

Madam Speaker, we extend our sympathies to Mr. Spak's family, including his wife, Kristin Rickard Spak of Leesburg, Virginia; three children, Jessica Lynn White of Ashburn, Brian Thomas Spak of Boulder, CO, and Nicholas Michael Spak, of Boulder, CO; two grandchildren: Kelsey Lynn White and Austin Ray White, both of Ashburn; and a sister Janis Lee Bradley of Carson City, NV.

CONGRATULATING TRACEY
GROSSMAN

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. DEUTCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tracey Grossman, recently honored as the recipient of the 2010 Daniel Ginsberg Award by the Anti-Defamation League.

The Anti-Defamation League's Daniel Ginsberg Award is given annually to young ADL leaders who show the enthusiasm and creativity of Daniel Ginsberg and ADL leaders whose interest and involvement covered virtually the entire spectrum of ADL issues. Since 1995, ADL has recognized many of their young and most dedicated leaders with this great honor.

Tracey's advocacy on behalf of the goals of Florida's chapter of ADL, and her guidance of Florida's ADL Glass Leadership Institute carries on the spirit of Daniel Ginsberg's great leadership.

I would like to congratulate Tracey, her husband Gabriel, and her parents Wes and Maddi for this great honor. I am proud to have their friendship and wish Tracey continued success in all of her future endeavors.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
DAVE KOEHLER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Dave Koehler on his 20th Anniversary as the Executive Director of the San Joaquin River Parkway Trust.

Dave is a native of the San Joaquin Valley, born in Fresno, California. He is a graduate of Fresno High School and California State University, Fresno. Dave and his wife Sharon are the proud parents of two sons, Shannon and Spence.

Dave has always been an integral part of the San Joaquin River Parkway Trust. He began as a member of the Board of Directors, has served as the Chair of the Education Committee, and was subsequently named as the Executive Director.

Under Dave's leadership as Executive Director of the San Joaquin River Parkway Trust, the organization has grown immensely. The acquisition of the Parkway lands, which began in the late 1980s, continues to be a positive work in progress. Presently, the Parkway Trust has acquired 3,500 acres of protected lands which includes the Scout Island Regional Outdoor Environmental Education

Center and the Coke Hallowell Center for River Studies. These River Parkway Trust jewels serve as points of interest for all individuals visiting the Parkway.

As a result of Dave's dedication and tenacity, in conjunction with staff and volunteers, several ecological reserves and trails have been established along the San Joaquin River between Friant Dam and California State Highway 145. The Parkway Trust has become a valued foundation of knowledge for all those who are interested in learning more about the river. Visitors from across our great state and nation are able to enjoy the history and importance of the majestic San Joaquin River.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise with me today to express our appreciation for Dave Koehler's diligent work as Executive Director of the San Joaquin River Parkway Trust and, on behalf of the thousands of visitors to the San Joaquin River Parkway Trust Lands, thank him for his continued dedication and commitment.

ST. PETERSBURG POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF HELPING KIDS

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, the St. Petersburg Police Athletic League celebrates 50 years of helping St. Petersburg's youth this Friday.

When first established in 1960, the PAL program provided recreational activities for the youth of our community. Today their mission has grown to include a wide range of after-school and summer programs that go far beyond sports. PAL volunteers and staff provide educational support, sports, fitness, art and drama programs and the offerings continue to grow and evolve.

The St. Petersburg PAL chapter now serves more than 500 youth per year. As PAL volunteer and former board member Ed Schatzman told The St. Petersburg Times recently, "We know kids are receiving wholesome programs and great contact with police officers that will be a key to their choosing a positive path to being good citizens."

One of PAL's primary missions is truancy prevention as more than 300 youth per year come to the program after they are caught by police officers skipping school. Through PAL, they receive help to improve their attendance, improve their academic performance, and are often referred to other agencies for help with drug treatment, counseling and school-based services.

Melissa Byers, PAL's Executive Director, told The Times that more than 60 percent of these students show improved school attendance as a result of the intervention of police and the PAL program.

Madam Speaker, The PAL program nationally and in St. Petersburg has proven to be a tremendous success in helping to build positive relationships between youth and police officers. They learn to build a bond of trust that keeps many young people from making mistakes that will haunt them for life.

Following my remarks, I will include the story from The Times by Kathy Ferguson

about PAL's great work in St. Petersburg. As Mr. Schatzman told the reporter, "Our St. Pete PAL has kept kids on the right path for 50 years; and if that isn't important, I don't know what is. The kids of PAL will make St. Petersburg's future bright."

Madam Speaker, it is my hope that my colleagues will join me in thanking the St. Petersburg PAL chapter, the police officers who volunteer their time, the board members and the staff for a job well done. There will be a grand celebration of their service in St. Petersburg this Friday as the community comes together to celebrate "50 Years of Making a Difference" and as they move on to their next 50 years of serving the youth of our community.

[From the St. Petersburg Times, May 9, 2010]
FOR 50 YEARS POLICE HAVE BEEN PALS TO KIDS—THE LOCAL POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE HELPS MORE THAN 500 KIDS A YEAR

(By Kathy Ferguson)

Boxing and double-dutch jump rope were all the rage in 1960 when the Police Athletic League of St. Petersburg opened its doors. Today PAL's athletics have grown to include basketball, track and flag football. Athletics may be its base, but sports are no longer PAL's only lineup. After-school and summer programs, Boy Scout troops, mentoring and a truancy plan help more than 500 youngsters every year.

This month, PAL celebrates 50 years of building positive bonds between police officers and youths. A 1950s-style, glamorous gala is set for Friday at the Renaissance Vinoy Resort & Golf Club in St. Petersburg. Tampa Bay Buccaneer football great Mike Alstott serves as honorary chairman.

Usually a Founders Club Breakfast is held. But this year's anniversary was too important for an early riser salute, Robin Grabowski, gala chairwoman, said.

"This is a major celebration for PAL," said Grabowski. "Everyone is invited to attend."

The gala will also applaud 50 PAL founders who supported through donations or service.

Ed Schatzman, who has dedicated 30 years to PAL, remembers its humble start.

"The north end of the basketball court ended abruptly at the basket because we couldn't fit a regulation court in the building," Schatzman said. "Our home team always had an advantage because our kids knew how to 'run up the wall' during games."

The first facility was on Fifth Avenue N, near 16th Street. Now PAL is at 1450 16th St. N, beside Woodlawn Elementary School.

Schatzman and his wife, Stefanie, sponsored a child for the summer program last year. Schatzman has been involved in PAL Scouts, served on the board of directors and helped with the after-school reading program.

"We know kids are receiving wholesome programs and great contact with police officers that will be key to their choosing a positive path to being good citizens," Schatzman said.

Planting seeds, executive director Melissa Byers said, is what PAL is all about. Its mission is crime prevention through athletics, education and recreation.

"We offer young people opportunities to enrich their self-esteem and team-building skills in a structured, nonthreatening environment," she said. The idea is to keep kids busy between the peak hours of youth violence and crime between 3 and 9 p.m.

Programs include daily fitness, art, drama, soccer, tennis, games, movies and homework time. Character development focuses on issues like gang involvement, making choices, stranger danger, bullying prevention and goal setting.

A new emphasis is being placed on health and the environment.

"We are planting an organic garden behind the facility and putting more focus on healthy eating," Byers said.

PAL works with disadvantaged youths, but children from all walks of life are welcome. Scholarships are offered.

More than 300 children each year get involved with PAL through a truancy intervention program. Officers pick up youngsters skipping school and wandering the streets. The students are brought to PAL's facility. They get help with ways to increase school attendance, improve their grades and find out what else they need to be successful. Often they are referred to outside services for help. That may mean counseling, drug treatment or school-based services.

"This is a much more productive use of their days," Byers said. The issues range from skipping school and low academics to homelessness and substance abuse.

Success is measurable.

"Over 60 percent of these students show improved attendance as a result of this intervention," Byers said.

"Our St. Pete PAL has kept kids on the right path for 50 years; and if that isn't important, I don't know what is," said Schatzman. "The kids of PAL will make St. Petersburg's future bright."

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF BARBARA BARKER UPON HER RETIREMENT AS DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF OHIO'S FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OFFICES

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding public servant from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. My District Director, Barbara Barker of Antwerp, Ohio will be retiring following Twenty-One years of service to Ohio's Fifth Congressional District Offices.

Barbara Barker began her service to Ohio's Fifth Congressional District as a Staff Assistant to the late Congressman Paul E. Gillmor. Barbara was soon promoted to serve in various capacities under Congressman Gillmor, being selected to serve as District Representative, Senior District Representative, and then lastly as District Director during her tenure. Following the vacancy left by the late Congressman Gillmor, Barbara's professionalism as a manager of congressional district operations made her a natural choice to assume the same role in my district offices. I have found Barbara to be a dedicated public servant, who has not only managed the day to day functions of my district offices, but has demonstrated that she made the well-being of the constituents of Ohio's Fifth Congressional District the hallmark of her career with the United States House of Representatives.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Barbara Barker for her role in my district offices. Our communities have undoubtedly benefited from her years of faithful service. We wish Barbara Barker all of the best upon her retirement as District Director of Ohio's Fifth Congressional District Offices.

HONORING UNITED STATES MILITARY WHO SERVED DURING THE KOREAN WAR

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women of the United States Military who served our nation with honor and dignity during the Korean War. I would like to particularly note the service of Connecticut's veterans who served during that conflict.

On June 25, 1950, soldiers from North Korea invaded South Korea and within days quickly secured the South Korean capital of Seoul. Only two days later, on June 27, President Harry Truman ordered the U.S. military to give the South Korean Government troops cover and support. Less than three months later, on September 15, 1950, United States forces under the command of General Douglas MacArthur successfully invaded Inchon stunning the North Korean military. Over the following years, a series of battles were fought between North Korean and South Korean forces aided primarily by U.S. forces as well as those from some twenty countries. Tragically, some 37,000 members of the U.S. Armed Forces lost their lives fighting in the Korean War and sadly their sacrifices have in some circles been forgotten or marginalized over time. We must never allow this to happen to those men and women who have served and given so much in defense of our freedom, and that is why I stand here today in the House of Representatives to honor them.

In my home state of Connecticut, thousands of men and women answered the call of duty and many of those gave the ultimate sacrifice. This week, in the town of East Lyme, veterans, family members and local citizens will join together to honor the service of the men and women who served in the Korean War. I would like to particularly thank Joyce Harris, President of the East Lyme Veterans Council for her efforts to put this event together and all those veterans who will be in attendance for this event. We owe these men and women our respect and our thanks, and we must honor the commitments that have been made to these veterans and their families. I ask that all members of the House join me in that effort.

A BILL TO DESIGNATE THE FACILITY OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE LOCATED AT 3270 FIRESTONE BOULEVARD IN SOUTH GATE, CALIFORNIA AS THE "HENRY C. GONZALEZ POST OFFICE BUILDING"

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I am proud today to introduce a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3270 Firestone Boulevard in South Gate, California as the "Henry C. Gonzalez Post Office Building."

Henry Gonzalez currently serves as a Councilmember for the City of South Gate, where he has proudly served for over two decades, beginning in 1982 when he became the first Latino elected to the City Council. He continued to make history as the City's first Latino Mayor just a year later, a role he has assumed several times during his 23 years in elected office.

In addition to his government service, Henry Gonzalez is a pillar of the South Gate community. He is an avid supporter of South Gate youth sports—having founded the South Gate High School Booster Club and the South Gate Youth Football league—and he has served as a board member for countless national and local organizations.

He is a much-loved and respected community leader. In light of his great service to our community, it is fitting that we name this post office in his honor.

Henry Gonzalez has given much of himself to better the city of South Gate. A post office named in his honor will remind us of what true civic commitment is and will inspire us all in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF CORNELIUS JOHN GROVES

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, it is with the greatest respect and admiration that I rise today to honor Cornelius John "C.J." Groves. C.J. is not only an engaged member of our community in Merced County, California, but a respected and influential educator.

C.J. Groves was born in Casper, Wyoming on May 26, 1920. His family moved in 1924 to Petaluma, California, where they settled. He attended local public schools and graduated in mid-year from Petaluma High School in 1938. After graduation, he enrolled at San Jose State, but was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1941 during his junior year. While in the service, he boxed as a light heavyweight and won all the tournaments that he entered. He retired undefeated. His ability to articulate made him an obvious candidate for Officers Candidate School where he graduated as a second lieutenant and was assigned to the Medical Administrative Corps. He was then sent to the Philippines for active duty. After the war ended, he was shipped to Japan until March 1946. He was discharged as a first lieutenant and ended his military career as a captain in the reserve.

After the service, C.J. continued his studies at San Jose State and graduated in June 1947 with a degree in English and a minor in history. He then attended Stanford University, where he completed the credential program. He began teaching at Merced High School in 1948. He continued his own education during his career and ultimately received a masters degree from Chapman University. In 1958, he helped open the new campus for Atwater High School as Vice Principal and Dean of Boys. He served in that capacity until 1974 when he was named Principal of Atwater High School. He continued to lead the school with distinction until 1981 when he retired.

His commitment to education has garnered the life-long respect and admiration of the