

of Commerce-Laredo, which has its parent company as the largest minority-owned bank in the country, also headquartered in Laredo, Texas. At the age of 16, Ms. Navarro joined the IBC family as a young file clerk through a program offered through Laredo's J.W. Nixon High School. Even after completion of the program, Ms. Navarro continued to work for the bank with an extended, committed twenty-nine year career. She earned her degree in Accounting and earned her Bachelor of Business Administration at the Laredo State University.

The financial and business industry in Laredo prospered with the work ethic and dedication of Ms. Navarro. In the 1980s and 1990s, the IBC began to grow substantially and Navarro continued to learn all the facets of personal and commercial banking, including responsibilities of financial accounting, human resources and bank operations. From her young beginnings as a file clerk to her multiple duties as Senior Executive Vice President currently, Ms. Navarro provides a unique and excellent perspective for the banking industry and business community.

Most recently, she was recognized as one of the Top Hispanic Women in the United States in 2009. In April 2005, Hispanic Business Magazine recognized Ms. Navarro as one of its outstanding women leaders and as one of the 100 most influential Hispanic women in the country. Navarro also helps the community with her services through Texas and International non-profit and professional organizations such as being a member of the Mercy Ministries Development Council. She has served as part of the Laredo Business Professional Women's Association and Financial Women International. She was former director of the Laredo Chamber of Commerce and served as President of the TAMIU Alumni.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize Ms. Imelda Navarro inductee to the Laredo Business Hall of Fame. She has shown in her extensive career dedication to the business and financial industry and contributions to the community.

CONGRATULATING STATE  
SENATOR BOB KREMER

**HON. ADRIAN SMITH**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2010*

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Senator Bob Kremer on his induction into the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement for his long and valuable service to agriculture.

The Hall is an organization whose primary purpose is to acknowledge and preserve the records of those citizens of Nebraska who have made outstanding contributions to the well-being of Nebraska's agricultural way of life.

Bob, a farmer and cattle feeder, served in the Legislature from 1999 to 2007. He was Chair of the Agriculture Committee from 2003–2006. Throughout his service to our State, Bob was a leader in policy related to property taxes, grain bonding and warehousing commodity check-offs, and beginning farmer incentives. He is also Chairman of Nebraska 25x25, a coalition dedicated to increasing the use of renewable energy derived from agricultural sources.

I have known Bob for a long time. He has been a tireless advocate not only for Nebraska agriculture, but for America's agriculture industry as a whole. I have always been impressed with his ability to look to the future while holding on to what makes Nebraska's way of life so great. I am anxious to see what he will accomplish next.

I want to thank Bob for his service and once again, congratulate him on this honor.

CONGRATULATING THE CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2010 NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S BASKETBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2010*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona men's basketball team for winning the 2010 NCAA Division II Men's Basketball National Championship.

On March 27, 2010, the Cal Poly Pomona Broncos defeated the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Crimson Hawks 65–53 in the finals of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, NCAA, Division II Men's Basketball Tournament in Springfield, Massachusetts. The Broncos shot over 50 percent from the field throughout the tournament and played with an impenetrable defense. The Broncos showed tremendous determination by making it to the championship game for the second year in a row after being narrowly defeated last year by Findlay University's last second three point shot in overtime.

The Broncos finished the 2009–2010 season with 28 wins and 6 losses, the best record in school history. This is a great credit to the players as well as the coaching staff, which includes head coach Greg Kamansky, associate head coach Bill Bannon and assistant coach Damion Hill. The trainers, managers, and staff also deserve praise for their outstanding dedication to helping the Cal Poly Pomona Broncos reach the summit of college basketball success.

The team was awarded many individual accomplishments as well. Coach Kamansky was named the NCAA Division II Coach of the Year from both the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the Division II Bulletin. Broncos senior Austin Swift was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament, averaging 17.6 points per game. Broncos senior Dahir Nasser was named All Elite Eight Choice and scored 12 points in the championship game. The roster of the Cal Poly Pomona Broncos also included juniors Mark Rutledge, Tobias Jahn, and Donnelle Booker; sophomores Matthew Rosser and Dwayne Fells; and freshman Mitchel Anderson, Shaun Norum, and Kevin Ryan.

The Broncos players, coaches, and staff are outstanding representatives of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, one of the finest and most diverse public universities in the country. Cal Poly is the pride of Eastern Los Angeles County and is widely recognized for its applied research programs and hands-on education.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Broncos for playing with great sportsmanship and pride throughout the season, and showing tremendous dedication to their school and appreciation for their fans.

HONORING MICHAEL J. ABATE-MARCO, U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM SEMIFINALIST

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2010*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent Michael J. Abatemarco and congratulate him as he is named a semifinalist in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program 2010. The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program honors some of the most distinguished graduating high school seniors from across the country. Michael is one of 550 semifinalists.

As the valedictorian of Garden City High School, Michael's superior academic achievements include; National Merit Finalist, AP Scholar with Distinction, Rensselaer Medalist, and Siemens Science Contest semifinalist. In addition to Michael's academic successes, his extracurricular activities reflect a well-rounded student and member of the community through his involvement as drum major of the High School Marching Band, third degree karate black belt, principal baritone saxophonist in the wind ensemble and jazz ensemble, and varsity swimmer and diver. Michael also serves on his school's executive board of Peer AIDS Educators.

As a senior member of the Education and Labor Committee, I am truly impressed by Michael's accomplishments. I am pleased to see that Michael not only values his education, but also shows dedication to community service. Michael is an Eagle Scout with Bronze, Gold, and Silver Palms—awards given only to scouts who have demonstrated spirit, leadership and ability. He also serves as captain and organizer of a Swim Across America team to raise awareness and funds for cancer research. Michael will be working with a non-profit organization this summer as part of the Bank of America Student Leaders Program and will be attending Harvard University in the fall.

Madam Speaker, it is with pride and the utmost admiration I offer my congratulations to Michael J. Abatemarco and commend his dedication to education and community service.

HONORING KARIN WALSER

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2010*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Mr. LYNCH, Mr. DELAHUNT, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. KIND, Mr. MARKEY and Mr. TIERNEY to pay tribute to Karin Walser. Karin is the founder of Horton's Kids, a nonprofit that provides comprehensive services to the

children of Washington, DC's Ward 8, improving the quality of their daily lives and nurturing their desire and ability to succeed. For over 20 years, Karin has demonstrated an inspirational commitment to the health and happiness of hundreds of children served by Horton's Kids.

I have known Karin for over 20 years. We both had the honor of serving on the staff of the late Congressman Joe Moakley. Karin founded Horton's Kids in 1989 while working as Congressman Moakley's press secretary. When she stopped at a Capitol Hill gas station late on a Sunday night and several children offered to pump her gas for spare change, the idea for Horton's Kids began to take shape. Karin initially enlisted friends and Congressional co-workers to take a small number of the children on field trips in their personal cars over the weekends. The program next expanded to tutoring sessions on Tuesday nights to encourage academic achievement.

Today, hundreds of children from Anacostia regularly participate in Horton's Kids mentoring and tutoring programs. They also receive dental and eye care, enjoy birthday and holiday celebrations, participate in community service projects, and attend a six-week summer camp dedicated to improving literacy and to preventing the "summer slide." Most importantly, these children benefit from the attention, love, and dedication of over 500 volunteer mentors who help enrich their lives, expand educational opportunities, and offer as much personal attention as possible.

Horton's Kids can help so many kids because of the financial generosity of individuals, corporations, civic groups and foundations. But their greatest resources are the enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers—many of whom work full time on Capitol Hill—and their talented, dedicated staff. Monday and Tuesday night tutoring in Rayburn House Office Building draws Hill staff and professionals from throughout the Washington area. On Wednesdays, a partnership with the U.S. Department of Education brings Horton's Kids to their facilities for a third night of tutoring with Department staff. And in 2008, Horton's Kids added a Wednesday evening academic enrichment program for older students, providing additional mentoring from committed professionals.

Karin Walser has earned numerous well-deserved honors and awards in recent years, including the WJLA-ABC 7 Working Women Award, the Bryn Mawr School Young Alumni Award, and a briefing with former President Bush followed by a Presidential mention as a "social entrepreneur" in a national speech on mentoring. She was chosen as WETA's Hometown Hero for April 2005 and was featured on NBC Nightly News' "Making a Difference." Karin and the inspirational story behind Horton's Kids were also featured in Allison Silberburg's 2009 book, *Visionaries in Our Midst*.

Karin Walser's continued commitment to the children and families of Washington, DC's Ward 8 has transformed hundreds of lives. The children of Horton's Kids are overcoming obstacles and succeeding: graduating high school, finding internships, and applying to colleges. Their growth is a testament to the dedicated efforts of Karin Walser.

Marquitta Jones became a Horton's Kid as a young girl, attending tutoring programs and Sunday field trips. Now enrolled in college, Marquitta credits Karin Walser for her suc-

cess. "Karin cared about me and my education when not many did," Marquitta says. "She's made a difference in our neighborhood where the kids need someone to believe in them."

As Marquitta says, "one person can make a difference to children, and Karin has gone above and beyond."

Madam Speaker, Karin Walser is an inspiration to us all. I know that all of my colleagues in the House join me in paying tribute to this remarkable woman.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JUDGE WILLIAM O. (BILL) ISENHOUR, JR.

#### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, the late Judge Bill Isenhour, of Mission, Kansas, who died on April 10.

Bill Isenhour was born in Kansas City, Kansas, where he graduated in 1960 from Wyandotte High School. Bill attended Kansas City University, UMKC, where he was student body president, editor of the newspaper, member of the varsity debate team, including being the undefeated regional champions and participation in the National Debate Tournament in West Point in 1964. He graduated with a BA in speech in 1964. He married Karen Kay Peterson on June 26, 1965. While Karen taught school, he attended law school at UMKC, where he was the recipient of the Dean's Merit Scholarship and graduated in the top of his class in 1968 with a J.D. Bill served as law clerk to Chief Judge Arthur J. Stanley, Jr., U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas, from 1968–1969.

Bill resigned his clerkship to begin private law practice in Johnson County and practiced law with the firm Soden, Eisenbrandt, Isenhour & Gates—which eventually became Soden, Isenhour & Cox—until 1994. In the early 70s, he served as Municipal Judge in Merriam and Mission, Kansas. In 1994, he was appointed by Governor Joan Finney as District Court Judge in the 10th Judicial District in the State of Kansas, Johnson County. Judge Isenhour served as a civil court judge until 2005, when he became one of the first members of the Johnson County Family Court. He was a member of the Johnson County Bar Association, Kansas Bar Association, the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, the Kansas Trial Lawyers Association, Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity, the American Judges Association, the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, and was a member of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. He presented at numerous legal education programs, primarily in the area of family law. In 2008, he received the President's Award from the Heartland Mediators' Association for the work in his court encouraging mediation. Bill retired from the bench in the fall of 2008.

Judge Isenhour was a member of St. Michael and All Angel's Episcopal Church in Mission, where he served in numerous roles, including Sunday school teacher, usher, lector, stewardship chairman, delegate to diocesan convention, member of the vestry, Junior Warden and Senior Warden. He was involved in

helping start Breakfast at St. Paul's—a hot-breakfast program for families in KCK—which serves more than 200 persons each week at the church in which he grew up. Judge Isenhour also served on the boards of the Mission Chamber of Commerce, the Milhaven Homes Association, the Saint Michael's Day School and served as secretary of the Johnson County Bar Association.

Bill loved spending time with his family, his friends from church, traveling—particularly to his cabin in the mountains of Colorado, and spoiling his two grandchildren. He is survived by his wife of almost 45 years, Karen Isenhour; his son, Kirk Isenhour and partner Doug Anning of Kansas City, Missouri; his daughter, Stephanie Price and husband Warren of Overland Park; and two grandchildren, Dillon and Katie Price. He is also survived by his three sisters and brother, Diana Patterson (Jeff) of Merriam; Mary Isenhour (Bill Patton) of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Victoria Charlesworth (Jim) of Overland Park; and Philip Isenhour (Ellen Zipf) of Elm Grove, Wisconsin; three aunts, Mary Clark of Kansas City, Kansas, Kathleen Noe of Alexandria, Virginia, and Dee Isenhour of Manteo, North Carolina, along with many loving nieces, nephews and cousins.

Madam Speaker, Bill Isenhour was my good friend and former law partner. I join with his extended family and many friends in mourning his passing and paying tribute to his decades of dedicated service to our community.

#### A TRIBUTE TO JERRY BLAVAT

#### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor rock-and-roll legend, Philadelphia institution, and my good friend, Jerry Blavat. For 50 years, Jerry has been entertaining audiences in Philadelphia and beyond with his love of music and dedication to good times.

Jerry burst onto the Philadelphia music scene as a dancer on the original Bandstand, where he soon became a crowd favorite. He transitioned into radio in 1960, hosting his own rock and roll show, which broadcasted in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey. With the nickname "The Geator with the Heater", Jerry quickly established himself as a landmark on the Philadelphia airwaves. Today, Jerry continues to host radio shows in a variety of formats that can be heard around the world.

In addition to his prominence on Philadelphia radio, Jerry is a well-known cultural icon. Utilizing his prominence in the music scene, Jerry is able to draw attention to a variety of causes. A huge fan of Motown and doo-wop, Jerry continues to showcase the contributions Philadelphia area artists made to rock and roll. In recognition of his outstanding work and contributions to the music world, Jerry was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1998.

Jerry Blavat's long and impressive career showcases his pride in and commitment to his community. Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating Jerry's 50 years of entertaining