

on June 15, 2011, and my deepest sympathies go out to her family and friends.

In August, I rose to pay tribute to the late Paul Duncan, the Director of Outreach for the Long Beach Community Business Network, who spent the last ten years of his life working tirelessly to connect local Long Beach employers to business organizations from Hawaii to Washington, DC. An advocate for economic empowerment of LGBT business owners and entrepreneurs, Mr. Duncan was known around the nation and beloved by the Long Beach community. He died suddenly of an aneurism at a national conference where he was one of 70 affiliate leaders working for job creation and expanded economic opportunity for LGBT owned businesses.

Mr. Speaker, progress is made through the efforts of courageous leaders like Jean and Paul; people who actively engage their communities and face adversity to ensure that the rights of all are clearly defined and protected.

People like the legendary Bayard Rustin, a leading strategist of the Civil Rights Movement and trusted advisor to Martin Luther King, Jr. An early proponent of nonviolent resistance, Rustin organized the 1947 Journey of Reconciliation which inspired the Freedom Rides of the 1960s and helped Dr. King organize the Southern Christian Leadership Conference which became the nerve center of the American Civil Rights Movement.

Bayard Rustin was a driving force behind the iconic 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom which brought national attention to the civil rights struggle and spurred the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voting Rights Act. He arranged the transportation, trained the marshals and oversaw all of the logistical details involved in putting on one of the most effective political demonstrations in world history and setting the stage for Dr. King's timeless "I Have a Dream" speech.

Later, Bayard Rustin worked to integrate all-white unions and became heavily involved in international humanitarian development and peacemaking. Openly gay, he became a public advocate for LGBT causes in the 1970s and passed away on a mission to Haiti in 1987.

Many great writers of the Harlem Renaissance, such as Countée Cullen and Bruce Nugent, were homosexual, and the contributions they made to literature are forever ingrained in the cultural fabric of America. Langston Hughes was probably the most well known, though he was an intensely private man and never spoke openly on the subject.

Billy Strayhorn was a musician and gifted composer whose 30 year collaboration with Duke Ellington resulted in some of the most indispensable music of the jazz age. Openly gay, Strayhorn participated in many civil rights causes and arranged a musical score for his friend, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1963.

James Baldwin is one of the great literary figures of the 20th century. The writings of this African-American explored issues of race and class and gender. He rose to prominence with the civil rights movement and worked to bridge the gap between the competing approaches of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X, both of whom were his personal friends. His work and life had a profound impact on countless equality activists and writers.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to acknowledge the achievements of just a few of the count-

less number of Americans who defied the odds and overcame prejudice and discrimination, and intolerance and worked to make everyone including America be a more welcoming place succeeding generations of LGBT community members.

65TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

HON. KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a significant event that is occurring in Western New York next week.

Our nation's rich culture, history, art, and architecture are national treasures and help remind us everyday who we are and where we came from.

This year, the National Trust for Historic Preservation is holding its 65th annual National Preservation Conference in Buffalo, NY and will feature historic and cultural sites throughout the Buffalo Niagara region.

Hundreds of Western New Yorkers have worked for the past four years to plan this conference, researching sites from Medina to Chautauqua and everywhere in between, planning events, and creating art exhibitions.

These sites include such regional attractions as the Guaranty Building, Darwin D. Martin House Complex, Roycroft Campus, and the Erie Canal locks in Lockport, among many others. I am proud to show off Western New York's historical icons to the rest of the country.

This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our vibrant culture and history and I commend all of those who are putting in time and effort to make this happen.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF DICK'S 5 & 10 OF BRANSON, MISSOURI

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the 7th District of Missouri's most valuable landmarks, Dick's 5 & 10, located in Branson, Missouri.

This summer they celebrated their 50th year of business, or as they say, of fun.

Ever since Dick Hartley started the store fifty years ago, Dick's 5 & 10 has been an important part of the Branson community. And for those who are not from the Ozarks, Dick's 5 & 10 is a must see for all visitors to Branson—I know it is for my family every time we're in the area.

Whether it's toys, games, gifts, souvenirs, novelties, or nostalgia; whether customers are 5 years old or 105 years old; whether customers know what they want or are just looking; at Dick's 5 & 10 there is something for everyone.

But more than the items on their shelves, the friendly smiles of the staff and the outstanding service is what keeps customers coming back for more.

The family that runs Dick's, the Hartley family, has been active in the Branson Community since Dick's first opened its doors in 1961. The Hartleys have been involved in many organizations, including the Downtown Branson Mainstreet Association, the Kiwanis Club, other civic organizations, and are very active in Branson politics.

Son Steve and daughter Melissa, along with Melissa's husband Dave Montgomery, continue the family tradition of helping guide the Downtown Merchants Association, as well as making sure that all of the customers at Dick's have that special experience of a true American tradition.

Dick's 5 & 10 is an important part of the Branson community and I know we can look forward to 50 more years of success, fun, and the community involvement that Dick's 5 & 10 is known for.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 7TH ANNUAL MAYOR'S DINNER & CHARITY AUCTION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of Simi Valley, California's 7th Annual Mayor's Dinner & Charity Auction, hosted by my good friend Mayor Robert O. "Bob" Huber and the Simi Valley Community Foundation.

The dinner will benefit the Alliance for Human Services and Humanitarian Awards will be bestowed upon Fred Bauermeister, Jill Haney, Ann Lindeen and Sue Martinez.

Bob was elected mayor last November, during a time when economic troubles facing the city required strong leadership. He has managed to navigate the City Council through tough and sometimes contentious decisions to keep the city's finances stable and the community safe and functioning well. As a former mayor of Simi Valley who was also elected at a turning point in the city's history, I greatly emphasize with the challenges he faces.

It is fitting that Bob host a gathering of such celebrated community leaders. Throughout the years, Bob has served on a number of governmental and community boards and commissions in the city, beginning at age 27, when he served his first term as president of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Honoree Fred Bauermeister is also a longtime friend. A professional photographer, Fred is best known for his 40-year advocacy of the Free Clinic of Simi Valley. Fred has been a part of the clinic since it opened its doors in 1971 and Fred was still a college student. He was named executive director that year and has guided the clinic through many challenging times. Last year, Fred was elected to the board of directors of the National Association of Free Clinics.

Jill Haney serves on the board of directors of the United Way, is past president of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce, treasurer for the Simi Valley Education Foundation and is immediate past president of the Rotary Club of Simi Sunset. Under her management and leadership, Santa Barbara Bank & Trust was named Business of the Year in 2007. If there is a charitable event in Simi Valley, no doubt you will find Jill volunteering at it.

Ann Lindeen served as secretary of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce before the city incorporated. Her many community activities include volunteering at local schools and serving as PTA president; serving in leadership positions for the Santa Susana and Tapo 4-H Clubs for about 20 years; serving on the Ventura County Grand Jury in 1987–1988; hosting people from around the world as part of the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of People to People International, which she also served as treasurer, secretary and president; and contributing more than 5,000 hours of service in several capacities at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

Sue Martinez found her niche in community involvement through her children. She is a founding member of Santa Susana High School's Santa Susana Performing Arts Boosters and the Performing Arts Center Team, for which she is also the president. With the dream of building a performing arts theater at the school for use by generations of students, Sue was a driving force behind the C-4 Bond and walked the precincts to see that it passed. The theater opened in March. She has worked at Simi Valley Hospital for 19 years and is committee chair for the Leadership Class of 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join Mayor Bob Huber and me in congratulating this year's honorees and in thanking Fred Bauermeister, Jill Haney, Ann Lindeen, and Sue Martinez for making our community a better place for all to live and thrive.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE AND IN HONOR OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE BRAILLE AND TALKING BOOK LIBRARY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of The National Library Service, as they celebrate their 80th anniversary, and in honor of the California State Braille and Talking Book Library. As staff, patrons and supporters gather to celebrate this milestone, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their leadership and dedication to the blind and physically handicapped.

When the National Library Service was formed in 1931, the "Blind Books" program found a welcome home at the California State Braille and Talking Book Library. To this day, the National Library Service and the California State Braille and Talking Library continue to provide books in Braille, audio books, digital talking book machines and digital talking books to over 12,000 individual patrons and 542 institutions across Northern California.

This year has been proclaimed as "Talking Book Awareness Year" as new digital talking book machines and digital talking books hit the market. The services that the National Library Service and the California State Braille and Talking Book Library provide are vital to those who are not able to read by conventional methods. The book collection at the library contains thousands of fiction and nonfiction titles, as well as a collection of books by

California authors and about California's history on cassette.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the National Library Service, and the California State Braille and Talking Book Library. The past 80 years have been tremendously successful and I am confident that they will continue to enjoy success in the future. While the National Library Service and California State Braille and Talking Book Library staff, volunteers, patrons and supporters gather together to celebrate the 80th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their outstanding work in providing the community with necessary services for the blind and the physically handicapped.

IN HONOR OF MARY FAWKES

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the many life achievements and dedication to community service of a constituent of mine, Mrs. Mary Fawkes, of Croydon, Pennsylvania.

Mary has had a major impact in the lives of many people throughout Bucks County. She has three children, five grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. She has been happily married for sixty-four years with the love of her life, Mr. Harry Fawkes. Mary's work was also instrumental in the success of her husband's refuse business.

She has been active in the local political community for fifty-two years and is known by some as the First Lady of Bucks County. Mary has served on the board of trustees for the Bucks County Community College and is currently a director emeritus of this important institution of learning in Bucks County. She is also lifetime member of the Bucks County Rescue Squad which provides high quality care and emergency transportation. She was also active with the Lower Bucks Hospital Auxiliary. Mrs. Fawkes has consistently given back to the community supporting many organizations throughout the County; she always makes time to serve those in need.

A Bristol High School alumnus, Mary was, among other things, active as an actress in school plays, a Girl Scout patrol leader, and captain of the cheerleaders. Her close friends describe her as being intelligent, a great listener, excellent at providing advice and being supportive in times of need. In her free time, Mary enjoys reading, crochet, and going to lunch with friends.

Serving her community of Bucks County, Pennsylvania has been most notably felt through her dedication, patience and appreciation for the work of her husband Chairman Harry Fawkes in his unprecedented, skillful, benevolent and successful leadership of the Bucks County Republican Committee. The soft, silent but strong presence that Mary has gifted to Harry's leadership and the time she has permitted him to selflessly serve his community and his country is a lasting legacy to the community and county where she has lived life, raised family and served others.

Mrs. Fawkes' work has positively impacted the lives of many of the residents of our great community. She provides an excellent exam-

ple on how to balance work, friends, family, and service. I am honored to call her a neighbor and a friend. I congratulate her for a life of many achievements.

APPLAUDING THE EFFORTS OF THE FLORIDA HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN TO ADDRESS CHILDHOOD OBESITY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, childhood obesity is on the rise. In 2010, 17% of children and adolescents, ages 2 to 19, were obese, and 32% were overweight. Not only has obesity been linked to an increased risk of developing diabetes, asthma, and heart disease, it may also cause our children to lead shorter lives. Apart from the serious individual health concerns associated with obesity, there are long-term consequences that affect society as a whole, including increased medical and disability costs and decreased work-force participation.

To address these concerns, children's hospitals around the nation are working to educate families about nutrition and fitness. In Orlando, Florida, the Florida Hospital for Children has implemented a program called "Healthy 100 Kids" at the Walt Disney Pavilion. This program seeks to help children live to a healthy 100 years old by providing families with medical care, nutrition, and fitness education. There are currently 300 families in the program, many of whom are underprivileged. In the first year of the program, 60 percent of patients reduced their body mass index and lowered their cholesterol by eating more fruits and vegetables and lowering their sugar intake. I commend the efforts of the Florida Hospital for Children and children's hospitals across the nation, and the investment they are making in the health and wellbeing of our children, who are the future of America.

RECOGNIZING THE 55TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF DR. REVEREND JAMES L. NETTERS, SR.

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Dr. Reverend James L. Netters, Sr., Senior Pastor of Mount Vernon Baptist Church-Westwood in Memphis, for his upcoming 55th pastoral anniversary. Reverend Netters has served his congregation at Mount Vernon Baptist Church and the larger community of Memphis with honor and grace and is a distinguished representative of his parishioners and our great city.

Reverend Netters continues to be a guiding figure for good with Memphis-area pastors and their congregations and outreach programs. His leadership demonstrates what is possible when congregations plant seeds of hope in their surrounding communities. Programs involving prison outreach and projects for the reformation of blighted areas show a commitment to lifting up those who have fallen behind