

advocacy includes service as a member of the Policy Chief's Advisory Committee, founding the central Commercial District Revitalization Corporation, belonging to the Inner City Business Associations and serving as a board member for the Sherman Heights Community Center.

Hueso holds a bachelor's of arts degree from the University of California, Los Angeles; he also completed postgraduate work in Community and Economic Development at San Diego State University. He and his wife, Laura, live in Logan Heights with their four young sons.

I am happy to join in honoring San Diego City Councilman Ben Hueso with the Community Service Award presented to him at the 28th Annual John S. Lyons Memorial Banquet in San Diego on September 11, 2010.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF RECOGNITION FOR PARENTS OF SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN RESOLUTION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution in support of a national day of recognition for parents of special needs children. I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with my good friend Representative TURNER from Ohio in sponsoring this resolution. I encourage all of my colleagues to support it.

Children with special health care needs are defined as those children who have a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition that requires special health-related services of a type or amount to go above and beyond what is generally required for children. The Department of Health and Human Services' most recent National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs estimates that 14 percent of children between the ages of 0 and 17 in the United States are diagnosed as having special health care needs.

As many in this Chamber already know, I am active in promoting autism awareness and advocating for more research; my only grandson is autistic and I have taken it upon myself to learn about autism and the challenges families face living with autism. Parents serve a critical role in the development of special needs children and in preparing them to succeed in school and life. All too often, children with special needs require specialized services that go well beyond those required by children generally. I believe the time has come to recognize the selfless dedication, compassion, and sacrifice of these parents.

The resolution is simple. It calls for recognition of the importance of honoring the Nation's parents of special needs children; that a National Day of Recognition for Parents of Special Needs Children should be established to honor such parents; and urges the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe such a day with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

Again, I would like to encourage all of my colleagues to co-sponsor this critically important resolution.

SOCIAL SECURITY TURNS 75

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, in just a few weeks, we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of the enactment of the Social Security Act.

Americans have benefitted greatly from this extraordinary program over the past 75 years. In fact, almost half of today's elderly would live in poverty without it. It is the most successful domestic program in our nation's history.

There can be no better time to renew our commitment to defend this program, to reinvigorate it and to do everything we can to ensure that Social Security is funded, solvent, and available for generations to come.

From its very inception, Social Security was a promise of economic security and stability for older Americans after a lifetime of hard work. Over the years, that promise has been strengthened to protect Americans in case of severe disability and the death of a breadwinner as well. Year after year, Social Security continues to deliver on that promise. For three-quarters of a century, through 13 recessions, Americans have been able to depend on benefits that arrive on time and in full.

More than 50 million Americans rely on Social Security now. Six in 10 seniors rely on Social Security for more than half of their income. And more than 6 million children—nearly one in 10—receive part of their family income from Social Security.

For 75 years, we have stood by the program that we created: strengthening it in the 1950s and '60s, and preserving its solvency in the '70s and '80s. Now, as we all know, the retirement of the Baby Boom generation will create new and real challenges for Social Security. And we need to respond to those challenges with innovative solutions that guarantee the system's long-term strength for generations to come.

But make no mistake, opponents of Social Security have not given up their effort to undermine this great program. Republicans in Congress continue to deliberately exaggerate the system's problems in an attempt to scare the public into supporting the radical idea of privatizing Social Security.

The Senior Republican on the House Budget Committee, for example, unveiled his Party's plan to eliminate Medicare and privatize and cut Social Security, rehashing the failed policies that President George Bush tried to carry out but was stopped, thanks to Democratic opposition in Congress.

According to the Washington Post, "Some GOP lawmakers also have endorsed [Rep. PAUL] RYAN's alternative budget plan, which would wipe out deficits in part by privatizing social security and replacing traditional Medicare benefits with an insurance voucher for people age 55 and older."

Their strategy poses a risk to all Americans, and experts concur that privatizing Social Security will not solve the challenges facing the system.

The recent economic meltdown on Wall Street reinforces the folly of trying to tie the Social Security Trust Fund to the ups and downs of a volatile stock market. When the market crashed in 2008, investors lost 30 per-

cent or more of their savings. Social Security recipients didn't lose a nickel in benefits. Had previous efforts to privatize Social Security succeeded, seniors would have lost trillions more in the recent stock market meltdown and economic recession. The American people deserve the income security they have earned.

In the wake of the current economic crisis, Social Security is more important than ever. Social Security was created at a time when the American economy had crumbled and was struggling to recover. Pensions were almost non-existent, and a majority of seniors were unable to support themselves after retirement. Thanks to Social Security, millions of seniors today can live their lives with dignity and independence instead of poverty and despair.

In December of this year, the President's Bipartisan Commission on Fiscal Responsibility will release recommendations on meaningful ways to improve America's long-term fiscal outlook, including the future of Social Security. I look forward to reading the report and reviewing their recommendations to ensure that Social Security is strengthened, not weakened.

As we approach August 14, the date of the 75th anniversary of Social Security, we can all be grateful for the creation of this program and we can all rededicate ourselves to ensuring its continued success. I remain committed to preserving Social Security's guaranteed, lifelong, inflation-protected insurance benefits for retirees, disabled workers and their families, and the survivors of deceased workers for generations to come.

CONGRATULATING SAVAGE PRECISION FABRICATION, INC. FOR 2010 UNITED STATES SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION SUBTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Savage Precision Fabrication, Inc. of Wylie, Texas.

Founded by W.T. and JoAnn Gardner in 1975, and still run by the couple today, Savage Precision has been named the 2010 Subcontractor of the Year by the United States Small Business Administration, SBA. This is the fourth time that the company has earned a prestigious designation from the SBA.

As a top-notch manufacturer of precision-machined and sheet metal components, Savage serves a number of major aerospace and defense contractors, as well as high-tech corporations. In fact, the company proudly supplies F-35 Joint Strike Fighter parts to Lockheed-Martin, playing a crucial support role for our Armed Forces.

Service to country has always been a priority at Savage Precision. The company's founder and CEO, W.T. Gardner, is a United States Army veteran. He and JoAnn grew their company through their belief in the American principles of honesty, loyalty, and hard work. From the moment they opened the doors of Savage Precision, the couple's company motto was, "If it doesn't work, you don't have to pay me." That's fair, that's right, and that's true commitment to excellence.

As the company continues to excel, I am honored to congratulate the Gardners and the many outstanding employees of Savage Precision Fabrication, Inc. The award-winning title you've received from the Small Business Administration this year is hard-earned and well-deserved.

God bless you, and I salute you.

MEMBER-DESIGNATED TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS DATABASE INITIATIVE

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce a new initiative to promote transparency and accountability with regard to Member-designated projects within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: a searchable database of all Member-designated projects included in Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure bills.

On the first day of the new Democratic majority of the 110th Congress, under the leadership of Speaker NANCY PELOSI, the House of Representatives adopted Rules to institute specific requirements with regard to Member-designated projects: congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits. See clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the 111th Congress. For each Member-designated project, a Member of Congress must certify that neither the Member nor his or her spouse has a financial interest in the project. See clause 17 of rule XXIII. In addition, each committee report on a bill must identify any congressional earmarks included in the bill. These transparency and accountability requirements also apply to manager's amendments and Conference Reports. As Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I have vigorously enforced these rules.

In addition, in the interests of full disclosure, transparency, and accountability, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, at my direction, requires Members of Congress to comply with all of the requirements of clause 9 of rule XXI and clause 17 of rule XXIII, even if the earmark rules do not apply, if the Member of Congress requests that the Committee take legislative action targeted to a specific State, locality, or Congressional district. For instance, the Committee requires Members to certify requests for corrections to descriptions of previously designated projects, such as corrections to high-priority projects that were included in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users—Technical Corrections Act of 2008 (P.L. 110–244), even though the corrections do not involve any new funding. See Committee Print 110–175. The Committee also requires Members to certify requests for General Services Administration, GSA, Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions, GSA Public Building Project Survey Resolutions, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Survey Resolutions, even though congressional earmark rules do not apply to these Committee actions.

In the 111th Congress, we have built upon these efforts. Member-designated projects can play an important role in certain programs, such as the Federal-aid highway program. They provide constituents with a chance to weigh in directly with their elected officials on their community priorities, and allow Members an opportunity to advocate for surface transportation and mobility improvements that may be overlooked by a State Department of Transportation. Yet, it is also necessary to use a commonsense approach to dealing with projects that are complete or no longer viable. Earlier this week, on July 27, 2010, the House passed, by a vote of 394–23, H.R. 5730, the “Surface Transportation Earmark Rescission, Savings, and Accountability Act”, introduced by the gentlewoman from Colorado, Ms. MARKEY, to clear the books of projects that will not go forward and save taxpayer money. The bill eliminates a total of \$713 million in unobligated funding for 309 Member-designated projects contained in four previous surface transportation acts enacted over the past two decades. Similarly, during consideration of H.R. 4715, the “Clean Estuaries Act of 2010”, in the House in April of this year, I offered an amendment, which the House adopted, to strike the statutory earmarks included in the National Estuary Program under current law.

In addition, the Committee has adopted a series of Member-designated project reform principles to further promote transparency and accountability. The Committee requires Members of Congress to:

Provide specific information on the type, location, total cost, percentage of total cost of the project, that the request would finance, and benefits of the project;

Provide at least one letter of support for the project from state or local government agencies; certify that neither the Member nor his or her spouse has any financial interest in a project requested; and

Post requests for projects on the Member's website.

Today, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure takes another step in its continuing effort to provide unparalleled transparency and accountability of Member-designated projects. We launch a searchable database of all Member-designated projects included in Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure bills in the 110th and 111th Congresses.

The Member-designated projects database, located on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure website, includes the ability to search Member-designated projects by Member of Congress, State, Congressional district, bill, bill title, and amount. Each Member-designated project includes an electronic copy of the individual “no financial interest” certification of the Member of Congress and, beginning with H.R. 5892, the “Water Resources Development Act of 2010”, a copy of a letter from the state or local government expressing support for the project. Finally, the Committee makes copies of all Member-designated project requests available in the Committee office.

As Chairman, I am deeply committed to transparency and accountability in all of the activities of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. I look forward to working with public interest groups to endeavor to find even more ways to shine a light on the actions of our Committee.

HUGH HAZELWOOD RECOGNIZED AS 2010 FELLOWSHIP HONOREE!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hugh Hazelwood, the Vice President of New Business Development for LIBERTY Dental Plan located in Irvine, California. Together with his wife, Marsha, they strive to provide quality union negotiated benefits to union members throughout California and Nevada.

Liberty Dental Plan is currently 700,000 members strong and employs union members to take care of their brothers and sisters concerns and needs.

Hugh started his working career at a very young age in the family business in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Hugh learned early on that success is equated to giving back to worthwhile charities and the community and dedication to his employer.

Hugh's past volunteer endeavors have included The Association for the Research of Childhood Cancer, The Leukemia Society, and various food banks. He currently serves as a Vice President on the Board of Directors for Guide Dogs of America.

Marsha and Hugh were married on Valentine's Day in 1998, and enjoy working together. Liberty Dental Plan allows them the time and resources to give back to the community.

For his many years of dedicated service to the organized labor movement and to our community, I am pleased in joining others to honor Hugh Hazelwood as the Fellowship Honoree at the 28th Annual John S. Lyons Memorial Banquet in San Diego on September 11, 2010.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AMERICAN LEGION LEON OGIER POST NO. 2

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it has come to my attention that on August 7, 2010, the American Legion Leon Ogier Post No. 2 will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the construction of Memorial Hall, a place the post has called home since 1922. This sturdy building befits an organization that has provided unwavering service to the Nevada community for more than 8 decades.

Completed in 1910, Memorial Hall was originally constructed by the citizens of Vernon County to be the home of Company G of the Fifth Regular Missouri National Guard, the company that ably fought in the Spanish-American War. Twelve years later, the building was deeded to the American Legion Leon Ogier Post No. 2 and was renamed Memorial Hall.

It is fitting that a structure which has stood the test of time bears the name Memorial Hall. This building and the American Legion post housed within are enduring testaments to the men and women who lost their lives in defense of our country and to those who have