

support their family. She soon found work as a housekeeper for one of the City's founding families. Several years later years later, she married Louis "Bonnie" Tebo, a former classmate from Port Arthur who had also relocated to Salinas. They were married for more than 50 years when he died.

While less obvious than in the South of their childhood, racism still found Agnes and Bonnie in Salinas. For example, African Americans found it next to impossible to buy property. Realtors simply refused to show, and sellers to sell, property to African American buyers. Agnes had been a member of the NAACP since her teenage years in Port Arthur. She drew on that experience in 1939 to co-found a Salinas branch. With so few African Americans living in Salinas, they had to recruit white friends to join in order to meet the fifty member threshold for a new chapter. The new branch took on the property issue and made steady progress. With Agnes often leading the way over the years, they took on many other challenges facing people of color in the Salinas valley. In 2006, Agnes helped smooth the way for the Salinas and Monterey Peninsula branches to merge together into the Monterey County Branch.

Despite her humble origins, Agnes has managed to travel the world and devote countless hours to aiding the needy. In 1981, for example, she and Bonnie helped purchase and distribute food, clothing and medicine to 1,200 people in Haiti. She works as a liaison for the NAACP's Jan Wright Scholarship, and she continues to support The Agnes and Bonne Tebo Scholarship at Hartnell College.

Madam Speaker, I know that I speak for the whole House in extending to Agnes Tebo our deep gratitude for her work to improve the lives of her neighbors, both in Salinas and around the world.

TRIBUTE TO WIL BILLINGTON,  
TRUSTEE EMERITUS OF JOHN-  
SON COUNTY COMMUNITY COL-  
LEGE

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Wilbur "Wil" Billington, a former trustee of Johnson County, Kansas, Community College [JCCC], who recently was honored by JCCC's board of trustees with the designation of "trustee emeritus", signifying an individual who demonstrated significant contributions to the college and the community as a trustee.

As a former elected trustee of JCCC, I know Wil Billington and am pleased to have this opportunity to support his award and to share news of it with my colleagues. The JCCC recently issued a news release detailing Wil Billington's designation as "trustee emeritus." I include it with this statement and I know that all House members join with me in celebrating this award, which is richly deserved by a Johnson Countian who has worked diligently in support of higher education and economic development in our community.

BILLINGTON NAMED JCCC TRUSTEE EMERITUS

OVERLAND PARK, Kan.—At their meeting Jan. 21, the Johnson County Community

College board of trustees named Wilbur "Wil" Billington as a trustee emeritus. The trustee emeritus designation is intended to recognize former trustees who demonstrated significant contributions to the college and the community as a trustee.

Billington was nominated by Terry A. Calaway, JCCC president, and Ben Craig, a longtime supporter of JCCC, who cited Billington's support of education in the state of Kansas and in Johnson County. Billington is the second trustee to receive emeritus recognition. The first was Virginia Krebs, who was named trustee emeritus in October 2008. Billington will be honored in person at a future board meeting.

"Wil Billington's vision as a trustee gave Johnson County Community College a secure foundation on which to build," Calaway said. "Naming him as a trustee emeritus is a fitting way to remember and honor his educational leadership."

From 1962 to 1968 Billington was a member and president of the local board for School District No. 110, one of the largest K-6 school districts in Johnson County before its consolidation as part of the unified Shawnee Mission district. As such, Billington was appointed to the Advisory Council for Community Colleges that made recommendations to the Kansas Board of Education for the creation of new colleges under the Kansas Community College Act of 1965. He served as chairman of the Master Planning Committee for Post-secondary Education in Kansas in the early 1970s.

In Johnson County, Billington was asked by the county commissioners to chair a committee that would study the feasibility of creating a community college here. The group published a written report unanimously recommending the creation of such a college in Johnson County. Billington was elected to the college's first board of trustees in 1967, receiving the largest plurality of votes among approximately 30 candidates, serving from 1967 until 1975. As chairman of the board, Billington and his fellow trustees produced the college's "Blue Book," a working philosophy that helped guide the selection of administrators and the development of the college's curriculum for the following decades.

In January 2000, the JCCC library was named for Billington in recognition of his years of support of the college.

Billington worked for the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City for 35 years, retiring as executive vice president.

"THE SOCIAL SECURITY DIS-  
ABILITY APPLICANTS' PROFES-  
SIONAL REPRESENTATION ACT  
OF 2009"

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4532, the Social Security Disability Applicants' Access to Professional Representation Act of 2009, which will authorize the permanent extension of the attorney and non-attorney fee-withholding provisions passed under the Social Security Protection Act of 2004. This important legislation will guarantee that seniors have access to the professional representation needed to secure the benefits that they deserve.

I thank Chairman RANGEL for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I would also like to thank the author of this legislation, Con-

gressman TANNER, for his hard work and determined efforts to ensure that Americans are able to achieve financial security and stability in their old age.

Madam Speaker, for seniors, getting Social Security benefits can be a rigorous process. Many seniors rely on professional representatives to help them complete applications, obtain medical evidence, and prepare themselves and other witnesses for hearings. H.R. 4532 will permanently extend critical provisions passed under the Social Security Protection Act of 2004 that allow representation fees to be withheld from Social Security Insurance (SSI) applicants' past-due benefits and paid directly to representatives. H.R. 4532 will also extend provisions that make qualified non-attorney representatives eligible to be paid through fee-withholding.

The provisions set to be extended by H.R. 4532 will provide easy access to the qualified representation that many seniors need in order to secure their benefits. This legislation is especially important in these tough economic times. With limited income and increased health care needs, seniors across the country—and especially in my home State of California—have been hit particularly hard by the ongoing economic recession. Now, more than ever, we need to help the elderly access the benefits that they need to achieve financial stability.

In conclusion, I support this bill because it will make the Social Security system more fair and easy to use for the 63,000 seniors in my district and millions more across the country. In order to uphold our obligation to senior citizens we must provide them with the resources needed to take advantage of available benefits. By helping senior citizens get the benefits they need, the Social Security Disability Applicants' Access to Professional Representation Act of 2009 represents a much needed response to our Nation's current economic challenges.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4532.

TRIBUTE TO OUTSTANDING LIFE-  
TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
WINNER JOE ANDERSON

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of San Clemente, California are exceptional. San Clemente has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Joe Anderson is one such individual. On February 25, 2010, Joe will be honored at the San Clemente Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting and Award Ceremony where he will receive the 2009 Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award.

Joe was raised in Southern California and graduated from Arizona State University with a B.S. Degree in Economics. He is a Chartered Life Underwriter, a professional designation conferred by the American College, Bryn

Mawr, Pennsylvania. Following graduation, Joe was employed by Mobil Oil Corporation for eleven years. During his employment with Mobil he held a number of management positions in various locations in the United States, including Los Angeles, Seattle, New York City and Sacramento.

In 1976, Joe and his family relocated to South Orange County where he opened a successful State Farm Insurance Agency in San Clemente. After operating his agency for ten years, Joe accepted a management position with the company. During the last decade of his career, Joe held an executive level assignment with responsibility for all agency operations in South Orange County. He retired in 2005 after 29 loyal years with the firm.

Joe's community activities include: past board member and President of the San Clemente Chamber of Commerce, the South Coast Area Boys & Girls Club and Mary Erickson Community Housing. He served on the San Clemente Growth Management, Economic Development and General Plan Review Committees. He chaired the Casa Romantica Feasibility Study, and co-chaired the Downtown Visioning Committee. Due to his many years of service, Joe was named the 1993 San Clemente Citizen of the Year.

Joe was first elected to the San Clemente City Council in 1990, where he served two terms and then stepped down in 1998. In 2002, at the urging of members of the community, Joe ran and was elected to a third term. He was re-elected in November 2006 for a fourth term. Joe served as Mayor in 1992, 2005 and 2008.

Joe serves as San Clemente's Trustee to the Orange County Vector Control Agency, and represents San Clemente on the board of the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority. He also serves on the City's Investment Advisory Board, and is board alternate to the Transportation Corridor Agencies. During 2005 and 2006, he chaired the Communications and Outreach Committee of the Orange County Division, League of California Cities for the renewal of Measure M. In November, 2006, Measure M passed with a 69.6% yes vote.

Joe and his wife of 45 years, Mary Anna, are the proud parents of three married sons. John, a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Marine Corps; Charles, an Estimating Manager for a large electrical contractor; and Robert, an entrepreneur. The Anderson's have five beautiful grandchildren.

Joe Anderson's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of San Clemente, California. I am proud to call Joe a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives the San Clemente Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SONDGEROTH'S 67TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a special couple from Mendota, Illinois, Lester and Mary Rita Sondgeroth, on

the celebration of their sixty-seventh wedding anniversary. The love and dedication required through 67 years of marriage is a shining example of what a bond as strong as theirs can achieve, and I commend them on all those special years together. This is truly a significant milestone and one that only a very few are fortunate enough to celebrate in their lifetime.

Lester and Mary Rita Sondgeroth were united in marriage on February 10, 1943 at the Holy Cross Church in Mendota where the couple has made their home to this day. Throughout the years, the Sondgeroths were blessed with five children—the late Dean Sondgeroth, the late Dianna Neisess, Debra Peters, Dru Sondgeroth, and Denise Burnette. They now have the pleasure of spending time with their five grandchildren—Scott Peters, Adam Peters, Brandon Burnette, Austin Burnette, and lastly Ryan Peters who I am proud to say is an outstanding member of my District Office staff in Vista, California.

A 67th wedding anniversary reminds us that marriage is not an instant achievement but a covenant that requires love, patience, and respect. Lester and Mary Rita Sondgeroth have perfected this commitment to each other and are truly blessed to have a strong marriage, their family, and a lifetime of memories. As they live each day by their wedding vows, they continue to inspire all who are fortunate to know them.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Lester and Mary Rita Sondgeroth on this momentous occasion and sending our best wishes for many more years of love and happiness.

#### IN HONOR OF HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL JOSIP BOZANIĆ

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, please join me in honor and recognition of Cardinal Josip Bozanic, Croatian Cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church, upon his visit to the American-Croatian Lodge, Inc. of Cleveland, Ohio. The Croatian Lodge of Cleveland is a vibrant cultural center where the history and traditions of Croatia have been promoted and preserved for twenty-five years.

Cardinal Bozanic was born and raised in Rijeka, Yugoslavia (now Croatia). His parents, Ivan Bozanic and Dinka Vlakovic, taught him the values of hard work, faith and service to others. On June 29th, 1975, Cardinal Bozanic was ordained to the priesthood, by Bishop Karmelo Zazinovic. He served as a parish priest for several years before going to Rome where he earned a licentiate in dogmatic theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University, and then a licentiate in canon law from the Pontifical Lateran University.

Cardinal Bozanic returned to Yugoslavia, where he served as chancellor and then vicar general of the Diocese of Krk. From 1988 to 1997, he taught dogmatic theology and canon law at the Theological Institute of Rijeka. On May 10, 1989, Cardinal Bozanic was appointed Coadjutor Bishop of Krk by Pope John Paul II. On October 21, 2003, Pope John Paul II appointed him as Cardinal Priest of San

Girolamo dei Croati. Cardinal Bozanic was a member of the Cardinal Electors of the 2005 Papal Conclave that selected Pope Benedict XVI.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of His Eminence, Cardinal Josip Bozanic, whose journey to Cleveland, Ohio to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the American-Croatian Lodge, Inc. is greatly appreciated by all residents of Northeast Ohio.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF "THE SIMPSONS"

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the anniversary of an important milestone in our shared cultural history.

December 17, 2009 marked the 20th anniversary of the debut episode of "The Simpsons." The Fox Broadcasting Company, which airs the show, spent the entirety of 2009 commemorating this milestone, and ended the celebration on January 10, 2010 with an hour-long special.

In 1989, Fox took a chance and gave "The Simpsons" creator Matt Groening an opportunity to produce a half-hour primetime animated show for the network.

Since then, the program has become world renowned. It has been honored with 25 Primetime Emmy awards, a Peabody award, and was named the 20th century's best television series by Time Magazine.

It holds the distinction of being the longest running American animated program, the longest running American sitcom, and the longest running American primetime television program. In 2007, a feature-length film entitled "The Simpsons Movie" was released to worldwide box office success.

While the show is renowned for its cultural references, it has achieved a cultural iconic status in its own right. A testament to this is the addition of "Doh," a frequently used exclamation of the show's lead character Homer Simpson, to the Oxford English Dictionary in 2001.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate "The Simpsons" on its milestone, and I thank creators Matt Groening, James L. Brooks and Al Jean for the many years of laughs and the many more to come.

#### MEDIA IMAGES THAT DETRIMENTALLY AFFECT MANY GIRLS' SELF-ESTEEM

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address an issue that many girls struggle with well into adulthood: media images that detrimentally affect their self-esteem.

We all know how important it is to help raise our young women to become able, self-confident people, for their own sake and for the benefit of our society.