

on April 9, 2011. The inaugural event of the festival was a bonfire held at Veterans Field. Throughout the year there were family events and festivals, including the annual Summerfest held on the 4th of July, and the family ice cream social and concert sponsored by the Friends of the Keep Museum. Families also enjoyed the picnic held at Flynt Park. Other outdoor activities included a walk/run sponsored by the Peaked Mountain Committee and a motorcycle hill climb sponsored by the Quaboag Riders & Monson Lions Club. There were many cultural events as well, such as the Monson Arts Council's craft fair, the Monson Bellmen Antique Fire Apparatus Club and Museum's open house, and the Monson Rotary Club's concert at Dave Grieve Park.

A quilt show was held in which 50 Monson quilters donated a block to make a commemorative 250th anniversary quilt. This quilt will be on display continually in various buildings in the town. The concluding event of this festival will be the Monson 250th Gala Ball with the theme of "Remembering Monson." The ball will have a continuous slide show of all the old and new businesses and homes in Monson, as well as a display of Monson's non-profit organizations.

The town of Monson has been an important part of Massachusetts since well before the United States was founded. While this quintessential New England town is a place where families have lived for generations, Monson has also grown into a dynamic center for arts, culture and a thriving workplace. On its 250th anniversary, I am honored to represent the town of Monson and I look forward to celebrating many more anniversaries.

HONORING MARCH 25, 2011 AS THE
190TH ANNIVERSARY OF
GREECE'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 190th anniversary of Greek independence. It is an honor to recognize a nation whose rich and vibrant history not only laid the foundation for democracy, but whose immigrants and descendants have enriched the cultural landscape of our nation.

The warm friendship that America shares with Greece is rooted in the indelible mark of democracy and self-determination that Hellenic culture has left on our country. Just as our founding fathers were guided by these principles in their fight for independence from a foreign empire, so too were the founders of modern-day Greece, who declared their independence from the Ottoman Empire on March 25th, 190 years ago. Since the birth of both nations, we have striven together to uphold the values of freedom, equality, and justice championed by the Ancient Greeks. We have joined together to promote peace and stability in the world, and Greece has allied with the U.S. in every major international conflict throughout the 20th century.

From architecture to the democratic ideals we cherish, Greek culture has had a continued influence on the way Americans live their everyday lives. Illinois' Third District is fortunate to have one of the largest and most vibrant

Greek-American communities in America. And just as Greek citizens were integral in transforming Ancient Greece into a beacon of democracy and culture, Greek-Americans in Oak Lawn, Palos Hills, and throughout Southwestern Chicagoland have proudly contributed their strong cultural heritage and values into the patchwork that makes the Third District so distinct.

It is with great gratitude and pride that I rise to honor the independence of a nation that, from ancient times, has bestowed upon its citizens the fundamental rights of liberty and participation in the democratic process. Though rooted in ancient ideals, our strong allegiance with Greece continues to this day through a shared belief that freedom and democracy are the building blocks of peace. At home, I have witnessed firsthand the positive cultural heritage Greek-Americans bring to our local communities, and I trust that the bonds between our two nations will remain strong for years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010-2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—ZACH PALISCH

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Representatives that the students of the 2010-2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council (CYAC) from the Third District of Texas have completed a total of 500 community service hours, fulfilling and far surpassing the requirements of their assigned CYAC in the Community service project.

This year 46 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 10 through 12 made their voices heard by joining CYAC. As the Third District's young ambassadors to Congress, these bright high school students met with me on a quarterly basis to discuss current events and public policy. These impressive young people recognize an important truth: the heart of public service is found when giving back to the community. CYAC students volunteered their time and talents with over 30 organizations including Adopt-A-Highway, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Teen Court, and the USO, to name a few. As one student shared, "CYAC in the Community has allowed me to realize my calling to serve those in the U.S. Armed Forces." I am beyond thrilled that CYAC has helped students unleash their full potential and chase their dreams.

President George H.W. Bush once said, "A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see; who can feel what most do not feel. Often, such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers, but as citizens—citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization."

With this statement as a benchmark, I am proud to congratulate the members of the 2010-2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council for showing themselves to be outstanding young citizens of this nation. It is my

privilege to submit summaries of their work to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to be preserved for posterity and antiquity. To these young public servants, thank you, and keep up the great work! I salute you!

A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

For the past three months, I have been volunteering my time weekly at the local elementary school by my house, Faith Lutheran. I am a volunteer basketball coach for a group of about eleven 5th and 6th graders who attend the school. We have a couple of games each week and have practices every Saturday morning at the school. The group of kids is very inexperienced as a whole so our practices are very important. We practice dribbling, passing, team building, team plays, and shooting for fun at the end. The practices were highly successful as I managed to teach the guys 8 plays total and everyone improved their skills individually as well over the year. The weekly games were always a fun and frustrating experience as I tried to coach a team to win as well as making it a fun learning experience for the kids. In the end all the hard work paid off as the boys had the first-ever undefeated season for the school and won the tournament at the end of the season. I can tell the kids learned a lot throughout the season, and I know I learned how rewarding an experience it can be to teach young children and watch them learn and grow.

—Zack Palisch

RECOGNIZING SERVICE OF DR. RICHARD LINTON, VICE PRESIDENT OF RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

HON. PETER A. DEFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a person who has made an important impact on the state of Oregon and the federal research enterprise through his work at the University of Oregon as Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies. Dr. Richard Linton is the longest serving vice president of research in the University of Oregon's history and among the longest-serving vice presidents of research within the Association of American Universities' membership.

He leaves the university after more than a decade of service. Dr. Linton's leadership has markedly improved the university's federal research enterprise, enabling university faculty and researchers to engage in discovery, innovation and scholarship that contribute to society's well-being and our understanding of our world.

Dr. Linton deserves special recognition for his guidance of sponsored programs, research initiatives, graduate education, technology transfer and the university's research park. Under his leadership, UO has seen sustained growth in federal research grants and technology transfer activities. He has guided the UO in growing and launching interdisciplinary centers and initiatives spanning the innovation cycle, from basic discovery to commercialization.

I am particularly pleased that companies directly derived from University of Oregon research currently employ more than 255 Oregonians and in 2010 generated more than

\$32 million in revenue for Oregon's economy. A remarkable accomplishment.

At the core of Rich Linton's decade of accomplishment at the university is his ability to be collaborative and to establish important strategic partnerships that have contributed greatly to the region's economic security and future. Thank you, Dr. Linton!

TRIBUTE TO SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT JOSEPH F. GIANETTO II

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Senior Master Sergeant Joseph F. Gianetto II. Originally from Oswego, NY, Sergeant Gianetto enlisted in 1971 and subsequently has spent over 39½ years with United States Air Force and the New York Air National Guard. Sergeant Gianetto has been decorated with numerous medals, awards and service distinctions. It is my honor to recognize such a distinguished citizen and airman.

Sergeant Gianetto began his military career in the Air Force on the delayed enlistment program in June 1971 and was called to active duty in October 1971. Upon completion of basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, in November 1971, Sergeant Gianetto began technical school training as an Aircraft Maintenance Specialist at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. In March 1972, he was assigned to 314th Tactical Airlift Wing, Organizational Maintenance Branch, Flight-line Maintenance, Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, and began on-the-job training for his five-skill level on the C-130E Hercules aircraft. He remained in that position until May 1973.

In May 1973, Sergeant Gianetto was reassigned to the 56th Special Operations Wing, Organizational Maintenance Squadron, Flight-line Branch, Nahkon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, in support of combat operations in Southeast Asia. While assigned with the 56th Organizational Maintenance Squadron he performed duties as Aircraft Crew Chief on the OV-10A Bronco aircraft and deployed to forward operating locations at Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Takhli Royal Thai Air Force Base, and Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base.

After completion of his tour of duty in Southeast Asia, Sergeant Gianetto was reassigned to 314th Tactical Airlift Wing, Field Maintenance Branch, Little Rock AFB, Arkansas, where he worked in the Repair and Reclamation Shop as an Aircraft Maintenance Technician performing heavy maintenance on the C-130E aircraft. He was subsequently reassigned to the 314th Headquarters Squadron as an Aircraft Job Controller coordinating the maintenance efforts on a fleet of over 100 C-130E Hercules aircraft.

Sergeant Gianetto applied for a release from active duty under the Palace Chase Program. His release from active duty was granted in September 1979. He became a member of the 107th Fighter Interceptor Group, Organizational Maintenance Branch, Flight-line Maintenance, New York Air National Guard, Niagara Falls, New York, and was assigned as a Crew Chief on the RF-101 Voodoo aircraft. In January 1980, Sergeant Gianetto transferred

to the 174th Fighter Wing, assigned to the 174th Maintenance Squadron as Crew Chief on the A-10A Thunderbolt aircraft, and subsequently held assignments in the 174th Maintenance Operations Flight, and the 174th Operations Group, supporting F-16C Fighting Falcon Maintenance Operations, and RC-26 Counterdrug Operations.

The 174th Fighter Wing was called mobilized and called to active duty on 29 December 1990. On 2 January 1991, Sergeant Gianetto deployed to Al Kharj Air Base, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm during the Persian Gulf War. He returned from the Persian Gulf on 20 May 1991 and was released from active duty on 13 June 1991. He also served in Operation Northern Watch from 23 August to 16 September 1997, and Operation Southern Watch from 28 February to 8 April 2000 and again from 28 July to 28 August 2001, all in support of contingency operations against Iraq. After the September 11th terrorist attacks, he performed over 40 days of active duty supporting Combat Air Patrol sorties in support of Operation Noble Eagle.

On 14 October 2003, Sergeant Gianetto volunteered for his forth Air Expeditionary Force deployment in Support of the Global War on Terrorism. He deployed to Al Udeid Air Base, Emirate of Qatar, and was attached to the 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Operations Squadron, from 17 October 2003 to 5 December 2003, in support of combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

On 28 November 2006, Sergeant Gianetto was again called to active duty deployed to Balad Air Base, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he was assigned to the 332d Expeditionary Maintenance Group. While there he worked as a Senior Weapon Systems Controller and Shift Supervisor, coordinating maintenance operations for three different active duty and Air National Guard assigned aircraft supporting contingency operations throughout the Iraqi theater of operations. Sergeant Gianetto redeployed after 96 days in-theater and was released from active duty on 1 April 2007.

Sergeant Gianetto had been employed as an Air National Guard Technician since June 1980, working as an A-10 Aircraft Mechanic; Aircraft Production Controller; Aircraft Production Control Supervisor; Aircraft Production Control Superintendent; and a Logistics Management Technician. He retired from his full-time technician position on 1 March 2008.

Militarily, he was assigned as the NCOIC for the 174th Fighter Wing RC-26 Counterdrug office on 23 June 2008, and is a former Maintenance Squadron First Sergeant. He has over 39½ years combined service, eight years of active duty in the United States Air Force, and the remainder with the New York Air National Guard.

During these times and throughout his career, Sergeant has displayed honorable character and service to the United States Air Force and 174th Fighter Wing, and our country. His military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal, with one oak leaf cluster; and Air Force Achievement Medal; five oak leaf clusters. His military unit and achievement awards include the Joint Service Meritorious Unit Award; Meritorious Unit Award, with two oak leaf clusters; Air Force Outstanding Unit

Award with Combat "V" device and nine oak leaf clusters; Air Force Good Conduct Medal, with one oak leaf cluster; Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, with nine oak leaf clusters. His military campaign and service awards include the National Defense Service Medal, with two bronze service stars; Armed Forces Expeditionary Service Medal with one bronze service star; Viet Nam Service Medal with one bronze campaign star; Southwest Asia Service Medal, with three bronze campaign stars; Iraq Campaign Medal, with two bronze campaign stars; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal; Air Force Overseas Service Ribbon, with two oak leaf clusters; Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon, with gold combat frame and two oak leaf clusters; Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon, with eight oak leaf clusters; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with gold hourglass device, mobilization "M" device, and numeral "7"; Noncommissioned Officer Professional Military Education Ribbon, with two oak leaf clusters; Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon; and Air Force Training Ribbon. Sergeant Gianetto's Foreign Service awards include the Republic of Viet Nam Gallantry Cross with palm device; Republic of Viet Nam Campaign Medal with date bar; Kuwait Liberation Medal-Saudi Arabia; and the Kuwait Liberation Medal-Kuwait.

Sergeant Gianetto also holds the following New York State awards and decorations: New York State Military Commendation Medal; New York State Long and Faithful Service Award, with one gold and one silver device; New York State Desert Storm Service Medal; New York State Defense of Liberty Medal; New York State Conspicuous Service Cross, with one silver device; New York State Conspicuous Service Star, with one gold and two silver devices; New York State Recruiting Medal; New York State Counterdrug Ribbon; New York State Exercise Support Ribbon, with three "E" devices; and the Medal for Humane Service to New York State; and the New York State Air Guard First Sergeant Ribbon.

He is also the recipient of the Air National Guard Noncommissioned Officer Academy Graduate Association, Outstanding Graduate of the Year Award for 1995; the 1999 Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #5885, All-State Commanders Award; and the 174th Fighter Wing Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Award for 2001. In May 2004, Sergeant Gianetto received the American Red Cross Veterans award. He was also named the 174th Fighter Wing Base Honor Guard Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year for 2005.

His effective dates of promotion are: Airman—16 November 1971; Airman First Class—1 April 1972; Sergeant—1 November 1973; Staff Sergeant—1 November 1976; Technical Sergeant—1 October 1980; Master Sergeant—1 February 1986; Senior Master Sergeant—13 February 1990.

Sergeant Gianetto is a Past Post Commander and "Life" of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Quatrini-Dehm Post No. 5885, located in Oswego, New York. He is also member of the American Legion, James Harvey Spire Post No. 787, Cicero, New York. He is a member of the Air Force Association; the Air Force Sergeants Association; the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United