

During his service in the Marine Corps and Army, Joe was decorated for Combat Action and received other awards for personal leadership, achievement and meritorious service; including the Purple Heart for wounds received in action in Iraq. His units were cited in Joint Meritorious Unit Awards, Valorous Unit Award, Navy Unit Commendations, Meritorious Unit Commendations, Navy Battle E, Navy Sea Service, Army Overseas, and other Service and Campaign Medals for his 3½ years spent overseas in five tours with Marine and Army Units.

He is a volunteer by nature and has applied his entire adult life to serving others in the military, public safety, veterans' groups, and non-profits. He has been active in veterans' affairs for 25 years, notably organizing the Keweenaw Detachment #1016, Marine Corps League and Copper Country Chapter #789 Military Order Purple Heart with Vietnam veterans Gary Mattson and Tom Heikkinen. Joe continues to serve as a volunteer Michigan CCP Firearms Instructor and U.S. Army Ambassador for CRSC/TSGLI claims. He is a Christian and man of faith in God. He serves his local church in many capacities, and he and his wife, with their dog, Sunny greatly enjoy wandering the wilderness of the U.P. of Michigan and across America. The Copper Country is greatly honored to have Joe as the Grand Marshal of the Sixth Annual Parade of Thanks in Michigan's Keweenaw.

RECOGNIZING THE 63RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 63rd anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel, declared on May 14, 1948. Israel has provided Jews from all over the world with the opportunity to reestablish and participate in a Jewish state and society in their ancient homeland, the Land of Israel, with the city of Jerusalem as its undivided capital. Not only is Israel home to many religious sites sacred to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, but Israel has provided a refuge to Jews who survived the unprecedented horrors of the Holocaust and Jewish refugees who fled persecution around the world.

The people of Israel have established a pluralistic democracy that includes the freedoms cherished by the people of the United States, including freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of association, freedom of the press, and government by the consent of the governed. Israel continues to serve as a shining model of democratic values by regularly holding free and fair elections, promoting the free exchange of ideas, and vigorously exercising in its Parliament, the Knesset, a democratic government that is fully representative of its citizens.

Additionally, Israel has bravely defended itself from terrorist and military attacks repeatedly since independence. With thousands of rocket attacks from violent extremist groups in Gaza against Israeli civilian targets in recent years that have caused hundreds of casualties and have destroyed homes, schools, build-

ings, roads, power lines, and other significant infrastructure, Israel has stood strong. Even with the deaths of over 1,000 innocent Israelis over the last several years at the hands of murderous, suicide bombers and other terrorists, the people of Israel stand strong. Israel continues to seek peace with their Palestinian neighbors and have signed landmark peace treaties and successfully established peaceful bilateral relations with neighboring Egypt and Jordan.

Moreover, Iran, which continues to reject Israel's right to exist as a nation, remains a continued threat to Israel's safety and security, both through its support of terrorist groups like Hamas and Hezbollah and through its ongoing efforts to acquire nuclear weapons.

A strong and valuable ally, the United States and Israel enjoy a strategic partnership based on shared democratic values, friendship, and respect. The United States share a deep affinity with the people of Israel and view Israel as a strong and trusted ally. Not only was the United States the first nation to offer de facto recognition, but did so only 11 minutes after the creation of the state of Israel.

In recognizing the 63rd anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel, I reaffirm enduring, bipartisan support for the alliance and friendship between the Governments and peoples of the United States and Israel, for Israel to exist as a democratic Jewish state, and for its right to defend itself. I look forward to continued cooperation in resolving future mutual challenges and extend warm congratulations and best wishes to the people of Israel as they celebrate independence.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF CALLAHAN, FLORIDA

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Centennial Celebration of the Town of Callahan in Nassau County, Florida, which received its Charter on May 23, 1911. It is my privilege to represent the warm, friendly people in this small municipality. Although it is only 1.3 square miles in size, Callahan stands at the crossroads of major transportation links to Jacksonville and Georgia. For the surrounding rural, isolated farms, Callahan is town.

As with much of Northeast Florida, the railroad brought development and people to what had been wild, wet timber lands and home to the Timucuan Indians. Callahan was no exception. More than 150 years ago, David Yulee, owner of the Florida Railroad Company and Florida's first U.S. Senator, hired a seasoned railroad man named Daniel Callahan to prepare the land for the laying of railroad tracks across the middle of Nassau County. Many of Florida's pioneer family members worked on the rail for 23 cents a day. At that time, the economy mostly centered on the logging business although herds of cattle, horses and hogs roamed the still unfenced countryside as farmers and ranchers worked hard under the Florida sun.

During construction, a railroad station was built where the tracks cross Kings Road, now

called U.S. 1. A post office soon followed. The Sharon Baptist Church was already there surrounded by farms. The railroad turned the sleepy settlement into a bustling rail camp, and a town was born. Years after Daniel Callahan had moved on to build other railroads, the people officially named the town in his honor.

Today, the historic train depot is home to the Greater Nassau County Chamber of Commerce and the West Nassau Historical Society. For the past several years it has hosted the Railroad Days Festival, where hundreds of folks come to enjoy small-town activities like parades, clowns, American flags, face painting, and ax throwing contests, and of course, model train displays in the lovingly restored old wood building. Also on site is a restored rail segment and caboose, a favorite of the children.

Although a significant retail district grew nearby the depot and a block of beautiful brick stores replete with balconies remains, Callahan's town center has moved slightly north from the railroad track to the intersection of A1A, Lem Turner Highway, and U.S. 1. Here several red brick government buildings, along with small shops—some national franchises but many local longtime businesses, continue to serve the folks surrounding the Town. Two restaurants have large local followings—The Pig and the Chicken House. If you want good barbeque and a cold glass of sweet tea, you can't find a better place than in Callahan.

Almost everyone in Callahan attends church, and church activities are the backbone of most weekly social events. But Callahan also boasts annual events, like the Blueberry Festival, the Northeast Florida Fair, the Rodeo, and the Christmas Parade that draw hundreds of visitors.

As we celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of this charming rural community in West Nassau County, I congratulate my good friend, Mayor Shirley Graham, the Town Council, and all who have made this occasion special. But I especially laud the townspeople and those who live just outside the town limits on their neighborliness, their can-do spirit, and small-town warmth. When I think of what makes up the heart and soul of America, I need look no farther than Callahan, Florida.

NATIONAL NURSING HOME WEEK

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize National Nursing Home Week, which began nationwide on May 8, and concludes on May 14th. This year's theme, "Fulfilling the Promise," was selected to honor those who are serving others, thus adding value to life. National Nursing Home Week is a time to reach out to older Americans in these facilities who have given so much to our communities and country. They are our loved ones, our veterans, our teachers, nurses, friends, and much more.

It's also a time to better understand the valuable work of nursing home staff. They provide quality care day in and day out, focusing on person-centered care so that elderly and disabled residents can live life in a meaningful

way. All across America, nursing homes provide fulfilling places to work, employing millions of Americans even in these tough economic times. In West Virginia alone, nursing homes and other long term care facilities make up one of the state's largest industries and employers. These jobs make nursing homes a critical component of local and state economies. In West Virginia, they support an estimated \$1.7 billion of the state's economic activity and \$38.6 million in tax revenue.

As this year marks the first year that baby boomers will reach the age of 65, the critical role that long term care facilities play will only become more important. These facilities will be even more critical in states like West Virginia where we have the second highest percentage of citizens who are over the age of 65.

Let us all celebrate the critical work of nursing homes in caring for our nation's seniors, employing Americans and strengthening the economy. I ask all Americans to join me in celebrating National Nursing Home Week by taking part in local activities and ceremonies around the country.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JOE SANCHEZ, SUCCESSFUL LOS ANGELES BUSINESSMAN AND DEDICATED COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Joe Sanchez, a dedicated community activist, successful Los Angeles businessman and a dear friend of the Roybal family who passed away May 10 at the age of 77.

Born on June 2, 1933 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Joe's family moved to Los Angeles when he was eight years old following the outbreak of World War II.

As a teenager, he worked at Weber and Sons, a local discount grocery store in the Wall Street/Olympic area of Los Angeles. That job would be the start of his career in the wholesale grocery business. The discount retail grocery outlets he owned and operated included: La Quebradita grocery stores in East Los Angeles and Pico Rivera, which he co-owned with his sister and brother-in-law Dolores and Cal Soto; La Marketa in Stanton; and Civic Center Sales, originally located in Chinatown and later moved to Lincoln Heights. In addition, Joe served on numerous civic and industry boards. He founded the Mexican American Grocers Association in 1977 and was an active member of the Southern California Grocers Association.

But while Joe was an astute and successful businessman, his true passion was the pursuit of social justice for Mexican Americans, as well as other disenfranchised groups. For more than five decades, he used his businesses as a catalyst for social change and to help fund the social justice and political causes he cared most about. Joe advocated on behalf of the anti-war movement. He worked to end discrimination in hiring and job promotion, advance educational opportunities for Latinos, and increase the number of Mexican American elected officials and business owners.

During the United Farm Workers prolonged grape and lettuce boycotts, Joe collected truckloads of food for the striking farm workers.

Upon learning of Joe's passing, Arturo S. Rodriguez, president of the United Farm Workers of America, recalled, "During the most challenging and turbulent times of the farm worker movement, beginning in the 1960s and '70s, no one in the Latino community did more and could be counted on with greater consistency than Joe Sanchez. He was often the first person in the Chicano community to whom Cesar would turn when the farm workers needed help." A close friend, Cesar Chavez and his family often stayed in the Sanchez home when he was in Los Angeles.

In 1973, Mayor Tom Bradley appointed him to serve as a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners—the first Latino to hold such a position. He was elected to serve as President Pro Tem of the commission from 1973–76, and as Vice President from 1977–78. During his tenure, Joe pushed the LA Fire Department to stop discriminatory hiring practices against Mexican Americans, African Americans and Asians.

Under his leadership, Joe brought about a dramatic increase in the hiring of Latino firefighters, paramedics and civilian employees in the fire department from 67 to 300. Bilingual positions at the department increased markedly from 12 to 119. The department implemented a bilingual Emergency Training Program to teach firefighters emergency phrases in Spanish. A citywide study was conducted to assure equal services to all areas of Los Angeles and, for the first time, the department published fire prevention brochures in Spanish.

Genethia Hudley-Hayes, president of the Los Angeles Board of Fire Commissioners, said of Joe's contribution to the commission, "His was the first voice on the Fire Commission that spoke boldly, no matter the consequences, for access, equity and fair treatment for all of the men and women in the Los Angeles Fire Service."

In August 2010, Councilman Ed Reyes paid tribute to Joe with a bronze plaque at Fire Station No.1 in Lincoln Heights.

The plaque states that as a commissioner, Joe distinguished himself through his commitment to the goals of the Consent Decree, a 1974 court-ordered mandate that required the department to hire minorities, "thus reinforcing the principles of social and equal justice through the employment of all people regardless of race, color, creed or national origin."

In the decade following his service on the commission, Joe continued his quest for justice in the workplace. During the 1980s, Joe was the first person to publicly and financially support a discrimination lawsuit brought by a group of FBI officers who claimed they had been denied promotions because they were Hispanic. He was able to gather support in a community long wary of the agency for the controversial lawsuit, which the agents eventually won.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to all of Joe's contributions to the Los Angeles community, he was also a devoted husband, father, grandfather and even great grandfather. I ask my colleagues to please join me in extending our condolences to his wife, Laura Balverde Sanchez, and his entire family. Joe was an in-

spiration to all who knew him, and he will be greatly missed.

SUPPORT OF TAIWAN'S FULL MEMBERSHIP IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress and a friend of Taiwan, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in supporting Taiwan's full membership in the World Health Organization, WHO.

Since 2009, China has permitted Taiwan to participate in the annual summit of the WHO in Geneva on a restricted basis. This year's meeting will be held from May 16th to the 24th. While I certainly welcome Taiwan's participation in this important international body, I am also concerned about the restrictions that China has placed upon Taiwan's involvement.

First, Taiwan's role in the WHO has been restricted to that of "observer status." This means that Taiwan does not have the ability to vote, speak, or participate in deliberations—they can only sit and listen. I believe that as a sovereign state, with a population of 23 million people, Taiwan deserves full representation in the United Nations and its affiliated organizations. As such, Taiwan should be recognized as a full voting member of the WHO.

As we all know, infectious disease knows no borders. Taiwan was affected in 2003 by an outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and the 2009 outbreak of the H1N1 virus. These events demonstrate the important role Taiwan plays in global health and the Nation should be recognized as such.

Second, Taiwan is participating again this year as "Chinese-Taipei." I would prefer to see Taiwan recognized under its name "Taiwan" rather than as a subsidiary of China.

Lastly, I have grave concern with China's veto power over Taiwan's role on the international stage. Chinese approval should not be a prerequisite for Taiwanese participation in United Nations organizations, or any other international organization. Taiwan should not have to rely upon the goodwill of China to voice beyond its borders. Allowing this to become the international norm will undermine its current status as an independent, sovereign state.

To close, I believe the United States should amend its current policy of supporting "meaningful participation." I therefore urge my colleagues to join me in supporting Taiwan's full and equal membership in the WHO as well as other international organizations.

RECOGNIZING FAITH ANDRULOT—NATIONAL RECIPIENT OF EXCELLENCE IN NURSING AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Faith Andrulot, a national recipient of the Excellence in Nursing Award