

the students at Belmond-Klemme Junior and Senior High School.

IN HONOR OF CRISTINA ROSE

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2010*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cristina Rose, who today is receiving the prestigious Crystal Eagle Award at Coro Southern California's 35th Annual Awards Gala.

Cristina is co-founder and senior counsel at Rose & Kindel, one of the premier public affairs firms in California. But more importantly, she has a long and successful career in public service, communications and public affairs in California, stretching back to her days of service under Governors Ronald Reagan and Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

Cristina is a board member of the American Council of Young Political Leaders and the California Historical Society. She also serves on the Board of Governors of the HOPE PAC, on the Board of Directors of the Literacy Network of L.A., and on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Los Angeles Y.M.C.A. She is also a member of the Pacific Council on International Policy, the Trusteeship and the International Women's Forum.

She is former vice president of the city of Los Angeles Environmental Quality Board, served on UCLA Governmental Affairs Steering Committee, as a member of the Board of Trustees of the California Journal Foundation and on the Editorial Advisory Board of the California Journal, and was a founding board member of the California Channel.

The Crystal Eagle Award being presented to Cristina is given each year to four leaders "whose involvement in public life has made an extraordinary contribution to our region." Cristina is a perfect example of how we can make a difference in our communities.

Coro is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works to prepare leaders to deal creatively, ethically and effectively with the challenges of democratic governance. Its competitive fellowship programs give these leaders the tools to make responsible decisions in the face of change, ambiguity and differing points of view. Coro embodies that belief, and its many highly esteemed graduates have demonstrated that an individual can truly make a significant difference in society.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, I would like to extend our congratulations to Cristina on winning this well-deserved award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2010*

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, on the evening of Tuesday, May 18, 2010, I was unavoidably delayed and not present to vote on the following bills:

H.R. 2288—Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Improvement Act (Rep. SALAZAR—Natural Resources) rollcall No. 273.

H.R. 4614—Katie Sepich Enhanced DNA Collection Act of 2010 (Rep. TEAGUE—Judiciary) rollcall No. 274.

H. Res. 1327—Honoring the life, achievements, and contributions of Floyd Dominy (Rep. SMITH (NE)—Natural Resources) rollcall No. 275.

In the event I was present, I would have voted "aye" on all of them.

RECOGNIZING THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF ALAN GINSBURG

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2010*

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jewish American Heritage Month and to recognize an extraordinary businessman and philanthropist from Central Florida who is making a distinguished contribution to the Jewish community in the 8th district of Florida, Alan Ginsburg.

For over 45 years, Mr. Alan Ginsburg has been involved in developing real estate projects such as, single family and multi-family housing projects with HUD, LIHTC, and FHA in several States including the great State of Florida. His career began years ago at a local sporting goods store in Grand Rapids, MI where he did not make enough money to pay for parking and lunch. Determined to be a self starter, Mr. Ginsburg, quit his job to become a self-employed entrepreneur. In 1981, he founded CED Construction Companies specializing in building multi-family communities.

Mr. Ginsburg is a role model for generosity and selflessness not only with his money, but with his time and dedication. He serves as the Director of Greater Orlando Jewish Welfare Federation and was an active member of National Young Leadership Cabinet for the United Jewish Appeal. Mr. Alan Ginsburg's community activism is not just within the Jewish Community, but throughout Central Florida. He has served as a trustee for Rollins College, where he gave \$5 million for a scholarship endowment at Rollins College, and serves as a trustee for the Orlando Arts Foundation.

During the past few years, Mr. Ginsburg has donated millions of dollars to Central Florida organizations. In 2007, The Alan Ginsburg Family Foundation gave Florida Hospital \$20 million, the largest donation in its history, for its new \$255 million patient tower. The 15 story, 440 bed Ginsburg Tower opened in December 2008 and features one of the largest emergency departments and cardiac catheterization labs in the country. At his request, the tower's lobby was designed to be welcoming to people of all faiths and features a memorial to Ginsburg's late wife, Harriet, and son, Jeffrey.

Mr. Ginsburg's philanthropic values are a reflection of his philosophy in life, "to never forget the importance of the community in which you are creating new development and to give back as much and as often as possible." This philosophy corresponds with the Jewish concept of tikkun olam, repairing the world. Jews are not only responsible for helping to create a better world for themselves, but for the entire society as a whole. Mr. Ginsburg's community service has accomplished just that.

Madam Speaker, during Jewish American Heritage Month, it is my privilege to recognize this dedicated community member whose devotion to our community can be shown through his great contributions not only to the Jewish community, but the larger Florida community as well. Alan Ginsburg has given so much to the people of Florida and I applaud his accomplishments and service in our Central Florida community and our State of Florida.

NATIONAL CHILDHOOD OBESITY AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN**

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 19, 2010*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 966 that will designate September as National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month and raise awareness around addressing childhood obesity.

As this public health crisis continues to grow, we can point to a host of factors that are complicating efforts to reduce childhood obesity such as: prominent advertising of unhealthy foods, the popularity of big-portion meals that are high in calories and fat accompanied with sugary beverages, spending more time in front of the television and sedentary electronic games and fewer school physical education programs. Childhood obesity has more than tripled in the past 30 years. A recent CDC report found that about 14 percent of low-income, pre-school-aged children in the Virgin Islands are obese, which is also the U.S. average.

Childhood obesity disproportionately affects low-income and minority children. Obesity rates are higher in African American, Native American, and Mexican American adolescents than in White adolescents. Type 2 diabetes is disproportionately seen in Hispanic, Native American, and African American adolescents.

Children that live in low-income neighborhoods often do not have access to recreational facilities, parks, or even sidewalks to walk on, limiting virtually any possibility of being physically active.

They often don't have access to grocery stores to buy fruits and vegetables; rather gathering their nutritional content from fast food restaurants and convenience stores. These food deserts are prevalent in poor communities all over the country.

As a physician I have also seen the adult consequences of childhood obesity: overweight and obese children grow up to be overweight or obese adults at increased risk for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, asthma, and some cancers—all of which are increasing exponentially, especially in communities of color.

The time to intervene is now! We must continue to champion legislation and initiatives that will reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity. So on behalf of our Nation's youth, I support this resolution that will bring awareness to this epidemic in hopes of securing brighter, healthier futures for children all across the country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDNA  
MERLE WILKINSON

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2010*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my mother-in-law, Edna Merle Wilkinson, who passed away May 19th, 2010. I ask all my colleagues to join me in recognizing the many outstanding achievements of Merle during her lifetime.

Merle Wilkinson touched the lives of many with dedication and grace. Evidenced since her early childhood, Merle's driven and compassionate nature laid the foundation for a legacy of inspiration to all who knew her.

Merle's drive led her to be awarded the American Legion Award for leadership, courage and academic excellence at her high school in Watsonville, CA. There she was also elected Student Body Secretary, served as the captain of the field hockey team, and was a competitive ice skater. After high school, Merle attended business college and was a legal assistant to the Superior Court Judge in Salinas, CA before marrying her life partner, John E. Wilkinson, the son of the founder of Granite Construction Company Walter J. Wilkinson. Together, Merle and John built the highway and road construction firm into one of the largest companies in its field today.

With great compassion and a heart of service, Merle became known for her community involvement. She was active in the Eastern Star and the Johnny Appleseed Auxiliary where she hosted fundraisers for local charities. Merle was a founder of the Lady Bugs Auxiliary in Stockton, an organization that supports the developmentally disabled, as well as an avid supporter of the American Diabetes Association. Her desire to brighten the lives of others was so strong that, if there was ever a time when Merle could not be found, she was most likely taking casseroles to the families of cancer patients, as she often liked to do.

Merle's greatest source of pride and happiness, though, was her family—her three daughters Susan, Patti and Nancy, and her 12 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren that survive her today. Merle always put family first, and I am forever grateful for her gift of a mother's eternal love.

Madam Speaker, while it is with great sadness, I am truly honored to recognize and pay tribute to a woman who has had such a positively profound impact on my life and the lives of so many others. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in recognizing Merle Wilkinson's lifetime of achievements.

TRIBUTE TO IOWA FIRE CHIEF  
LARRY SQUIRES

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2010*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Marshalltown, Iowa Fire Chief Larry Squires on the occasion of his retirement.

Chief Squires has honorably served with the Marshalltown Fire Department for the past 30 years. During the past three decades, Chief

Squires played an instrumental role in the many changes and improvements in fire protection and EMS delivery throughout the city. Even during his last days as fire chief, Chief Squires is continually looking for ways to improve safety and response times with the suggestion of an additional fire station on the opposite side of town. His forward thinking and dedication to public safety speaks volumes of his job as a public servant who is well respected and loved by the people of Marshalltown.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in commending Chief Squires for his many years of loyalty and service in protecting the community of Marshalltown. It is an immense honor to represent Chief Squires in Congress, and I wish all the best to him as he embarks on this next chapter in life.

RESETTLEMENT OF INTERNALLY  
DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPS) IN  
SRI LANKA

**HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2010*

Mr. HINCHEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the first anniversary of the end of the civil war in Sri Lanka. President Rajapaksa promised to promote reconciliation on the island and resettle Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).

One year after the end of the war, there are still over 90,000 people who remain in detention and transit centers, including many women and children. Not only have they not been able to return to their homes, but they still don't have access to basic necessities. Food and medical care are scarce, and international aid organizations are still not allowed into many northern areas occupied by Tamils.

The Sri Lankan government should immediately begin resettling IDPs in their original homes. They must be allowed to return to their families, livelihoods, schools, and places of worship. Addressing humanitarian needs and protecting the basic human rights of all Sri Lankans should be the top priority of the Rajapaksa government.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE NOGUCHI MU-  
SEUM ON THE OCCASION OF ITS  
TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Noguchi Museum. Isamu Noguchi was one of the twentieth century's most influential and critically acclaimed Japanese-American sculptors. The museum, which he established and designed, is considered by many to be one of his greatest achievements. It is also the first museum in the United States to be founded by a living artist in his lifetime.

Noguchi's innovation is evident in the museum's construction. He converted a 1920s

photo-engraving plant in Long Island City into a two-story, 27,000 square foot exhibition space divided into ten galleries, along with a serene sculpture garden. The museum houses the world's largest and most extensive collection of Noguchi's work, including his complete archives. There is a comprehensive selection of his sculptures in stone, metal, wood, and clay, as well as drawings, models for public projects and gardens, stage sets, furniture, and his Akari Light Sculptures.

An internationalist, Noguchi drew inspiration from his extensive world travels. This influence is evident in the materials and techniques he chose to use in his projects. Noguchi believed in the social role of sculpture and created public works all over the world including a playground in Japan, a plaza in Texas, a garden in Paris, a fountain in New Orleans and this museum in Long Island City. He did not belong to any particular movement; often his choices reflect his commitment to creating art around public spaces.

Through his collaborations with international artists, Noguchi became fluent in a range of different media and schools and set a new standard for artistic achievement. The museum repays his debt to the international community, by organizing traveling exhibitions and loaning works to other institutions for special exhibitions. It serves as an international center for the study and interpretation of Noguchi's vision, life, and the influence of his work on later artists.

The museum's steadfast commitment to education is reflected in the myriad of public and academic programs and tours offered to children, teens, and adults of all ages. Particularly popular are the "Second Sundays" series, which convene renowned experts in art, architecture, and design to explore a variety of timely topics and complement the museum's mission and exhibits, and the summer "Music in the Garden" series. Other programs vary from panel discussions to curators' talks, artist-led gallery tours, and poetry readings.

The Noguchi Museum recently underwent a renovation which has not only preserved the artist's vision, but has better enabled its facilities to meet the needs of its ever expanding audience.

Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to all the friends, family and supporters of the Noguchi Museum on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary.

REMEMBERING JOAN SUE HUEY

**HON. TOM McCLINTOCK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2010*

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Joan Sue Huey. Joan Huey was born on September 29, 1928 in a small farming village in China. In 1947, she married her life's love, Albert Huey, who served in the United States Army during World War II. In 1948 they welcomed the birth of their son, Dennis. They immigrated to the United States in 1951, settling in San Francisco to seek a better life for their growing family, which by then included two beautiful daughters, Dora and Diana.

Throughout the years, Joan juggled the hectic duties of being a wife and mother. She