

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.

Haverty has served Sacramento County since 1987 when he joined the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (SMFD) as a firefighter and ended his tenure in the position of Assistant Fire Chief. While serving as Assistant Fire Chief at SMFD, he also served as Chief Assistant Deputy Director for the Training and Exercises Division within the Governor's Office of Homeland Security. Haverty joined the Folsom Fire Department in July 2007 as its Fire Chief.

Chief Haverty belongs to many professional and community organizations including: the

International Association of Fire Chiefs, American Society for Public Administration Sacramento Chapter, Golden State Donor Services, Folsom Lake Rotary, and Holy Trinity Parish.

In April 2005, Chief Haverty donated a portion of his liver to former Sacramento Roman Catholic Bishop William Weigand. For his humanitarian acts, Haverty was awarded the Venerable Cross "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" from His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI in 2005.

Chief Haverty most recently participated as a member of the Team Donate Life support

crew in the Race Across America. The Race Across America was a 3,005 mile-long bike ride across the United States. The purpose of Team Donate Life's participation was to promote organ donation and transplantation.

I am pleased to recognize and honor Chief Dan Haverty for his dedication to fire safety, his service to the City of Folsom, and his protection of the citizens of Sacramento County.