

Americans, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to one individual in particular from the First Congressional District who has represented the epitome of leadership and civil service within Northwest Indiana, the Honorable Mara Candelaria Reardon, Indiana State Representative, District 12. A lifelong resident of Northwest Indiana, Representative Candelaria Reardon's continued dedication and commitment to her community is to be commended. Being the first Latina elected to the Indiana General Assembly, Representative Candelaria Reardon's service is an inspiration not only to the Hispanic community, but to women of every cultural background, which is fitting as we also recently celebrated the 90th Anniversary of the Woman's Right to Vote on August 26, 2010.

Mara Candelaria Reardon was born in East Chicago, Indiana. She is the daughter of Isabelino "Cande" Candelaria, the first Puerto Rican appointed to a city council in Indiana, and Victoria Soto Candelaria, the first Latina elected as President of the Indiana Federation of Teachers. Growing up in a family where community activism and Hispanic heritage were core values has undoubtedly been the foundation of her remarkable career.

Representative Candelaria Reardon has extensive experience in the public and private sectors. Her introduction to public service began while working for my office as a Federal Projects Coordinator. Mara Candelaria Reardon was elected Representative for Indiana State District 12 in 2006, and she continues to passionately serve the constituents of her district stating, "Their concerns and goals will serve as the focal point of my efforts in the Indiana House of Representatives. I look forward to the opportunity of working with local officials and community leaders to ensure that their needs are addressed." Throughout her tenure in the Indiana General Assembly, a main goal for Representative Candelaria Reardon has been working to lower property taxes, fighting for realistic tax policies.

In addition to her impressive career, Representative Candelaria Reardon is involved in numerous commendable organizations. Currently, she serves as Treasurer of the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus, an organization that works to create and expand state legislation that supports minority communities throughout the state of Indiana. Recently, she was elected as Treasurer of the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL). The NHCSL is a national organization that unites Hispanic state legislators who work to positively impact the quality of life within Hispanic communities across the United States. Through the NHCSL, Representative Candelaria Reardon is able to work on issues such as quality education, healthcare, affordable housing, comprehensive immigration reform, and job creation on behalf of the Hispanic community in her district and across the nation.

Mara's dedication to Indiana District 12 and the community of Northwest Indiana is exceeded only by her devotion to her wonderful family. She and her loving husband, Matthew, have two children, Christian and Victoria.

Madam Speaker, as we celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month, let us pay tribute to leaders such as Representative Mara Candelaria Reardon, who have contributed so much to the improvement of our communities and our nation. I respectfully ask that you and

my other colleagues join me in commending Representative Candelaria Reardon for her lifetime of service to the Hispanic community and the community of Northwest Indiana. I am proud to serve as her representative in Washington, D.C.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT CAMMARATA FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of Mr. Robert L. Cammarata on the occasion of his retirement as Director of the City of Taunton Department of Human Services.

A tireless and dedicated community leader, Robert Cammarata's career epitomizes public service. He has distinguished himself with his hard work for the people of Massachusetts, and I congratulate him on his accomplishments.

Mr. Robert L. Cammarata was born in 1948 in the village of Ossining, New York. His family moved to the City of Taunton in 1955. Mr. Cammarata served his country as an Army Reservist. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Human Services from New Hampshire College. He is the proud father of Robyn Cammarata Bryant and Thomas Cammarata.

Mr. Cammarata began employment with the City of Taunton in 1974 as the Director of the Taunton Council on Aging. Following a merger of City Departments in 1982, he became the Director of the Department of Human Services. During his tenure, Mr. Cammarata has developed and instituted a variety of programs and services for the citizens of Taunton. He was instrumental in expanding services for seniors of Taunton, including but not limited to, transportation, health programming, nutrition programming including both home delivered meals and site meals, in-home mental health services, bilingual services, nursing services and social and recreational programs. Notable programs that Mr. Cammarata instituted or facilitated include the Elder Outreach Program, Dial-A-Ride, Home Delivered Meals Program, the Elder Mobile Outreach Team for mental health services, Computer & Internet Center for Elders and the UMass Community Nursing Program.

As Human Services Director, Mr. Cammarata also helped conceive, provide and expand many programs for all citizens of Taunton. Noteworthy programs include: the Taunton Safe Neighborhood Initiative, which includes the Community Policing Program, Crime Watch Program, Graffiti Removal Program and was instrumental in assuring communication between policing entities, probation departments, school departments, human services and clergy; Jobs for Youth Program; provision of Basic Needs that included food pantries, emergency utility assistance, emergency rental/mortgage assistance and the establishment of the first homeless shelter in Taunton.

Robert Cammarata was a member of many local, regional and statewide organizations and committees. Locally and regionally, he served as Board Member, Chairman, coordi-

nator and/or as a general member of the Taunton Safe Neighborhood Initiative, Taunton Emergency Task Force, Greater Attleboro/Taunton Regional Transit Authority, Bristol Elder Services, Inc., Advisory Council, Greater Taunton Health and Human Services Coalition, St. Francis Samaritan House, Bristol Plymouth Regional High School Council, Italian Social Club and the Kiwanis. Statewide, Mr. Cammarata was a Chairman/Board Member of the Massachusetts Councils on Aging, Cape and the Islands Regional Councils on Aging, Local Officials of Human Services Council and a member of many committees through the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. In 2006, Mr. Cammarata received the Council on Aging Director of the Year from the Massachusetts Councils on Aging.

Over his thirty-four years of public service, Robert L. Cammarata has assisted many elders, individuals and families in accessing needed services to assure that they live safe, healthy, happy and productive lives. He has mentored many human service professionals during his life and we honor Mr. Cammarata for who he is and what he has accomplished.

HONORING THE RUTHERFORD DUST SOCIETY OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rutherford Dust Society. They are being recognized by the Friends of the Napa River this evening for their sterling work to restore the Napa River in the Rutherford area.

The Rutherford Dust Society was founded in 1994 by growers and vintners in tribute to the legacy of our grape growing and winemaking forebears. In 2002, the Society's board voted to empower a subcommittee to be known as the Rutherford Dust Restoration Team (RDRT). The Restoration Team, chaired by Davie Piña, was tasked with initiating a plan to manage and restore the Napa River. Among other objectives, RDRT focuses on reducing sediment loading into the river downstream; restoring habitat for salmonids and other aquatic species; restoring a continuous corridor of riparian habitat for birds and wildlife; replacing invasive plants with native species; and engaging landowners in the process to maintain regulatory compliance.

After seven years of hard work and planning, the RDRT broke ground on phase 1 of its restoration project, which will rehabilitate over four miles of the river. RDRT is a pioneering project in that it is one of the few comprehensive reach-scale restoration projects in the region to move beyond just planning into on-the-ground implementation. This rare achievement would not have been possible without the leadership of Mr. Piña and the Dust Society's board.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we thank everyone involved with the Rutherford Dust Society for the example they set as consummate stewards of the land. We wish them the best of luck on their continued efforts to improve our environment for agriculture and the community.

HONORING VERNA MOORE

HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SCHOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Verna Moore, a true inspiration from my hometown of Peoria, Illinois. Verna will be turning one hundred years old on October 16, 2010 and plans to celebrate her birthday by spending time with her family. Throughout her life, Verna has inspired others with her positive attitude, warm personality, love of music, and active lifestyle.

Verna was born on October 16, 1910 to John and Elizabeth Troker, owners of a coal mine in Peoria. She was the youngest of eight children and was always very close with her sisters, brothers, and cousins. Verna has been a resident of Peoria, Illinois her entire life. From a young age, Verna was always filled with love and possessed a giving soul. Under her father's influence, she was raised Catholic and it was from a nun in their church that she first learned to play the piano. She began lessons at a young age and immediately loved the instrument.

Verna graduated the eighth grade from Lucy E. Tyng Middle School and began working in a warehouse. Her life changed when she first met her husband, Carthy Moore, near a pond at Glen Oak Park. They were immediately drawn to each other and married in 1936. Their marriage was built on love and stability, lasting nearly forty years until her husband passed away in 1974. The couple built their house from the ground up and Verna has lived in that same home ever since. Carthy made a living as a foreman at the Keystone Steel and Wire Factory in Martinsville, Illinois. Verna supported Carthy as a homemaker and mother. Her first and only child, William Moore, was born January 16, 1941. William fondly remembers his mother's wonderful baking and cooking, and the great care she always gave to him when he was sick as a child.

As she grew older, Verna took interest in a Mennonite church down the road from her Peoria home. She soon began attending the church and later played piano during the services. She continued to play hymns for the church services up until just a few years ago. To this day she continues to stay active. Today she not only is a mother, but a grandmother, a great grandmother, and a great-great grandmother. Her love has affected the entire community. Through her vibrant spirit she continues to inspire others, especially at the age of 100 years old.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, I wish to wholeheartedly congratulate Verna Moore on reaching the immense milestone of 100 years of age. I hope that every American can learn the important lesson of staying healthy and fit in both mind and body while maintaining a loving heart such as Verna's.

CONDOLENCES TO FAMILIES OF GRADUATES OF BUCHANAN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and my colleagues Congressmen JIM COSTA and GEORGE RADANOVICH, to extend our deepest condolences to the families of Buchanan High School graduates of Clovis, California who were lost in battle.

Words are insufficient to convey the depth of pain and loss felt by the families, friends, and colleagues of these brave men. They displayed enormous courage and a true commitment to protecting our Nation. Their tragic loss will continue to be felt by many for years to come.

Marine Corporal Jeremiah A. Baro, 21, of Fresno, California was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, in Camp Pendleton, California. He died on November 4th, 2004, of injuries sustained due to enemy action in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Jeremiah was a 2001 graduate of Buchanan High School.

Marine Lance Corporal Jared P. Hubbard, 22, of Clovis, California was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, in Camp Pendleton, California. He died on November 4th, 2004, of injuries sustained due to enemy action in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Jared was a 2001 graduate of Buchanan High School.

Marine Lance Corporal Anthony E. Butterfield, 19, of Clovis, California died on July 29th 2006 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. He was assigned to the 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, in Twentynine Palms, California. Tony was a 2005 graduate of Buchanan High School.

Army Private First Class Rowan D. Walter, 25, of Winnetka, California was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, in Fort Carson, Colorado. He died on February 23rd, 2007, of injuries suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his Humvee during combat operations in Ramadi, Iraq. Rowan was a 1999 graduate of Buchanan High School.

Army Corporal Nathan C. Hubbard, 21, of Clovis, California was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, at the Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. He died on August 22nd, 2007 when a Black Hawk helicopter crashed in Northern Iraq. Nathan was a 2004 graduate of Buchanan High School.

Senior Airman Nicholas D. Eischen, 24, of Sanger, California was assigned to the 60th Medical Operations Squadron at Travis Air Force Base in California. He died on Christmas Eve 2007 while serving as an emergency room medic at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan. Nathan was a 2001 graduate of Buchanan High School and played on the varsity football team.

Sergeant Brian F. Piercy, 26, of Clovis, California was assigned to the U.S. Army's Alpha Company, 2-508 Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He was killed on July 19th, 2010, while serving in combat in Afghanistan. Brian was a 2001 graduate from Buchanan High School, and the son of Alta Sierra math teacher Carol Piercy.

Today we honor each of these brave young men for their service to our country and extend our condolences to their families, friends, and colleagues.

HONORING CELIA KUPERSMITH

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Celia Kupersmith, who departs from her position as General Manager of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway, and Transportation District on September 1, 2010. Over the past 11 years, Ms. Kupersmith has overseen improvements in the infrastructure and services on which millions of people in the San Francisco Bay Area depend. Her leadership has been a source of strength during an especially active period for the Bridge District.

With over 800 employees running the Golden Gate Bridge, five transbay ferries, and a network of nearly 200 buses, the Bridge District manages the most critical linkages between San Francisco and the North Bay. It provides residents with over 50 million trips annually, and it maintains services for the six million tourists who come each year to visit the Bridge itself.

In 1999, after serving for several years as Executive Directive of the Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County, Nevada, Ms. Kupersmith took on the challenge of leading this important agency at the outset of a number of significant technological and administrative changes.

During her period of service, Ms. Kupersmith has worked tirelessly to ensure that the people of the Bay Area can rely on the physical safety of the Golden Gate Bridge. She was called on to respond to the increased security demands placed on the Bridge District after September 11, 2001, and she has led the reform of Bridge security that followed. I am also particularly proud to have worked with her through several Congresses to secure federal funding for the ongoing seismic retrofitting of the Bridge.

Under Ms. Kupersmith's leadership, the past decade has seen the Bridge District make substantial improvements in its speed and interconnectedness within the Bay Area transportation network. This includes the implementation of electronic toll collection on the Golden Gate Bridge and the introduction of region-wide public transit cards—the TransLink and Clipper cards—on our buses and ferries. The Bridge District has also worked to enhance the speed of ferry service, which now offers a connection between Central Marin and downtown San Francisco in only 30 minutes.

Ms. Kupersmith will be leaving the Bridge District for a Deputy CEO position at Sound