

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

Transit, a transportation agency serving Washington's Puget Sound region. However, she will also be leaving behind a legacy of service that will endure in the Bridge District's improved infrastructure, modernized services, and sounder long-term financial outlook.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in thanking Ms. Kupersmith for her contributions to the Bay Area and in wishing her all the best in her new endeavors. Ms. Kupersmith leaves our Bridge, buses, and ferries stronger than when she arrived, and with a sound footing for building on recent progress.

CONGRATULATING MS. CATHERINE CARNAHAN

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Catherine Carnahan of Oregon for receiving the award of Middle Level Principal of the Year. The National Association of Secondary Schools Principals honors the secondary school principal who has succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession.

Ms. Carnahan believes in the spirit of collaboration and unselfishly credits the highly-trained team that she leads. Over the last five years, this cooperation has led to increased test scores and an attendance rate of 95 percent or higher. She and her team work together to find strategies to help each student succeed.

I am privileged to represent Duniway Middle School in McMinnville, Oregon, and the team of professionals that provide quality education to their students every day. Not only do I honor Ms. Carnahan for her contribution to the noble endeavor of teaching, but I commend her as an example of true leadership. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Carnahan for this important recognition and her commitment to excellence in our public schools.

HONORING HOWARD S. WEITZMAN

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of the Nassau County Comptroller Howard S. Weitzman for his remarkable contributions to the Long Island community. As Comptroller, Mr. Weitzman served as a fiscal watchdog and continuously worked to strengthen Nassau County. For these reasons and many others, I believe he is worthy of recognition.

As the first Certified Public Accountant (CPA) to be elected to the office of Nassau County Comptroller, Mr. Weitzman successfully strengthened the Comptroller's office. He achieved a significant financial turnaround, changing deficits into surpluses and providing balanced budgets without a tax increase for five years in a row. Mr. Weitzman focused on

audits in the areas of County government with the largest expenditures, which resulted in identifying millions of dollars in potential savings. In addition, he has assembled a highly professional staff and continuously improved the office by implementing innovative management techniques.

Under the Office of Comptroller, Mr. Weitzman created and implemented the NassauRx Card. This innovative prescription drug program provides discounts up to 40 percent on commonly prescribed drugs and is accepted at more than 90 percent of the County's drugstores. Mr. Weitzman successfully implemented this program with no cost to County taxpayers and the NassauRx Card has saved Nassau residents more than \$12 million.

The work of Mr. Weitzman is inspiring, and I am grateful to him for all that he has accomplished for Nassau County. It is through his hard work and determination that Nassau County remains prosperous and strong. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing the gratitude of the U.S. Congress for his contributions to society.

RECOGNIZING CISCO SYSTEMS, INC. FOR 10 YEARS OF SERVICE IN RICHARDSON, TEXAS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate the Richardson, Texas, branch of Cisco Systems, Inc. on 10 years of outstanding operations. Cisco, the global leader in building the "Human Network," has over 70,000 employees worldwide, 1,400 of which work in the Third Congressional District of Texas.

The American public recognizes the company's internationally famous name and logo from popular TV shows such as 24 and Rubicon where, true to life, Cisco's unmatched technology is used by government agencies to defend the Nation against enemies foreign and domestic. The company also leads the way in keeping our kids safe as they navigate the Internet. In fact, Cisco invented key technology that helped shape the Internet—transforming how people connect, communicate and collaborate.

The vision of Len Bosack and Sandy Lemer, Cisco's founders, propelled this company into a multi-billion dollar business. Recognized by hundreds of magazines and investors as one of the "Best Places to Work," Cisco's commitment to innovation and research is at the company's core. With over five billion dollars a year invested in Research and Development, R&D, Cisco represents one of the biggest R&D spenders in the world. Their technology and innovations have changed the way the United States—and the world—communicates.

It is a privilege to have many of this top-notch company's best and brightest living and working in North Texas. To the outstanding employees of Cisco-Richardson, happy 10th anniversary, and I salute you.

HONORING SAMES MOTOR COMPANY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sames Motor Company's one hundredth year in operation. Sames Motor Company is Texas' oldest dealership. This automotive company has accomplished a century of service to our community throughout the years.

Founded in 1910 by William J. Sames, this successful and prospering company has been sustained through five generations of Sames, traditional values and great work ethic. It continues to be locally owned in Laredo, Texas and operated by the Sames family. The dealership started with humble beginnings with an inventory starting with three Ford Model-Ts. Today, it sells over 3,000 new vehicles and an excess of 4,000 used vehicles a year and employs over 400 workers through the Sames Auto Group.

Within 4 years of its founding, a new location was needed for the booming business. By 1919, a new, grander location was established in downtown Laredo, which sold Ford, Cadillac, and other automobiles. Years later after World War II, Sames agreed with Ford Motor Company to be a dealership selling the Ford brand exclusively. The company continued to prosper under a succession of the Sames family, Harry E. Sames, Sr., son of W.J. Sames; Harry E. Sames, Jr., son of Harry, Sr.; and Harry "Hank" E. Sames III. In 1926 the dealership sold over a thousand Fords. By the 1960s and '70s, Sames Motor Company expanded to add three more locations in Laredo. The company, owned by the fourth generation of Sames, continued forward by acquiring Sames Red Barn, a dealership in Austin and expanding to Corpus Christi locations. Hank Sames developed the in-house financing division known as Thunderbird Auto Finance and launched the state of the art Sames Collision Center. Today, Sames Motor Company is owned by the fifth generation of Sames and thrives on traditional business values and excellent customer service.

Sustaining a business for a century is not the only accomplishment of this establishment—community outreach and philanthropic contributions have come along with the success of Sames Motor Company. The founding of the Sames Scholars and the Driven to Success Programs is the only program of its kind for south Texas as an education based initiative. Evelyn Sames, fifth generation owner, implemented a new program called "Mission: Give Laredo," which benefits Bethany House, a local charity. In 2009, Mission: Give Laredo raised over \$100,000 and contributed food, clothing, and goods. Recently, working with city officials, Evelyn is developing the Tires for Life recycling and wellness program, which will commit to the youth to healthy living and recycling. Sames Motor Company has also been the recipient of numerous awards and recognition.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize Texas' oldest dealership and its 100th anniversary. Through outstanding service and a family owned business, Sames Motor Company has accomplished a century of dedication.