

has been working extensively on livestock and fair issues for the last 17 years. Prior to his appointment, Bill was a former Stanislaus County Supervisor. He also worked for the USDA Undersecretary Earl Butz and served as a White House Intern in the Nixon Administration.

Bill is the current President of the California Poultry Federation where he manages the affairs of the meat poultry industry with emphasis in governmental relations, public affairs, public relations, animal welfare and marketing. He also works with agricultural and business groups throughout the West Coast as well as Washington, DC to promote and advocate for business and industry in California. Bill is known across the nation as a leader on poultry issues and his effectiveness has been critical to the success and growth of the California Poultry Federation.

Bill takes an active role in his local community in addition to his commitments with the California Poultry Federation. He is a past chairman of the Doctors Medical Center Board of Governors, Past President of the Stanislaus State University Foundation Board, member of the Dean's Advisory Board of the School of Agriculture at the University of California, Davis, Executive Committee Member of the Valley Coalition for UC Merced's Medical School, Former President of the Newman Rotary and the Newman Chamber of Commerce, and Former California Chairman of the National Newspaper Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring my good friend, Mr. Bill Mattos, for his leadership, dedication, and outstanding service to our community and the California Poultry Federation.

HONORING BARBARA HAILE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and celebrate a dedicated public servant and my longtime staffer and friend, Barbara Haile.

Barbara Haile would make a good book. Each chapter could start with, "When I had dinner with . . ." Unfortunately, many of those passages would be left out because she could recognize their faces but not always their names. Some dinner stories would start with professional athletes, such as Baseball Hall of Famers Willie Mays and Willie McCovey or they would end with after dinner taxi rides with people like Norman Mailer arguing with one of his many wives. If you drop a name of an iconic American in the last half century, it's a good bet Barbara knew them or at least had dinner with them.

Her life story took her from Jamaica to the United Nations in New York, to Saudi Arabia to San Francisco during the late 60s, eventually landing in San Luis Obispo with her husband Allen Haile and two children, Jonathan and Courtney.

And speaking of books, Barbara can recite the Good Book from memory and may break out singing an old-time hymnal, though she would never describe herself as a religious woman, just the product of a traditional Jamaican upbringing. Whether the results of her tra-

ditional Jamaican work ethic or her life experiences she could also write a how-to on helping those in need.

The consummate caseworker, Barbara's name is known throughout federal government agencies. If you work in one of my offices and have the occasion to speak with a Federal social service agency you will eventually be asked, "Oh, Representative Capps's office. Do you work with Barbara Haile?" It is not because she had dinner with these folks but because she is a caseworker extraordinaire who found ways to help people who had given up hope.

Barbara Haile was the last hope for many people facing walls of bureaucracy and red tape or those without options until she authored one of her countless letters. Her tenacity for helping those in need likely led to officials trying to find a way to help because they knew she would not go away. While her countless stories of finding homeless veterans a place to live, getting seniors needed healthcare or assisting immigrants to become American citizens are confidential, the volume of files on her cases would make Superman, possibly a dinner guest, cringe at moving her cabinets to make room for more.

Barbara will be sorely missed not only by me but by the entire community of the Central Coast of California. Not only has her hard work helped countless constituents but she is a true example of a dedicated public servant. Her service and diligence to both me and my late husband Walter—and, most importantly, to the constituents we serve—will not be forgotten. I am honored to have worked with her, and proud to call her my friend.

CONGRATULATING BECKWOOD SERVICES, INC. ON RECEIVING THE RAYTHEON FIVE STAR SUPPLIER EXCELLENCE AWARD

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Beckwood Services, Inc. on receiving the Raytheon Five Star Supplier Excellence Award. This is truly a prestigious honor as only fourteen other suppliers have been recognized at the five star level for their excellence in on time delivery measures, sustained performance on quality, and commitment to continuous process and quality improvement. They have stood out time and again as a great company and a leader in the defense industry for both New Hampshire and the country.

New Hampshire is proud to have them in Plaistow, furthering their work and adding to the local community. Most importantly, we are honored to have Beckwood Services supporting the mission of our service men and women in the United States Armed Forces. Your work helps support their mission and keeps them safe, and we are grateful that our military is supported by the quality products you manufacture.

I congratulate Beckwood Services, Inc. for receiving this award and for their outstanding leadership in the field of defense systems. I wish you all the best for continued success in the future.

RECOGNITION OF REX FERRY

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you this evening in recognition of a truly great American, Rex Ferry, who has served as President of Valley Electrical Consolidated, Inc. and Evets Electrical, both headquartered in Girard, Ohio. I wish to recognize him for his extraordinary service, for the past 3 years, serving as President of the National Electrical Contractors Association, NECA.

There are many things that impress and amaze me about Rex Ferry. First among them is that he grew up in the trade and worked hard to build up the necessary resources and assets to eventually own his own company and become an electrical contractor. He began his career as an apprentice with the IBEW Local 573 in Warren, Ohio. He worked in many areas of electrical construction and purchased Valley Electrical in 1990 and later added Evets Electric to his management portfolio in 2006.

Also high on the list of Rex's strong attributes are his family and his faith. He has been married to Mary, his high school sweetheart, for over 30 years. Additionally, his company is family-owned and operated as his daughter and sons-in-law all work for his company.

There is an old saying that leaders rise up in times of crisis and if that saying holds true, there is no one I know who has demonstrated a capacity to lead through difficult times quite like Rex Ferry. NECA and its member companies were not and are not immune to the challenging economic times with construction nearly grinding to a halt. I know this has weighed on him tremendously during his tenure. But as I've grown to enjoy Rex's company over the past years, I've known him to be one of the most optimistic business leaders around.

I know he has appeared at many local and national NECA meetings where he has been called upon to deliver one of his infamous 'pep' talks where groups became accustomed to his legendary "Magic Wand." He welcomes the opportunity to report on the significant challenges not only facing his company, but also, the electrical contracting industry. He has challenged business leaders from around the country to adapt to a changing economic environment. He has implemented a variety of changes at NECA including, but not limited to, creation of focus groups to bring out the youth movement, what he refers to as future leaders, and to encourage women, through installation of a women's peer group, to learn about opportunities in the electrical industry.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that his tenure will expire at the end of this year where the leadership reins will turn over to another capable Ohioan, Dennis Quebe, of Dayton. I'm honored to recognize Rex this evening for his incredible leadership, his passion, his vision, and for his continued friendship.

HONORING THE LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the League of Women Voters of Berkeley, who are celebrating 100 years of women voting in California, starting with the historic and narrowly won California State referendum and the first California Civic League, Berkeley Forum led by Miss Blanche Morse in 1911. It is an immense honor to represent Bay Area communities who have truly been at the forefront of a century's worth of major achievements in social justice.

Over the years, what is now the League of Women Voters of Berkeley/Albany/Emeryville, as well as its sister leagues in Oakland, Piedmont, and the surrounding Bay Area, have worked tirelessly to advocate, educate, and champion citizens' informed and active participation in government and civic affairs.

An expansive and well-organized network of committed chapters, over 4,000 members in 21 local Leagues comprise the League of Women Voters of the Bay Area, LWVBA, which took shape in 1959. On a national scale, the League of Women Voters of the United States, LWVUS, was founded during the 1920 convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, held just six months before the 19th Amendment was ratified. Thus, after a 72-year struggle, the U.S. Constitution finally reflected what women in the Bay Area and California had fought to achieve a decade earlier.

As members of the League of Women Voters, you are part of a magnificent legacy. Additionally, you have pledged to continue to be the kind of bold pioneers and astute advocates who led us to this point. Therefore, I would like to thank you for your dedicated service in guiding and encouraging our community toward civic engagement.

Moreover, the League has flexed its power in shaping public policy through the strength of its grassroots organization and by maintaining its important stance of non-partisanship. For example, the Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville chapter has worked extensively on advocating for fair housing and the promotion of social resources, including mental health, education, juvenile justice, and senior services. Likewise, the Oakland chapter has been a major advocate for ranked choice voting, quality education, and accessible housing. And, the Piedmont chapter holds positions in the areas of social policy, diversity, and natural resources, to name a few.

On behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, I would like to congratulate you on this milestone and thank you for the invaluable service you provide to our community. I wish the League of Women Voters' local, State, and national members all the best as you forge ahead toward another 100 years of protecting the rights of voters, promoting sound policy, and creating a more just and peaceful world.

HONORING ADMIRAL ERIC T.
OLSON**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the inspirational leadership of ADM Eric T. Olson. Admiral Olson's service is worthy of recognition by the entire Tampa community, the United States Armed Services and every citizen of our great Nation.

A native of Tacoma, Wash., Olson graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1973 and qualified as a Naval Special Warfare, SEAL, officer in 1974. He has served operationally in an Underwater Demolition Team, SEAL Team, SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team, Special Boat Squadron, and at the Naval Special Warfare Development Group. He has commanded at every level.

Olson has participated in several conflicts and contingency operations, and has served as a SEAL instructor, strategy and tactics development officer and joint special operations staff officer. His overseas assignments include service as a United Nations military observer in Israel and Egypt, and as Navy Programs officer in Tunisia. He served on the Navy staff as assistant deputy chief of Naval Operations (Plans, Policy, and Operations).

Olson earned a Master of Arts degree in National Security Affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School and studied at the Defense Language Institute. He is a Joint Specialty officer and Political-Military Affairs sub-specialist with emphasis on Africa and the Middle East. His awards include the Distinguished Service Medal and Silver Star.

Admiral Olson became the first Navy SEAL to take the helm at Special Operations Command. It is only befitting that such a decorated and committed SEAL played an integral role in the successful raid on the Abbottabad compound that ended the search for Osama bin Laden. In addition to being the first three- and four-star Navy SEAL, Admiral Olson is currently the Bull Frog, the longest serving Navy SEAL still on duty. At four-star flag rank, Olson is the highest ranking Navy SEAL to hold the Bull Frog title.

The Tampa community and MacDill Air Force Base are proud to recognize Admiral Olson for his outstanding career and his many significant contributions to the Navy and our country. His determination and hard work have made him an inspirational leader within our Nation's Armed Services.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
JESSE E. COOLEY, JR.**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Jesse E. Cooley, Jr., who passed away on July 20, 2011 at the age of 79. He will be remembered for his savvy business sense, impressive musical abilities, and his great service to Central Valley families.

Jesse E. Cooley, Jr. was born on November 2, 1931 in Fresno, California. He attended Edi-

son High School where he was class president, played on the football team, ran for the track and field team, sang as a member of the Boys Glee Club, and played as lead drummer for the school band.

Upon graduating from high school, Mr. Cooley embraced his passion for music. He found work playing as a member of the Cal Tjader jazz band, which served as the beginning of his music career. His talent provided him the opportunity to play with jazz legends including Lionel Hampton, Count Basie, and Jack Teagarden.

In addition to having an impressive musical repertoire, Mr. Cooley was also a proud and respected businessman. Mr. Cooley's father, Jesse E. Cooley, Sr., opened the first Black-owned mortuary in the San Joaquin Valley. In 1953, Mr. Cooley followed in his father's footsteps when he teamed up with his business partner, Andrew Riolo, and opened the first Black-owned mortuary in Solano County, California. Three years later, Mr. Cooley returned to Fresno and immersed himself in the family business. In 1959, Mr. Cooley and his father opened the second branch of their business in Bakersfield, California to serve the residents of the southern Central Valley. The family business expanded north in 1971 when they opened a third location in Stockton, California.

As a member of the San Joaquin Valley business community for more than 50 years, Mr. Cooley was able to help thousands of individuals during times of great sadness. The great amount of trust Central Valley families placed in Mr. Cooley and his business is exemplified by the 10,000 services he hosted; most notably, the family of civil rights activist César E. Chávez and the family of Major General Vang Pao.

Whether he was playing music for his family and friends, or serving our community, Mr. Cooley will be remembered as a man filled with compassion and joy. He was preceded in death by his son, Jesse E. Cooley III. He is survived by his wife Barbara Taylor-Cooley; sons, Stephen R. Cooley, David A. Cooley, Phillip M. Cooley, and Corey D. Cooley; his daughters, Lisa C. Oliver and Christie M. Cooley; his sister Dorythea Cooley; and numerous friends and community members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Jesse E. Cooley, Jr., an honorable and respected man with a commitment to bringing peace and comfort to families during their most difficult time. May his legacy continue to live on in our community and in the lives of those he touched.

HONORING THE 75TH
ANNIVERSARY OF VASA PARK**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Vasa Park, located in the Township of Mount Olive, Morris County, New Jersey, as it celebrates its 75th anniversary.

Vasa Park, established in 1929, was originally created to serve as a retirement community for Scandinavian immigrants in the Morris County area. However, as time passed and the community grew, it became a vacation spot for many of those same Scandinavian immigrants and their families. Today, ancestors