

are such an integral part of the Chamber's history. The purpose in forming this committee was to sustain a strong partnership with the Past Chairs by engaging in dialog about the Chamber's history and its future."

Mr. Speaker, it is a tremendous pleasure to join my friends at the Galveston Chamber of Commerce in saluting these past chairs for their years of service to the people of Galveston. I am truly honored to serve as their representative and hope all my colleagues all join me in congratulating these outstanding leaders. Those being honored on February 3 include: Vandy Anderson, Armin Cantini, Carolyn Clyburn, Gene Curry, Henry Freudenburg, Don Gartman, Greg Harrington, Garry Kaufman, Betty Massey, Jerry Mohn, Richard Moore, Roger "Bo" Quiroga, Dr. Ben Raimer, Bix Rathburn, Betty Schocke, Johnny Smecca, Marshall Stein, John Tindel, Lee Otis "Otie" Zapp, Jr.

BLACK JANUARY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, as the co-chairman of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I rise today to join with the people of Azerbaijan to commemorate the tragic events of "Black January."

On January 19, 1990, approximately 26,000 Soviet troops stormed Azerbaijan's capital city of Baku in tanks and armored vehicles. That night, the Soviet military bulldozed innocent Azeris and opened indiscriminate fire on peaceful demonstrators, including women and children. According to Azerbaijani sources, as a result of these merciless acts 131 people were killed, 611 were injured, 841 were arrested, and 5 went missing.

The Human Rights Watch report "Black January in Azerbaijan" states that "among the most heinous violations of human rights during the Baku incursion were the numerous attacks on medical personnel, ambulances, and even hospitals." The report concludes that the violence used by the Soviet Army constituted an exercise in collective punishment and that the punishment inflicted on Baku by Soviet soldiers may have been intended as a warning to nationalists, not only in Azerbaijan, but in other Republics of the Soviet Union.

Far from crushing the spirit of Azeris, the atrocities of Black January instead consolidated the rising independence movements in the country and united the Azerbaijani nation in its quest for freedom. Today, Azerbaijan is a critical and strategic ally of the United States and is preparing to celebrate 20 years of independence from the Soviet Union.

It is my honor to thank the Azerbaijani people for their friendship and to offer my thoughts and prayers to the families of those who gave their lives for the independence of Azerbaijan. I encourage my colleagues to visit the very moving memorial to Black January in Baku that honors the memories of those killed in these attacks by the Soviet military and to join with me today in standing with Azerbaijanis as they commemorate this tragedy.

HONORING CALIFORNIA STATE SENATOR PATRICIA WIGGINS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my long-time friend, California State Senator Patricia Wiggins, who recently retired after a long and effective career in public service. From her first years in Sonoma County politics in the 1980s through her terms in the California legislature as an Assemblymember and a Senator, Pat Wiggins was a leader of vision and compassion.

Born and raised in Southern California, Pat grew up in a labor household and, with her father's training, was an accomplished parachutist. At the age of 38, she became the first in her family to graduate from college, earning an English degree with honors from UCLA. She worked as a systems analyst and, in 1979, met a software engineer, Guy Conner, her future husband. They have two stepsons, Jim and Steve Silverman, and four grandchildren.

Wiggins' first political job was with the Nuclear Freeze in 1982. After the couple moved to Santa Rosa, California, in 1984, she worked on several political campaigns and eventually became involved in local land use issues when trail access to Annadel State Park was threatened by development. She was a leader in Santa Rosa's growing liberal environmentalism, and an activist in supporting women and women's issues. In 1994, she was elected to the Santa Rosa City Council.

In 1998, she was elected to the California Assembly and in 2006 to the California Senate. As a State legislator, Pat continued to demonstrate leadership in environmental and social issues. In the Assembly she founded the legislature's Smart Growth Caucus and authored laws on land use planning and compact development (including social equity). In the Senate, she focused on a broad range of issues including agriculture, youth employment, land use, political reform, health care, veterans' affairs, waste reduction, working families, and education. In 2008, she had the most bills approved by the legislature and the most signed into law of anyone in the California legislature.

Guy Conner, her husband and political partner for many years, describes Pat Wiggins as "the finest grass roots politician" he has ever known. She inspired many of us in Sonoma County by demonstrating how a leader works collaboratively for an impressive record of accomplishments while maintaining a commitment to progressive values.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Senator Patricia Wiggins on her many successful years in public service and wish her luck in her retirement. Her voice will be missed in Sacramento.

HONORING JEREMY PHILLIP THON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeremy Phillip

Thon. Jeremy is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jeremy has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jeremy has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jeremy has earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and became an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow. Jeremy has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jeremy designed and supervised the construction of a handicap-accessible deer blind and nature viewing stand at Smithville Lake, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jeremy Phillip Thon for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE YAHRZEIT OF BETH SHARON SAMUELS

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the fourth anniversary of the passing of Beth Sharon Samuels, an extraordinary Angelino who lost her life to cancer in January 2007 at the age of 31.

Beth grew up in Los Angeles, attending the Yeshiva University High School of Los Angeles and graduating as valedictorian. She went on to study at a women's seminary in Israel before graduating from Columbia University with a degree in mathematics. She then completed a three-year program at the Drisha Institute in Bible and Talmud, a Ph.D. in math at Yale, and earned an assistant professorship at the University of California, Berkeley. In the meantime, she gave birth to a daughter, Danelle, and later to daughter Natalia while undergoing intensive chemotherapy treatments.

Beth remains with us, even with increasing distance from her passing. Last year, Beth's friends and family published *The Wisdom of Bat Sheva: The Dr. Beth Samuels Memorial Volume*, a series of lectures and discussions on Torah learning, including an essay by Beth. The book highlights that Beth's spirit continues to teach and inspire. Beth was such a powerful force of spirituality, learning, and divine presence, and her memory will continue to serve as a powerful blessing.

My condolences go out to her parents, Elana and Zachary, her husband, Ari, her daughters Danelle and Natalia and her extended friends and family on this solemn occasion.

HONORING GROUND ZERO FIRST
RESPONDER AND FIREFIGHTER
WILLIAM QUICK

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Mr. William Henry Quick, a retired firefighter who worked for two months at Ground Zero and who passed away of lung disease on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at the age of 55. Mr. Quick worked for Ladder 134 in Far Rockaway, Queens, and lived on Long Island.

Mr. Quick worked for the FDNY for almost half of his life and did not hesitate to leave his vacation and rush to Ground Zero after the 9/11 attacks. He worked there from September 12, 2001 and only stopped two months later when he hurt his knee while working through the rubble. He returned to work in January of 2002 but developed a series of lung infections, which ultimately forced his retirement in January of 2003.

Mr. Quick is a hero in every sense of the word. He worked at Ground Zero without questioning the risks to his own health. He spent his whole adult life in public service working for the FDNY. He leaves behind his wife, Lisa, and twin 17-year-olds Ryan Mary and William Henry II. I grieve for them and want them to know that their sacrifice will not be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING THE UC DAVIS LEED
PLATINUM-CERTIFIED RESEARCH
AND TEACHING WINERY AND
THE AUGUST A. BUSCH III BREW-
ING AND FOOD SCIENCE LAB-
ORATORY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of California, Davis, on the occasion of the grand opening of its world-class, LEED Platinum-certified research and teaching facility focused on food science, wine, and brewing.

Among its distinctions, UC Davis is the world's leading research and teaching center for agriculture, food science, and viticulture and enology. UC Davis research and teaching has developed an international reputation and strength in agriculture, and food, dairy, and wine production.

With the LEED Platinum brewery, winery, and food-processing laboratories, the Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science at UC Davis fosters a new era of opportunity and environmentally sustainable economic development. This new complex will be self-sufficient in energy and water use, and contains numerous environmentally friendly features such as onsite solar power generation, and carbon dioxide capture. New food-processing, wine-making, and brewing laboratories will test production processes that conserve water, energy, and other natural resources.

Two of the Nation's leading academic departments related to food and beverage

science are situated at the Robert Mondavi Institute at UC Davis. The Department of Viticulture and Enology and the Department of Food Science and Technology will utilize the new state-of-the-art research and teaching facility.

Within the UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, the Department of Viticulture and Enology has been the creator of grape-growing and wine-making knowledge that enabled the growth and success of today's wine industry, and has placed California and the Nation among the global leaders in wine production and quality. Wine industry leaders rely upon the department's research, expertise, and counsel.

Likewise, the Department of Food Science and Technology is internationally recognized for its advances in making food and beverages more nutritious, appealing, affordable, and safe. It is the only such department within the University of California and is the state of California's principal academic food science research group.

Technologies developed at UC Davis have been instrumental in making high-quality food and beverage products that feed the nation—including dairy, seafood, vegetables, fruits, nuts, and beer. Food safety research has helped identify and eliminate contamination in handling and processing. Research on nutrients, antioxidants, and other food components are helping create more healthful foods for California and the world. Graduates of the university's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences are highly sought after nationally in the food processing, wine-making, and brewing industries. Its graduates form the foundation on which food and agricultural industries have developed, grown, and flourished.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, on the occasion of the grand opening of the UC Davis Research and Teaching Winery and the Anheuser A. Busch III Brewing and Food Science Laboratory, let us recognize UC Davis for its leadership and dedication to excellence in the area of the food, wine and brewing sciences. Please join me in commending the University of California, Davis, for its service to the people of California and the Nation.

HONORING THE BANGOR REGION
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce as it celebrates its Centennial.

Founded in 1911, the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce is one of the oldest such groups in the State of Maine. Originally founded as a merchant's association, the chamber assisted in developing trade relationships within the city. In the late 1980s, the merchant's association became regionally focused on the business interests of its increasingly diverse membership body. The organization today has continued to grow into one of the largest in the State, representing businesses from 21 communities in the greater Bangor area.

As a cornerstone of the Bangor community, the chamber is active in business development, advocacy efforts and community better-

ment programs. These programs seek out emerging business leaders, helping them foster networks to promote growth and working to empower entrepreneurs to create opportunities in these tough economic times. Additionally, the chamber sponsored seminars and leadership development trainings continue to have a major positive impact in the community.

As Americans continue working to get back up on their feet after the worst economic recession since the 1930s, the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce stands as a shining example of what community members coming together can accomplish. For 100 years they have led the greater Bangor community in promoting a favorable business environment conducive to generating economic growth and prosperity. I wish them the very best as they continue serving Bangor, the State of Maine and the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce on this joyous occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, due to weather-related travel delays, I was absent from the House Floor during last night's rollcall vote on H.R. 292.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of that legislation.

IN COMMEMORATION OF USAT
"DORCHESTER"

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the brave individuals of the United States Army Transport *Dorchester*. While participating in a naval transport, on February 3, 1943, USAT *Dorchester* was attacked, sending 676 men to their graves in the icy waters of the Atlantic Ocean. On January 23, 2011, the Middletown VFW Post #2179 and Ladies Auxiliary will gather to commemorate the brave individuals who lost their lives on this tragic day. The honorable actions of the World War II soldiers are undoubtedly deserving of this body's recognition.

Previously a luxury coastal liner, the USAT *Dorchester* was converted into an Army transport ship and immediately called up for service in World War II. Departing from St. John's, Newfoundland on February 2, 1943, the *Dorchester* was filled to capacity, carrying 902 service men, merchant seamen and civilian workers on their way to an American base in Greenland. The ship's captain, Hans J. Danielson, was aware of the dangerous mission as he instructed the ship's crew to sleep in their clothing and life jackets. Traveling through the treacherous and chilly Atlantic Ocean waters, the USAT *Dorchester* was spotted on the morning of February 3, 1943 by a German submarine. Torpedoes were soon fired, striking the starboard side of the ship. The attack