

HONORING AIMEE SORDELLI FOR
RECEIVING THE CHARLES E.
PIPER AWARD

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Aimee Sordelli, who will receive the 26th Annual Charles E. Piper Award in November. The Charles E. Piper Award is presented by the Berwyn Development Corporation to honor achievement in business and service to the community. Since moving to Berwyn in 1995, Ms. Sordelli has dedicated herself to making the community safer, cleaner, and healthier.

During the past 16 years, Aimee Sordelli has amassed an impressive record of service, including sitting on several boards that strive to improve life for Berwyn citizens. Currently, Ms. Sordelli is Chairwoman of the Cook County Senior Advisory Board. She is also a member of the 708 Mental Health Board and the Main Street Board, as well as a Berwyn Township Trustee. There is scarcely a charitable organization in Berwyn to which she does not lend her time. When she is not volunteering for Earth Day clean ups or the Depot Beautification Campaign, Ms. Sordelli is at meetings for Senior Advocate Health Care, the Berwyn Development Corporation, or the Depot District Special Events Committee. In addition to her charitable endeavors, Aimee Sordelli works as an Operations Manager at the Loyola Marymount Hospital in Maywood, Illinois.

Perhaps even more impressive than the many leadership positions Ms. Sordelli holds in her community is the constant generosity and support she offers her neighbors. Ms. Sordelli once saved the life of her next door neighbor by using a baseball bat to fend off an attacking pit bull. On September 11, 2001, she brought a pot of chili to her local Berwyn fire department. As her own act of remembrance, Ms. Sordelli has made feeding her local first responders an annual event. Today, it is a community wide operation with catered meals for Berwyn firefighters, police, and paramedics. It is not only her illustrious achievements, but also her kind and genuine demeanor that make Aimee Sordelli a citizen worthy of distinction and recognition.

I ask you to join me in honoring Ms. Aimee Sordelli on her selection as the 2011 recipient of the Charles E. Piper Award, and may she continue to make a difference in the lives of her fellow citizens for years to come.

HONORING LT. COL. TERRENCE J.
MCCOLLUM ON HIS PROMOTION
TO THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT
COLONEL IN THE UNITED
STATES AIR FORCE

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary citizen and Illinois' 3rd District constituent, Lt. Col. Terrence J. McCollum. On June 30th, 2011, then Major McCollum was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant

Colonel in the United States Air Force. It is a privilege to recognize his many accomplishments and dedicated service to our country today.

Lt. Col. McCollum began his decorated military career upon graduation from the United States Naval Academy in 1994 with a degree in Oceanography. His academic ambitions led him to George Washington University Law School, where he graduated with a Juris Doctor in 2002. Finally, he earned a Masters degree in Business Administration at Colorado State University in 2011.

Upon graduating from the United States Naval Academy, Lt. Col. McCollum was stationed on the USS Peterson in Norfolk, Virginia as a Naval Officer. He has served on several tours abroad, including a recent tour at Kunsan Air Force Base in Korea. Lt. Col. McCollum has pursued a career geared toward assisting his fellow officers with legal matters. A devoted husband and father to three daughters, Lt. Col. McCollum currently serves as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for Headquarters at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii.

Lt. Col. McCollum's numerous accomplishments include earning a Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, a Joint Service Commendation Medal, a Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and a Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Additionally, Lt. Col. McCollum was consecutively named Deputy Staff Judge Advocate of the Year for the 9th Air Force from 2007–2009. These accomplishments and many others speak to Lt. Col. McCollum's commitment to defending the best interests of his colleagues and preserving the security and well-being of our nation.

Lt. Col. Terrence J. McCollum's notable accomplishments, academic achievements, and dedicated service to his country embody what it means to be an exemplary United States citizen. I am proud to count him among the fine citizens of Illinois' 3rd District, and I wish him the best as he continues to proudly serve our country.

TO COMMEMORATE THE LIFE OF
GAIL CHATFIELD

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, our nation most recently commemorated the tenth anniversary of 9–11; honoring those first responders who risked their lives to save others. Today, I rise to recognize the life of one of Missouri's finest first responders: Gail Chatfield.

Gail Chatfield's life was one of unselfish public service. Gail served our nation in the Armed Services during the Korean War, dedicated his life to ensure others were safe by serving in the St. Louis Fire Department from 1957–79. Gail also was elected to the Missouri General Assembly, representing the citizens of the City of St. Louis; he fought continuously for affordable healthcare for his fellow citizens. Gail's public service did not end there: My father, Governor Mel Carnahan appointed Gail as Missouri's Fire Marshal, serving from 1993–1995. He served on the St. Louis Labor Council (AFL–CIO).

Gail was a leader who led quietly by example. He was competent, determined, and accomplished many great things, especially in the important field of public safety, all done with a sense of duty, purpose and humility.

Gail was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and great-grandfather. His wife Lois, and their four children Keith, Kathy, Greg, Pamela and the Chatfield grandchildren, great-grandchildren will miss him.

He dedicated his life to helping others whether it was performing his heroics in a fire or working in the Missouri General Assembly helping those less fortunate—Gail was friend to many Missourians. He was friend of mine. I will miss him.

COMMENDING THE FRANCISCAN
MISSIONARIES OF OUR LADY

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady for their century of faith and service to the State of Louisiana. This honor is shared as many lives have been touched through the three sanitariums operating in our state.

Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady started in France in 1854 when seven groups of Franciscan sisters banded together. As the organization rapidly grew throughout the world, the first North American expansion happened in 1911 with the healing ministry being established in Monroe, La. Two years later, St. Francis Sanitarium opened in Monroe.

After the first establishment in this city, the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady were invited to open two more sanitariums throughout Louisiana: Baton Rouge's Our Lady of the Lake Sanitarium was dedicated in 1923 and Lafayette's Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in 1949.

Even today, the congregation of the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady remains committed to the ministry of healthcare and spiritual wholeness—serving all of God's people.

This organization is an example of how a small founding group can grow to touch the lives of many, and I commend their hard work and dedication to making a positive difference across our state. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady for their century of service.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
GABRIEL "GABE" TERRONEZ

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Gabriel "Gabe" Terronez, who passed away on July 8, 2011 at the age of seventy-one. Gabe was a distinguished boxer, educator, and community leader who always placed the utmost importance on hard work and leading by example. He served as a role model for an entire community and will be deeply missed.

Gabe Terronez was born on March 24, 1940 to Jesus and Paula Terronez in Cameron, Texas. His family settled in the great San Joaquin Valley where his athletic gifts were able to flourish. While a student at Corcoran High School, Gabe earned championships in wrestling and in track. Not only did Gabe possess superior athletic talent, he was also a man of outstanding character.

In 1957, Gabe joined the United States Marine Corps, where he served his Nation proudly. During his time in the Marines, Gabe won the Inter-Service Boxing championship. In 1960, Gabe competed in the Olympic trials and was also a number five world-ranked welterweight with a 32–8 record and 19 knock-outs.

Following his seven-year career, Gabe decided to broaden his horizons and pursue an undergraduate degree. He used his earnings from professional boxing to help pay for his college tuition. After attending Fresno City College and California State University, Fresno, Gabe earned a Bachelor's Degree in Spanish.

Gabe spent his adult life serving the public in a number of capacities. Upon graduating from college, he worked for then-governor, Ronald Reagan, as a community relations consultant. Gabe later went on to work for the University of California, focusing his time on migrant and at-risk adolescents as a youth development specialist until his retirement in 1992. Gabe served as an exceptional role model for these young men and women because he was an example of the American Dream. By working hard and showcasing determination in all of his endeavors, Gabe encountered great success in his life.

Gabe was preceded in death by his wife of 25 years, Elizabeth Huerta Terronez. He is survived by his children Stephanie, Dante, Desiree, Damien, and Nicole; his grandchildren Nicholas and Mia Elizabeth; and his siblings, Cecil, Lupe, and Janie.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the life of Gabriel "Gabe" Terronez, an honorable and respected man whose talent and passion were not only exhibited in the boxing ring, but also in his unwavering commitment to our community and his loving family.

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICERS AND THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITH 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HOUSE AND RECIPIENTS OF THE HOUSE EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize outstanding employees of the Officers (Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, and Chief Administrative Officer) and the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives who have reached the milestone of 25 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as the recipients of the House Employee Excellence Award.

The House's most important asset is its dedicated and exceptional employees, whose

work often behind the scenes, is vital in keeping the operations and services of the House running smoothly and efficiently. The employees we recognize today are acknowledged and commended for their hard work, dedication, professionalism, support of House Members and their staffs and constituents, and for their contributions day-in and day-out to the overall operations of the House. These employees have a wide range of responsibilities that support the legislative process, assure the security of the institution, maintain our technology and service infrastructure, and contribute to a more effective and efficiently operating House support structure. They have accomplished a great many things in a wide range of activities, and the House of Representatives and its Members, staff, and the general public, are better served because of them.

We honor the individuals named below for 25 years of dedicated service to the House. Collectively, this group has provided two hundred seventy-five (275) years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives:

Gretchen Ewers, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Kevin Harris, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Darius Holmes, Office of the Sergeant at Arms;

Thomas E. Mako, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Craig D. Pence, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Dean Phan, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Paul Rossiter, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Airlie Shoemaker, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

David Spurling, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Matthew B. Smith, Office of the Clerk;

Sandra E. Watkins, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

We also recognize and congratulate four House employees for receiving the Employee Excellence Award. This is a merit-based award, given to one employee from each House Officer organization, and the Office of Inspector General. Selected employees exhibited outstanding overall job performance and displayed a willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty throughout the last year. We honor the individuals named below for receiving this prestigious award.

Traci L. Brasher, Office of the Sergeant at Arms;

Faye Cobb, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Michele Herzfeld, Office of the Clerk;

Gregory M. Roberts, Office of Inspector General.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend congratulations and once again recognize and thank these employees for their professionalism and commitment to the U.S. House of Representatives as a whole, and in particular to their respective House Officers and the Inspector General. Their long hours and hard work are invaluable, and their years of unwavering service, dedication, and commitment to the House set an example for their colleagues and other employees who will follow in their footsteps. I celebrate our honorees, and I am proud to stand before you and the nation on their behalf to recognize the importance of their public service.

KEVIN JEFFERSON

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Kevin Jefferson, a lifelong community leader and public servant. Through his work on issues from voter registration to gun control community empowerment, and through his service as an Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Kevin made a lasting difference for the better in the time that he was given.

Kevin began his career in public service early as a student at Bowie State, where he played an active role in student life. After serving on Rev. Jesse L. Jackson's Presidential campaign staff in 1984 and 1988, Kevin joined the national staff of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, through which he promoted voter registration and education. He went on to become the first National Minority Affairs Coordinator at Handgun Control, Inc., and in this role, traveled the country to help secure support for the Brady Gun Control Bill. His leadership on these important initiatives led to his involvement with President Clinton's Presidential campaign. And in 2000, he was appointed to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and later held numerous positions at the State Department. Kevin also served as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Labor, Honorable Alexis Herman, and was appointed to the Office of the President, Community Empowerment Board. Throughout his lifetime, Kevin served on a number of Presidential campaigns, worked closely with the DNC and served as the Executive Director of the Democratic National Committee Voting Rights Institute. He is honored and respected by the Democratic Party for his hard work and support.

I join Kevin's family, church and all those who knew and loved Kevin in appreciation for his well-lived life and in fond reflection on his memory. I was proud to count him as a friend, and he will be dearly missed.

HONORING SAN RAFAEL POLICE CHIEF MATTHEW ODETTO

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of a passionate and dedicated public servant. San Rafael Police Chief Matthew Odetto announced his retirement in July 2011, the culmination of thirty years of work serving the people and public safety of Marin County. His leadership has touched the lives of countless Marin residents, and his example has helped forge new bonds between our law enforcement organizations and the communities they serve.

Odetto comes from a family with well-established roots in Marin County and in law enforcement. He started his career in 1981 as a deputy with the Marin County Sheriff's Office, based in Southern Marin, where he rose to the rank of Lieutenant. In that position, he served as commander of the Sheriff's SWAT team