some great American heroes. Names like Woody Guthrie, T. Boone Pickens, Will Rogers and even the late great Speaker of the House Carl Albert. But no eastern Oklahoman has a bigger claim to fame than Hall of Fame baseball player Mickey Mantle.

Madam Speaker, Mickey Mantle was born in Spavinaw, Oklahoma, the son of Elvin and Lovell Mantle—"The Mick" was named in honor of Mickey Cochrane, the Hall of Fame catcher from the Philadelphia Athletics. Later in life the Mantle family would move to the nearby town of Commerce, Oklahoma where Mickey would attend Commerce High School and go on to become an all-state athlete in basketball, football and of course baseball.

Promptly after his high school graduation, Mickey Mantle would sign a contract to play professional baseball in the New York Yankees organization. Mantle rose through the minors quickly and made his major league debut on Yankees' field in the spring of 1951. Five years later, in 1956, Mickey Mantle would win the Triple Crown, leading the majors in home runs, RBIs and batting average. In the spring of 1957, he was considered by many to be the greatest baseball player on the planet.

Mantle went on to become one of the most recognizable names in baseball history and in 1961 was the highest paid active player in the Major Leagues. He was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1974, and forty-one years ago this month (June) had his number "7" forever retired in Yankee lore.

In honor of their hometown hero, on the 12th of June, 2010, the citizens of eastern Oklahoma are set to commemorate one of

their own, Mickey Mantle, with the dedication of a statue of the legendary player at Mickey Mantle field at Commerce High School in Commerce, Oklahoma.

Madam Speaker, Mickey Mantle's hopes, dreams, and accomplishments remind each and every one of my constituents why it's great to be an "Okie."

#### CONGRATULATING ISRAEL ON OECD MEMBERSHIP

SPEECH OF

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 26, 2010*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the state of Israel on its acceptance into the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. This shows a great triumph for the country of Israel, and I congratulate them on their prestigious achievement.

On May 10, the 31 states in the OECD unanimously agreed to invite Israel to become a member, noting the country's "scientific and technological policies have produced outstanding outcomes on a world scale." On May 27, Israel officially joined.

The fact that Israel is now a member of the OECD is proof that, despite hardships and struggle, Israel has become a thriving and prosperous democracy. It has made important contributions in technology, medicine, agriculture and environmental innovation, worldwide. I am proud to see that these contributions are being acknowledged.

I also want to recognize President Obama and Secretary Clinton for their strong efforts ensure this happened. This victory for Israel is equally a victory for our country.

Congratulations, too, to the participating countries in the OECD for their ability to see past the possible politicization of this offer. The OECD was responsible and fair in its assessment of Israel's qualifications, focusing on what matters: economic and democratic standards.

But even as we stand here to recognize the Jewish State's achievement, we must remember that Israel, one of our strongest and most consistent allies, still continues to face attacks from hostile neighbors and challenges in its dealings with the rest of the world.

We must continue to be supportive allies to the Jewish State. Though Israel has made this significant advancement, threats still exist, and we must ensure that anti-Israel and anti-Semitic sentiments do not dictate Israel's viability as a strong, democratic nation.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF SIERRA NEVADA BREWERY AND THE INSPIRATIONAL CAREER OF ITS FOUNDER KEN GROSSMAN

**HON. WALLY HERGER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to commend both Si-

erra Nevada Brewery and the inspirational career of its founder, Ken Grossman on its 30th Anniversary. Ken is an outstanding model of the modern American entrepreneurial spirit.

Thirty years ago, Ken began a modest brewing company in the town of Chico, California. Named after the beloved California Mountains, the Sierra Nevada Brewery has since matured into the tenth largest brewery in the United States.

Ken's specialty beers receive constant praise for their exceptional quality. Through the years his brews have collected an impressive array of national and international awards. His award portfolio includes gold medal recognition from competitions in Munich as well as the Great American Beer Festival in Colorado.

The Sierra Nevada Brewery, by incorporating smart and sustainable manufacturing practices, provides an excellent working example of the ideal that economic success and environmental protection go hand in hand. Recently, the brewery expanded its solar panel facility, making it one of the largest private solar facilities in the nation. This expansion allows the brewery to produce the majority of its own energy needs. The brewery also engages in resource conservation and waste diversion through the installation of instruments that reuse the brewery's wastewater and methane gas. Additionally, his brewery has a near perfect recycling record, diverting more than 98 percent of its annual waste away from over-used landfills.

Sierra Nevada Brewery has had a tremendous impact on the local economy. With approximately \$100 million in annual sales, Sierra Nevada Brewery has been able to create over three hundred and fifty jobs. Sierra Nevada Brewery has also been generous in giving back to the community. Indeed, its donation of \$88,000 to the California State University, Chico's Paul L. Byrne Agricultural Teaching and Research Center illustrates its desire to give back to the community that has aided in its success. There is no doubt that the Second Congressional District of California is a better place because of the economic activity and good works that Sierra Nevada Brewery selflessly provides.

#### RECOGNIZING MARTIN LEONARD SKUTNIK

**HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the retirement from government service of a true hero, Martin Leonard Skutnik. On June 4, 2010, Lenny retired after 30 years supporting logistics at the Congressional Budget Office, CBO. His work there—printing and distribution of literally hundreds of CBO reports, providing IT support, and handling mail and supplies—may not have been heroic in the standard sense, and Lenny Skutnik may still insist he didn't do anything special, but those who remember the Air Florida crash in Washington, DC, in 1982 know differently. On that January day when a plane crashed into the freezing Potomac River seconds after takeoff, Lenny dived from shore to save a woman who was too weakened to hold on to

a helicopter's rescue line. His selfless and risky act saved Priscilla Tirado, and two weeks later President Reagan made Lenny a household name by citing his heroism during the State of the Union address.

Lenny never sought recognition of his heroism, but he received it in spades, including being awarded both the United States Coast Guard's Gold Lifesaving Medal and the Carnegie Hero's Fund Medal. The public accolades included "Lenny Skutnik Days" in Mississippi in 1982, and a unanimously passed resolution by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia honoring his "unselfish act of bravery."

But day in and day out, Lenny downplayed his heroism in an unassuming way, continuing to provide logistics for CBO. Doug Elmendorf, CBO's Director, publicly cited Lenny's contributions on Friday, noting that Lenny says he was proud to have been part of CBO, and that he learned a lot working there.

Lenny Skutnik exemplifies the spirit of public service, both on that fateful winter day in 1982 and every day since then through his work with others at CBO to provide budget-related materials that inform Congress and the public on key decisions. On behalf of the many people who rely on CBO's products, and as a grateful American, I would like to thank Lenny Skutnik not just for his heroism in 1982 but also for his many years of public service.

#### HONORING MARTIN LEONARD SKUTNIK

**HON. PAUL RYAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to say thank you to Martin Leonard Skutnik. Lenny is retiring after 30 years of service to the Congressional Budget Office. As you know, Madam Speaker, the Budget Committee relies heavily on CBO and on the professionalism, dedication, and competence of its staff—and those are the very traits I think of when I think of Lenny Skutnik: professional, dedicated, and competent. Lenny paid perhaps one of the highest compliments an employee can pay to his employer when he said recently that he was "proud to have been a part of it [CBO]." That pride was evident in his work and the support he provided CBO in ensuring its products were printed and disseminated in a timely manner.

Lenny had a career at CBO of which he can be proud and Lenny—through his unforgettable actions on a cold day in January nearly 30 years ago—filled this nation with pride even as we watched the fate of Air Florida Flight 90 in horror. On that January 13th, which will forever be remembered by those who then lived and worked in and around Washington, DC, Lenny provided a very real face to heroism. Lenny pushed his own safety to the back of his mind, defied logic, and willingly jumped into the icy waters of the Potomac to help those in need. Lenny's humility and grace keep him from acknowledging he did anything extraordinary, yet we know differently. Lenny's actions provide inspiration to us all and provide a vivid example for us to use when describing the concept of heroism to our children.