

Social Security Administration in 1977 and stayed until 1980. He worked for the State of West Virginia for 18 months before going to work for the U.S. Defense Investigative Service in 1982 and subsequently became what is known today as U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Mr. Thompson's role has been Special Agent in charge of conducting Federal Security Clearance Investigations.

For his dedication of 37 years, I offer Mr. Thompson my most sincere congratulations and best wishes for a well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR
WORKER RETRAINING SERVICES,
AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE
OPENING OF A WORKSOURCE FACILITY
IN MONROE, WASHINGTON

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to acknowledge the importance of worker retraining efforts in my state led by the workforce development councils that are helping Washingtonians get back to work. I would also like to recognize the opening of a new facility in Monroe, Washington that will help more of our neighbors who have been hit hard by this economic downturn get the training they need to successfully re-enter the job market.

Often, employers lack a workforce with appropriate skills and displaced workers lack the means to acquire these skills. That is why worker retraining programs are so important. Reversing the effects of the economic downturn is not an individual mission, but a community challenge, and an important partner helping in this effort are the Washington workforce development councils. Our workforce development councils operate 64 WorkSource centers statewide, where low-income youth and adults, displaced workers, and returning servicemembers access job training, employment counseling, and other services that help put people back to work and provide our employers with the skilled workforce they need to thrive.

Last year alone, more than 364,000 Washington residents sought help through the State's WorkSource centers. The Workforce Development Council of Snohomish County provided 39,156 people with a total of 528,005 services in 2010. Currently, the main access points for these services are the WorkSource Centers in Everett and Lynnwood, Washington. However, thanks to the generosity of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul—who offered to rent out space in their facility for only one dollar per year—on Tuesday, November 15th a new WorkSource center will open in Monroe, Washington.

This expansion of services to Monroe is important because, currently, displaced workers in the cities and towns to the east of Everett and Lynnwood face yet another barrier to employment: travelling to a WorkSource Center. Now, yet another hard-hit community can begin to rebuild and move forward because the community will now have a headquarters for worker retraining and job market resources.

That's why I am proud to stand up here today and recognize the significance of the WorkSource opening in Monroe, Washington today. I wish all the best to the dedicated staff at the Snohomish County Workforce Development Council, the kind people at St. Vincent de Paul, and the Washingtonians who are persevering through this downturn and now have a strong partner to help them get back on their feet.

TO SUCH NEW FRONTIERS, THE
CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL
CEREMONY, NOVEMBER 16TH 2011,
AT THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL,
IN HONOR OF ASTRONAUTS
BUZZ ALDRIN, NEIL ARMSTRONG,
MICHAEL COLLINS, AND
JOHN GLENN

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the recipients of the New Frontier Congressional Gold Medal. I submit the following poem written in honor of these recipients:

TO SUCH NEW FRONTIERS

(By Albert Carey Caswell)

To . . .
To Such
New Frontiers . . .
As have all of you've gone so here!
Gone, so boldly forth, all out on your course
. . .
as America's most courageous pioneers!
As all out upon your most heroic ways . . .
All at speed, all in what your fine lives have
so conveyed!
As so boldly forth,
as you would not so heed . . .
All without fear,
to so sow exploration's most brilliant seeds!
All but for our Country 'Tis of Thee . . .
All of your fine lives,
you were so ready to concede!
All so ready to so pledge indeed!
As The Right Stuff,
came so streaking upon the scene!
As so courageously onward you all so sped
. . .
all at speed!
All out there on that very edge . . .
that edge of death!
All in what your most magnificent lives,
have so said!
As You So Reached For The Stars,
so courageously without fear . . .
so led!
Up to new worlds and dreams,
all in what your fine lives have so deemed
. . .
All in your stead!
All to so reach those most monumental of all
themes!
To Learn,
What Must So Be Learned!
To Touch . . .
What Must So Be Touched!
To See,
What Must So Be Seen!
To Hear,
What Must So Be Heard!
To Feel,
What Must So Be Felt!
To Speak,
What Must So Be Spoken!
To Dream,
What Must So Be Dreamed!

To Stretch . . .
To Ever Expand . . .
To Go So Ever So Forth . . .
To So Glean!
Right To The Very Edge,
of Exploration's Golden Sheen!
To Inspire Us All So Higher!
All So To Dare To Dream!
To Discovery,
and Beyond!
As you've so pushed that envelope,
out past its most outer limits!
As so ever forth,
as you so stayed the course . . .
moving onward and upward,
all up above the clouds!
As you were gone!
While,
streaking across the heavens all through
time so now!
As to all our souls so wed!
Speaking to our hearts and souls,
all in such awe!
To So Save Woman and Mankind,
as so surely we so saw!
As out into the future,
you've so cast your most historic shrouds!
As you so gleamed,
shining so magnificently so all throughout!
To so find the answers,
that which must now so be found!
For only up to such great new heights so
now,
can such hearts of courage full so sound!
Beating long,
and loud!
As to new worlds,
you've all so soared to now!
To places,
where only such hearts of faith so pound!
Whether, the first to walk upon the moon
. . .
or the first American to orbit in space!
As your time upon this earth,
could not so keep up with your explorer's
pace!
As all of your journeys,
have all so been filled with such amazing
grace!
To discovery and beyond,
as all of those most precious seconds past
you so raced!
As it was there . . .
you all so went so boldly forth all in place!
All out upon that path,
where only hearts can roam of faith!
Whether, upon primitive machines of man-
kind . . .
Or to the Moon and back,
while living all out on that thin line!
Riding on that very edge of death so fine!
As all of your most precious gifts of space
exploration . . .
Have so blessed our world and this our na-
tion . . .
As upon Mankind's futures past,
have so all been etched . . .
All in your explorer's quest!
As we so cry too,
all at those most precious lives so lost . . .
Of all of your Brothers and Sisters,
who so paid the price of exploration's cost!
The ones who like you so took those most
heroic paths,
to climb upward to the stars!
Ever steadfast!
To answer that most noble cause of explo-
ration as asked!
All with your journeys so unfurled . . .
The names Aldrin, Armstrong, Collins, and
Glenn . . .
will out into the future forever last!
"One step for man,
one giant leap for mankind" . . .
that which on your watch so came to pass!
As new Stars were so formed,
all by your hearts of exploration so very
warm!

To such magnificent places,
 all of us you have taken . . .
 With your life's trajectories . . .
 your life's paths,
 as up to the heavens like a comet's tail so
 streaking past!
 To all of those new frontiers,
 that which you have so opened up so up here!
 That which now so lies before us all so very
 clear!
 As the possibilities seem so endless now,
 so here!
 For as long as we have such fine sons,
 of such courage and faith as all of these ones!
 Americans,
 who in the name of exploration so shine like
 the sun!
 Who,
 against all odds . . .
 almost like God's, will so courageously soar
 . . .
 To distant worlds, and shores . . .
 To find the answers to so explore . . .
 Then, the sky has no limit anymore . . .
 to such new frontiers as you soar . . .
 So on this day as we place!
 These gold medals,
 around each one of your most courageous
 face!
 History for you now so holds your place . . .
 As something that time,
 nor so distance . . .
 can now so erase . . .
 For as long as we have such bold woman and
 men . . .
 Who so dare to dream, so then!
 And go out towards Exploration's most far-
 thest ends . . .
 Then, we shall all go so forth Godspeed to
 command!
 To Such New Frontiers, my friend.

**EDEN PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL
 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL WINS STATE
 CHAMPIONSHIP**

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Eden Prairie Eagles for winning their first ever Minnesota AAA High School Girls Volleyball Championship on Saturday.

The Eden Prairie Eagles came out strong and played with all their hearts from the very first serve of the match in a hard fought and thrilling five-game series.

The Eagles ultimately surged ahead to take the final game 22-20 and win the Championship.

The Eden Prairie Eagles have shown what it truly means to be student-athletes. Having exuded remarkable dedication and a strong work ethic that our entire community can be proud of, it is my pleasure to congratulate them all on an inspiring season and victory.

Go Eagles!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ERNEST
 LOVATO**

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ernest Lovato, a resident of Kewa Pueblo, formerly Santo Domingo Pueblo, New

Mexico for being awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from Bacone College on May 7, 2011.

Mr. Lovato was nominated by Dr. Robert J. Duncan, Jr., President and Professor of Religion, as a 1957 Bacone Alum, 1982–1984 Bacone Trustee and for his services as former Governor of Kewa Pueblo. Ernest has been outstandingly active in his community and served as Governor of Kewa Pueblo in 1989, 1990, and 2002.

Bacone College is a private four-year liberal arts college in Muskogee, Oklahoma and was founded in 1880 as an Indian University by Professor Almon C. Bacone, a missionary teacher. With the help of the American Baptist Home Mission Society in the Cherokee Baptist Mission at the Tahlequah, Indian Territory, Bacone College was established.

Bacone College has strong historic ties to various tribal nations including the Cherokee Nation and the Muscogee Creek Nation. When the College started Professor Bacone enrolled three students and was the sole faculty member. By the end of the first semester he had twelve students, and by the end of the first year the student population was fifty-six and the faculty numbered three.

Bacone College continued to grow, relocated to its present location in 1885 and now serves over nine hundred students.

I want to extend congratulations and recognition to Mr. Ernest Lovato, an outstanding New Mexican, on being awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from Bacone College.

**TRIBUTE TO THE NATIVITY OF
 OUR LORD CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School in Warminster, Pennsylvania for receiving the 2011 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award. In 1982, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program was launched by the U.S. Department of Education in an effort to identify the best school leadership and teaching practices in America. Today, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes both public and non-public schools where students and faculty excel. As one of only fourteen schools in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to receive this award, it is certainly a testament to the quality of education that the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School provides.

An educated workforce is the backbone of a strong economy and a prosperous society. Therefore, it is essential that we equip our students with the tools they need to become successful employers and employees in the future. The Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School is a model of the type of excellence that all schools should aspire to. It is an institution that prepares our children to be future leaders and scholars, and I am proud to honor it today.

I am extremely grateful of the hard work and dedication of the administrators, faculty, students, and parents who are involved with the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School. A few in-

dividuals that I would like to personally recognize are Father Angelo R. Citino, Principal Roselee Maddaloni, and Vice Principal Laura Clark, for their continued efforts in providing an environment for excellence.

Congratulations once again to the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School for winning the National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award. Thank you for all that you do for the Bucks County community, it is an honor to be your representative in the United States Congress.

**EDEN PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS
 SOCCER WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize this year's Minnesota AA High School Boys Soccer Champions, the Eden Prairie Eagles. Aside from having one of the best academic programs in Minnesota, the Eden Prairie School District is now home to boys state soccer champions for the second time since 2002.

Despite going up against an undefeated team, the Eagles struck early, scoring their first goal in the fourth minute of the championship game. The Eden Prairie Eagles kept up the pressure, and were relentless on offense, putting up 14 shots on goal and winning the game 3-1.

Congratulations to the whole team on an incredible season, I'm sure you will all look back proudly on your accomplishments in the years to come. Congratulations also to coach Vince Thomas for his leadership on and off the field.

Go Eagles!

**HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY
 OF THE CLOSE-UP FOUNDATION**

HON. JAMES LANKFORD

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the Close-Up Foundation on their 40th Anniversary. Since 1971, Close Up has educated over 750,000 students and teachers in the democratic process through their Washington-based civic education programs and classroom publications.

Close-Up provides students and teachers from diverse backgrounds all over the country with the opportunity to use the institutions and historical sites of our nation's capital as a backdrop for their lectures, small group discussions, and interactions with key policy experts. The programs are designed to enrich students' knowledge of the basic concepts and institutions of American constitutional government and develop a practical understanding of the processes of the democratic political system and the role of its citizens. They leave each student with a better understanding of the complex policy issues that surround our country every day.

As a 10th grader on my first trip to Washington, D.C. with the Close-Up Foundation, I