

on health legislation. Judges cited the story as candid and heartfelt writing which “debunks the opposition’s argument attacking the need for health reform.”

Third Place Award for Special Performance (best editorial or column) went to the Labor Press for “City Should Sink Its Own Breed of Water Pirates” which highlighted the privatization of public services. The article shed light on a significant issue for labor unions across the country.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to say the Milwaukee Labor Press provides a significant avenue for discussion for the people of the Fourth Congressional District. Thanks in no small part to Dominique Noth; the Labor Press’ continual excellence is based on its open-minded, intelligent, and relatable examination of pressing labor issues that impact the whole community. I applaud Dominique Noth and the Milwaukee Labor Press for their success in such a competitive and prestigious contest.

HONORING NATIONAL TRUCK DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize America’s professional truck drivers who serve our Nation by delivering the clothes we wear, the food we eat, or the medicine we rely on. This week, September 19–25, has been designated National Truck Driver Appreciation Week, which provides a perfect opportunity to express our appreciation to the 3.4 million professional truck drivers in the United States. I urge my colleagues and all Americans to use this week to reflect on the important role these hard-working and dedicated drivers play in facilitating many aspects of our daily lives.

Trucking serves as the backbone of our economy, responsible for nearly 70 percent of the total U.S. freight tonnage. Over 80 percent of communities rely solely on the trucking industry for their goods and commodities. Across the Nation, the trucking industry allows businesses and manufacturers to connect with consumers in a reliable and efficient manner that allows the free flow of goods to power the American economy every day.

One out of every 15 people across this country is employed in the trucking industry, making it one of our Nation’s largest employers. Most individual long-haul drivers average 100,000 to 110,000 miles driving per year. In doing so, America’s truck drivers sacrifice precious time from their families, all the while, they deliver for ours. This week we pause to say thank you to them and to their families.

I salute the fine professionals of the Nation’s trucking industry and their families for the dedication they continue to demonstrate to America and for delivering life’s essentials safely and securely.

HONORING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER THREE MATTHEW WAGSTAFF

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2010

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, Americans lost one of our finest early Tuesday morning when the Blackhawk helicopter carrying Chief Warrant Officer Three Matthew Wagstaff of Orem, Utah, went down in Afghanistan.

His family released a statement that reads, in part: “Matt died doing what he loved to do, and that was to fly. He was a tremendous husband, son, brother and uncle, and he served his country well.”

He was just married to his wife Tiffany in January, and was anticipating a visit home next month to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where he was based. His wife and parents, Ronald and Suzanne Wagstaff, flew to Dover Air Force base in Delaware Wednesday morning to receive him and return him home for burial.

At 34 years old, CW3 Wagstaff had served for ten years as a Blackhawk helicopter pilot and was an active-duty member of the Army’s 101st Airborne Division. He had recently re-enlisted knowing he would most likely be called up for a second tour in Afghanistan, having already served a third overseas tour in Iraq.

A friend of the family shared that CW3 Wagstaff joined the military with a passion to fly helicopters, and that he was one of several pilots asked to fly Blackhawks in the original “Transformers” movie in 2007. He flew his helicopter in the action scenes in Los Angeles over Dodger Stadium, through alleys, and over rooftops. The friend went on to say that CW3 Wagstaff “felt like he was making a difference,” adding that his missions in Afghanistan included bringing injured soldiers out of combat zones.

A graduate of Orem High School and Utah State University, CW3 Wagstaff was among nine NATO service members killed in the crash near the town of Qatal in Zabul province. The soldiers were aboard an International Security Assistance Force helicopter. The cause of Tuesday’s crash was not immediately known.

Our hearts and prayers as Americans go out to the Wagstaff family for their willingness to send their husband, son, and brother to serve us all. We honor and appreciate him for his service, and his unselfishness in offering the ultimate sacrifice for his country and those whose lives he blessed both in and out of uniform. May God bless him, his family, and all those who join us now in mourning his passing.

A TRIBUTE TO ANNETTE YOUNG

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a woman who had a tremendous impact on her community and the lives of countless individuals.

Annette Young was born on August 15, 1925 in Norfolk, Virginia. In 1944, she moved to New York and married Winfield Young, the love of her life, on March 21, 1944. They were later blessed with a son, Steven. Annette took great pride in family and was a devoted wife and mother.

Annette had a love for God and sought his guidance throughout her life. She understood that the power within us could evolve into something great if we trusted in the Lord. Annette joined the church family at the Berean Baptist Church in 1998.

Although Annette had a great sense of family, she also had a great sense of community. For more than 30 years, she was a resident of Ocean-Hill Brownsville and she served as president of the Council of Block Associations, organizing over 80 block and tenant associations. Additionally, she founded the Council of Block Associations Gazette, and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Daniel Hale Williams Housing Corp.

Through her roles as former district co-leader and legislative assistant, president of the Vanguard Political Club, honorary co-chair of Brooklyn C.O.R.E., Frank Edward Cook Scholarship Foundation and the N.A.A.C.P., Annette was a force that helped to empower others.

Annette worked in various industries and eventually became the Executive Secretary to the Vice President of International Banking at Chase Manhattan Bank. Following her retirement from Chase, she pursued a second career as a film promoter and as President of International Cinema. She also managed the musical group “Elegante.”

Annette utilized her acting ability and appeared in a number of productions. In 1996 she received the Unity Music and Arts Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement as an actress from the Unity Democratic Club.

In December 1991, Annette completed a certification from the NY State School of Industrial and Labor relations from Cornell University. In 2002, she proudly received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the College of New Rochelle. This was a monumental achievement and demonstrates that age is not a limit to learning.

She was extremely proud to be a long time member of the Jefferson Democratic Club of Brooklyn, NY.

Madam Speaker, Annette’s grace, poise, professionalism, witty nature and natural ability to “live life to the fullest” will be remembered by all who knew her.

HONORING THE ABILITYONE PROGRAM

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the more than three years of service provided by the Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point Base Supply Center (BSC) and to applaud the 15th anniversary of the AbilityOne BSC Program.

AbilityOne BSCs are retail stores located on military installations and in federal buildings. Operated through the AbilityOne Program, BSCs fulfill a dual purpose: supporting training and employment opportunities for people who

have significant disabilities and meeting the procurement needs of military and federal consumers.

The AbilityOne Program is administered by the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled ("the Committee"). Each BSC is added to the Committee's Procurement List as an AbilityOne Program "service" project, which ensures that the establishment of a BSC helps accomplish the AbilityOne Program's employment mission.

AbilityOne BSCs harness the collective resources of a nationwide network of providers to supply superior products and services to government customers through a commercial retail-type setting. Since the launch of the first BSC in 1995, government customers have appreciated convenient access to thousands of high-quality, competitively priced SKILCRAFT® and other name brand products as well as Hazmat, Individual Equipment Element, and other services.

Purchases from AbilityOne BSCs support the employment of qualified professionals who are blind or have other severe disabilities. These employees produce and ship products, provide services, and staff the BSCs. Furthermore, service-disabled veterans and military dependents have the opportunity to join the AbilityOne team, where they continue to play a valuable role in the military communities that are significant to their lives.

BSCs partner with the leadership at each location to satisfy the specific needs of base and installation personnel. Today, BSCs are located on over 138 federal installations nationwide.

The AbilityOne Program works with two Central Nonprofit Agencies, National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and NISH. NIB and NISH operate under the direction of the Committee and oversee a network of over six hundred associated nonprofit agencies to provide employment opportunities for people who are blind or have other severe disabilities. AbilityOne purchases from federal government and military consumers generate revenue used to fund training and employment programs for people with severe disabilities. Employing over 45,000 people with disabilities, the AbilityOne Program is the largest employer of people with disabilities in the country.

I am proud to represent the Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point BSC. On this 15th anniversary of the AbilityOne BSC Program, we should all take a moment to visit our local BSC or associated agency to better understand the good work they are doing in our communities.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMERICAN GOLD STAR MOTHERS

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2010

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today and ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Gold Star Mothers, whose sacrifices and service to our country are recognized on the last Sunday of September.

The organization known today as American Gold Star Mothers was begun by Grace Seibold, whose son was killed in aerial combat over France in 1918. Mrs. Seibold worked tire-

lessly in veterans hospitals both before and after her son's tragic death. It is this spirit of generosity and selflessness which lead to the eventual establishment of the American Gold Star Mothers as a national organization.

The Gold Star Mothers embody the spirit of love, duty, patriotism, and charity that compels people to serve their country. The ultimate sacrifice of sons and daughters in war is reflected in the tremendous energy and time given by Gold Star Mothers to support men and women who return from service. By volunteering at veterans hospitals and commemorating the lives of those who has passed away, Gold Star Mothers support one another and our brave men and women serving overseas.

As a father whose son served in the Air Force, I take great comfort in the thought that such an organization exists to provide comfort and aid to the young men and women returning home from abroad. On Gold Star Mothers Day, it is important to recognize the sacrifices that are borne by the families of our men and women in uniform. It is with profound respect that I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the tireless efforts of Gold Star Mothers across our country who honor the memories of their children and support our nation with unceasing acts of charity, service, and compassion.

HONORING MIKE WIEDEMAN

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2010

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of a great American, a life-long Oregonian and logger, Mike Wiedeman, of Enterprise, Oregon. Mike has been a leader and an innovator for over four decades in one of Oregon's most important and historic industries: the logging industry.

Tomorrow I will have the privilege of tipping my hat to Mike as he concludes his service as the president of the American Loggers Council at its 16th annual meeting in Pendleton, Oregon. The American Loggers Council is a coalition of 30 state logging associations from throughout the United States. I can personally attest to the effectiveness of the American Loggers Council, Mike and his predecessors at bringing to Congress's attention the issues, concerns and challenges facing their industry and the health of our forests and rural forested communities.

Madam Speaker, Mike Wiedeman also has a long and distinguished record of service to his state association, the Associated Oregon Loggers. He was recognized as the association's Logger of the Year in 1990. He served as the association's president from 1997–1998 and was one of the founding board members of the association's Friends of Paul Bunyan Foundation, a philanthropic organization that has contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to education and public service organizations. He was one of the first organizers and leaders of the Log A Load For Kids program to raise funds for Oregon hospitals that specialize in the treatment of children with special needs. And finally, Mike currently serves as the chairman of the association's Wallowa County chapter.

After beginning his career in the coastal town of Powers, Oregon, Mike has logged from northern California to Alaska and back to Oregon. While in Alaska he met his bride Sandy who was working in a logging camp. They have three children they adore and whom I have had the pleasure of meeting and are now experiencing the joy of being grandparents to two grandkids.

For the past 32 years Mike has been a partner and owner of BTO Logging, Inc. in Enterprise, Oregon. This small, rural community surrounded by federal forest lands, not unlike many in Oregon's second congressional district, is arguably one of the most beautiful places in my state, if not in the entire country. The timbered lands in the surrounding Wallowa-Whitman National Forest suffer from some of the worst forest health issues of any in the intermountain West. Consistent with his human nature in assessing a serious problem, Mike saw a highly productive opportunity to utilize the dead and dying overstocked forest stands to generate renewable energy. As a member and subsequent chairman of the Enterprise School Board, Mike recently led the charge to build and install a woody biomass heating system at the local school. This system now utilizes wood material removed from forest health projects on nearby forests.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Wiedeman's logging operation utilizes a system that allows logs to be removed by fully suspending them on up to nearly 4,000 feet of cable above the ground protecting the soil and remaining plant life. His method, which is considered one of the most dangerous in logging, allows him to treat forest stands in difficult terrain, often flying logs over deep and normally inaccessible canyons.

Madam Speaker, on the eve of completing his term as president of the American Loggers Council, I would like our colleagues to join me in thanking Mike Wiedeman for his exemplary service to his community, the industry that he loves and the associations that represent it both here in the nation's capital and in the state of Oregon. It's my honor to call Mike a good friend, and to represent him in the U.S. Congress. Mike is a hard charging and dedicated individual and the kind of guy you're lucky to find as a neighbor. He has been quoted as saying, "My whole philosophy in life is you can't get anywhere standing still." And I can assure you, Madam Speaker, Mike is not standing still.

A TRIBUTE TO DAN HAVERY IN RECOGNITION OF HIS 27 YEARS OF FIRE SERVICE

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 24, 2010

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Fire Chief Dan Havery for his 27 years of service to our California communities.

Chief Havery began his career with the Meeks Bay Fire Protection District in Tahoma, CA. He entered the Fire Service 27 years ago after experiencing the unselfish acts of compassion given to his family by volunteer firefighters following an airplane accident in Ketchikan, Alaska, which took the lives of his sister and her four children.