

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD  
T. WAX

**HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today with deep sadness by the passing away of a native Mississippian, Mr. Richard T. Wax. Mr. Wax, 83, died Monday, January 4, 2010, at his home.

Mr. Wax was President of the Wax Company, founded in 1898 by N.T. Wax. The Wax Company was built on the foundation of serving Mississippi farmers. Mr. Wax joined the company in 1948. He was elected President in 1972 and spent over 50 years of service to the Mississippi agricultural industry. Mr. Wax was also former president of the Southern Seedsmen's Association, the Southern Field Seed Council and was appointed by the American Seed Trade Association to the Panel of Arbitrators of the American Arbitration Association.

Mr. Wax was a devoted husband to Lewellen, and father to Barry, John, and Terry. Madam Speaker, with distinct honor and pride, I along with the citizens of Amory, Mississippi, sadly mourn the death of such an inspirational Mississippian. I want to personally thank him for his contributions. His memory will live on.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JON AND  
CRYSTAL TAETS

**HON. LEONARD LANCE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jon Taets, my legislative director, and his wife, Crystal, on the birth of their second child. On Sunday, January 10, 2010 Jon and Crystal welcomed John Patrick "Jack" Taets to their family. Little Jack was named in honor of Jon's late grandfather, Jack Gillespie.

At birth, Jack Taets weighed 7 pounds 9 ounces and measured 20 inches long, and will be welcomed home by his older sister, Elizabeth.

COMMENDING ZACH BONNER

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Zach Bonner, one of my young constituents whose humanitarian work has earned him the Most Inspiring Person of the Year award from Beliefnet.com.

Zach created a charitable enterprise, the Little Red Wagon Foundation, when he was eight years old to help children in need. Zach has been doing humanitarian work since he was just six years old, handing out water from his red wagon after a hurricane. He has raised money to help provide meals to needy families during the holidays and has donated needed school supplies to children from lower-income families.

Zach recently began a walk across America to raise awareness about the problem of youth homelessness in our country. Zach will be walking 2,225 miles to raise money to help homeless kids. He previously walked nearly 1,000 miles from Tampa to Washington D.C. for the same purpose. If he successfully completes his walk across the country—and I do not doubt that he will—Zach will become the youngest person to do so.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent such a fine young man who has dedicated himself to helping underprivileged children. It inspires me that he has done so when he is only twelve years old himself. His age certainly belies his maturity. I want to commend this fine young man to all of our colleagues and hold him as an example of the good that can be done by one dedicated individual.

HONORING BOY SCOUT TROOP 623  
OF SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN ON  
ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Boy Scout Troop 623 of Southwest Michigan, on the occasion of its 90th anniversary. Boy Scout Troop 623 is among the oldest in the nation with the earliest records reporting a December 1919 founding, only three years after Congress chartered the national organization.

While the United States is home to many accomplished and dedicated Boy Scout Troops, Troop 623 remains among the most distinguished. The Troop has weathered several difficulties including a 1931 fire that destroyed their camp on Lake Madron. The camp was rebuilt during difficult economic times and has thrived ever since. Camp Madron is still among the finest Scout camps in the United States.

In the summer of 1961, Boy Scout Troop 623 became the first troop from West Michigan to serve as the Governor's Honor Guard and Ft. Mackinac guides when they took the first of their annual weeklong trips to Mackinac Island. The summer of 2010 will mark the 49th consecutive trip the troop has taken, making Troop 623 the longest serving troop in the state. This trip is the highlight of a scout's career.

Scouting is a tremendously rewarding activity, something which I have learned firsthand from my time as a Troop 623 Scout. For the hundreds of former members of Troop 623, their experiences with Scouting have equipped them to become responsible citizens and leaders in the communities that they now call home. The values learned as a Scout are irreplaceable, and the lives of those who have Scouting training bear tribute to their training.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
ALTERNATIVEPRESS.COM

**HON. LEONARD LANCE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The AlternativePress.com as it celebrates its one-year anniversary.

The AlternativePress.com was launched in October 2008 and currently serves as New Jersey's all-online alternative to local print newspapers.

In my congressional district, The AlternativePress.com serves residents in Berkeley Heights, New Providence, Summit and Westfield and features a wide array of news and information, from video streaming of local high school sports events to real estate listings and restaurant reviews, to objective local, regional and state news.

The AlternativePress.com is led by lifelong New Jersey resident and Rutgers University graduate Michael M. Shapiro, who serves as the outlet's chief executive officer and editor.

I would like to congratulate Michael Shapiro and the entire AlternativePress.com team as it celebrates its one-year anniversary. I commend the whole team for its tremendous service to the public.

RECOGNIZING THE GREATER FORT  
WORTH MARTIN LUTHER KING,  
JR. HOLIDAY COMMITTEE

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Greater Fort Worth Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Committee, for its work on promoting and honoring the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. Since 1985, the Committee has held a Scholarship Awards Banquet, as well as a Fort Worth March/Parade, in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.

This organization is one of the oldest in our country that has a commitment to promoting the legacy of one of our nation's greatest civil rights leaders. In fact, the first Fort Worth Parade honoring Dr. King was held one year before the national holiday was observed.

This year, the Committee has several activities planned around the holiday, including a Scholarship Banquet, a Gospel/Jazz Social, and a Parade and High School Band Exhibition. All events are scheduled to be held during the weekend of Saturday, January 16, through Monday, January 18, 2010.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today and recognize the Greater Fort Worth Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Committee for their commitment to upholding the legacy of Dr. King. I am proud to represent this charitable organization and the City of Fort Worth in the United States House of Representatives.

# A TRIBUTE TO ART PRICE IN RECOGNITION OF HIS 28 YEARS OF SERVICE

## HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Arthur Price for his 28 years of service.

Art Price was born in Escondido, California, October 13, 1951 to Arthur and Betty Price. He graduated from Ramona High School in 1969, then Grossmont Jr. College and California State University, Sacramento—earning a B.A. in Criminal Justice.

Art met Kathryn Price and was married on August 18, 1974. He graduated from P.O.S.T. in 1980 and was hired as a District Attorney Investigator for the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office. On June 15, 1981, he was hired as the Chief Investigator for the Amador County District Attorney's Office, and has faithfully served five District Attorney Administrations as Chief Investigator since then.

Art played a key role in assisting the District Attorney in receiving the Auto Insurance Fraud, Workers' Compensation Fraud, and Elder Abuse grant programs, and Art's influence was critical in forging an alliance between the District Attorney's Office and the Department of Social Services to combat welfare fraud in our community.

In 2002, Art was recognized by his peers as the Amador County Peace Officer of the Year. At the time of his retirement, Art was the longest serving District Attorney Chief Investigator in the State of California, recognized statewide as a leader in law enforcement. Art has also been active in the state law enforcement community through his work with the California District Attorney Investigators' Association, serving as president in 1999–2000.

Art's greatest legacy is his service to the community, having served as soccer coach, President of the Mother Lode Youth Soccer League, fundraiser for the Amador Polar Bears swim team and the Amador High School Volleyball team, Project Leader for the Sierra Eagles 4–H, Food Chairman for Sober Grad, member of the Jackson Lions and other positions for worthy causes.

Art is a devoted family man and father to five children—Arthur, Janice, Cheryl, Victoria, and John—and grandfather to four—Arthur, Kaitlyn, Timothy, and David.

I am pleased to recognize and congratulate Art Price for his dedication towards the District Attorney's Office, local law enforcement, and the citizens of Amador County.

# CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT DAVID R. NORDEL OUTSTANDING SERVICE AT FAIRCHILD AIR FORCE BASE

## HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize United States Air Force Chief Master Sergeant David R. Nordel for his outstanding service while stationed at Fairchild Air Force Base.

Chief Nordel was assigned to serve as Chief Master Sergeant of the 92nd Air Refueling Wing at Fairchild Air Force Base in Washington in July 2008. He serves as the senior enlisted advisor to five group commanders and 16 squadron commanders concerning the force management and combat readiness of over 1,900 Airmen.

During his time at Fairchild Air Force Base, he has improved the overall well-being and morale of Airmen. Chief Nordel has worked hard for the Airmen at Fairchild by holding the first-ever Single Airman's Summit. In addition, he played a key roll in working with the Department of Defense and Congress to secure funding for a physical training center which will improve quality of life for installation's Airmen and provides a means to repair a snow damaged structure. Finally, Chief Nordel has helped pave the way for a successful BRAC mandated Total Force Integration initiatives between the 92nd Air Refueling Wing and the 141st Washington Air National Guard.

Madam Speaker, Chief Master Sergeant David R. Nordel's selfless dedication to his country is honorable and worthy of recognition. I thank Chief Nordel, his wife Pat, and their two children Dave and Dominic. They are a true Air Force Family and I salute the entire family for their continued commitment, sacrifice, and contribution to this great Nation. I wish Chief Nordel and his family great success as they continue their Air Force journey. They will all truly be missed at Fairchild Air Force Base.

# RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ANITA THETFORD

## HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Anita Thetford of Hurst, Texas. After twenty-nine years of dedicated service, she will be retiring from her current post for the City of Hurst.

Anita has devoted her time to the City of Hurst since December 1980, and has since held designations as Certified Governmental Finance Officer and Registered Tax Assessor and Collector. For the past 19 years, she has served her community as the Director of Finance and has provided expert guidance in the financial arena during her tenure. Under her leadership, the City of Hurst has earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 19 consecutive years and is one of only five cities in the United States and Canada to receive a rating of "Especially Notable" in three budget award categories for a single year.

Anita's efforts are known to have maintained the City of Hurst's financial ratings, earned lower bond interests ratings and reduced property tax rates. This has bolstered Hurst's growth of new and existing businesses.

Anita graduated cum laude from the University of North Texas with a bachelor's degree in business administration. She has also earned her Associates degree through Tarrant County Community College. Currently, Anita is completing a Master of Arts in Christian Education and Childhood Ministry from Dallas Baptist University.

Anita has been a member of the Government Finance Officers Association of Texas for the past 27 years. She has served the association as President, Board Newsletter Committee Liaison, Ethics Committee member, Texas Municipal League Board Representative, North Texas Representative, and Newsletter Committee Chair. She also received the prestigious Outstanding Service Award and was recognized as Outstanding Finance Officer in 1998.

As a member of the Rotary Club of Hurst-Euless-Bedford, she has served as the Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, and President. She was also awarded the Outstanding Service award for this organization in 1999 and was named Rotarian of the year during 2005–2006.

Anita has received many awards based on her knowledge, merit, commitment and integrity as a public servant and humanitarian.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today and recognize Anita Thetford for her years of dedication and selfless service to the City of Hurst. I am proud to represent her and the City of Hurst in the United States House of Representatives.

# HONORING JIMMIE JENKINS ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA

## HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the exemplary public service of Jimmie Jenkins, whose leadership and contributions in the field of wastewater management made him a vital resource to local governments in Northern Virginia and across the nation.

Jimmie Jenkins is retiring as director of the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, capping a 33-year career in which he helped shaped the county's building, environmental and inspection services. This actually is the second time Jimmie has retired from Fairfax County. He originally retired in 2001 from the county's wastewater division, but he returned in 2004 to oversee the entire public works agency.

I had the great pleasure of working with Jimmie during my 14 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including 5 as chairman. When retirement notices would come before the board, my colleagues and I often would say in good humor that someone should pass a law prohibiting such decisions because we could not bear to part with such dedicated and talented people. We actually succeeded in Jimmie's case by luring him out of retirement once, but it looks like he is serious this time.

Jimmie built a reputation in Fairfax as a charismatic "can do" manager, known for his direct "tell-it-like-it-is" style and his unabashed support for his alma mater, Virginia Tech, as evidenced by his large collection of maroon and orange ties. Jimmie began his career in the former Department of Environmental Management in 1973 as a structural engineer, reviewing plans for compliance with the building code. He has held several positions within the wastewater management area, including the