

has been recognized by the Hammond Rotary Club as an outstanding citizen who has demonstrated entrepreneurial success and vision in the community of Hammond and throughout northwest Indiana. His devotion to professional and ethical business leadership is to be commended. For his outstanding efforts, John will be presented the Robert V. Heinze Vocational Service Award by the Hammond Rotary Club on Tuesday, May 24, 2011.

The Hammond Rotary Club was established in 1920 adhering to the principles of Rotary International: "World Peace through Understanding" and "Service above Self." These values are vigorously upheld by the Hammond Rotary Club members who passionately serve their community. Each year, the club recognizes an organization or an individual who is a praiseworthy local business or community leader by honoring the recipient with the Robert V. Heinze Vocational Service Award, and this year's recipient is John Loxas.

John Loxas was born on the island of Zakynthos, Greece. He immigrated to the United States in 1955 and settled in Hammond, Indiana. John found employment at Republic Steel in south Chicago and worked there for a few years. After being laid off from the mill, John found inspiration and opportunity at a small Hammond grocery store where he volunteered to work for no pay. During that time, he educated himself in the grocery business, and in 1958, he purchased the store that gave him his inspiration, which he ran for many years. In 1975, John's dream for a more modern grocery store came true, and he opened a second, larger location. In the years to follow, new locations would open under the name J&M Foods, and later, Reliable Supermarket. John's success and entrepreneurial spirit continued, and in 1985, he opened Olympia Lanes bowling center in Hammond, which included a high-tech scoring system, deli, lounge, and pro-shop. Olympia Lanes recently celebrated its 25th anniversary. Seeing the need for an elegant banquet hall in Hammond, John opened Dynasty Banquets in 1993. Capitalizing on his business, he opened the recently renovated Ramada Inn and Johnel's Restaurant, which are located in the same locale as Dynasty Banquets. For his remarkable business success and complete dedication to the community of Hammond, John Loxas is truly inspiring, and it is because of his efforts that he is the recipient of the 2011 Robert V. Heinze Vocational Service Award.

John's commitment to the community and his career is exceeded only by his devotion to his amazing family. John and his wonderful wife, Margaret, have five beloved children and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating John Loxas on being honored with the Robert V. Heinze Vocational Service Award, and in honoring the Hammond Rotary for their outstanding contributions to the community of Hammond and all of northwest Indiana. Their constant commitment to improving the quality of life for countless individuals in northwest Indiana is truly encouraging, and they are worthy of the highest praise.

## RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF RONALD FREDERIC RICHARDS

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2011*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the life of northwest Florida's beloved Ronald Frederic Richards.

Mr. Richards was a fixture in the local business community who used his success and acumen to help support and to lead numerous rotary and yachting clubs in the Pensacola community. After a successful 25 years in the supermarket industry in Birmingham, Alabama, and Pensacola, Florida, Mr. Richards entered the financial services industry in 1990. He formed his own company, Ron Richards Financial Services, and his total commitment to helping others was the key to his success.

His leadership in the northwest Florida community was unquestioned. He was highly respected, and in 2000 and 2001, he served as commodore of Pensacola Yacht Club. He was responsible for establishing a long-term endowment, the Legacy Wheel, to ensure the future of the yacht club. In 2008, Ron served as commodore of the Gulf Yachting Association, commodore and a charter member of the Florida Commodore's Association, and a member of the International Commodore's Association.

Mr. Richards was noted for his love of sailing by many; however, his love for Rotary was also well-known. Ron was a charter member of the Rotary Club of Navarre in 1995 where he served as club president for the 1998/99 Rotary year. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Navarre Club's Scholarship Fund, and his club was awarded the Presidential Citation for its outstanding performance. In 2003, due to the relocation of his business, Ron left the Navarre Club and was elected into membership at the Rotary Club of Pensacola. During 2006/07, he served as President of the Combined Rotary Clubs of Pensacola, a president's council for the 12 clubs in the area.

To some, Ron Richards will be remembered as a leader in the business community. To others, he will be remembered for his love of Florida and the Gulf Coast. To his family, he will always be remembered as a loving and devoted uncle and spouse. He was an inspiration to those who knew him, and his service to the Pensacola community is his lasting legacy.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life of Ronald Frederic Richards. My wife Vicki and I offer our continued prayers for his entire family.

EVERETT COREY, DIRECTING  
BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE  
FOR THE IAM IN CT, REMARKS  
FROM MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2011*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

EVERETT COREY, DIRECTING BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS IN CONNECTICUT, REMARKS FROM MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011

What a day! What a victory for Pratt & Whitney right here in Connecticut! What a victory for American jobs and American workers!

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be part of such a distinguished—and genuinely remarkable—group here today, people who have changed the world through skill, intelligence, dedication and perseverance despite the odds. I'm referring, of course, to the employees of Pratt & Whitney—who are, without a doubt—the greatest jet engine makers in the world. And the best of the best are right here, in the State of Connecticut. Thank you for all you do.

President Chenevert, President Hess—I want to thank you for inviting the Machinists Union to participate in this program. Congratulations to you both on these great victories.

Members of the Connecticut Congressional delegation—we know how hard you have worked to reach this result. We know that you understand, it's all about jobs. You have worked tirelessly on behalf of the people of Connecticut, and the workers of Pratt & Whitney, and it's great to see all that effort end up with two big wins—the Air Force tanker, and sole sourcing on the F-35.

Congressman Norm Dicks—Thousands of workers here and in Washington State, including thousands of Machinists Union members, will have work for years ahead, thanks to your efforts. On behalf of the International Association of Machinists—thank you, Congressman Dicks.

Governor Malloy—what a great relief to have a Governor of Connecticut who is so engaged, so smart, so tough and determined. We know, that like us, your first thought in the morning and your last thought at night is about jobs for Connecticut. Well, here you go—how about 25 years worth of work going forward? A great moment for state.

I thanked the entire Congressional delegation, because they deserve it. But I have to extend a special, heartfelt thanks to Congressman John Larson—who more than anyone, took on the fight for both these contracts, worked countless hours, pushed relentlessly—and brought home two enormous, unbelievable wins. Congressman Larson—you truly are the man who "keeps the eagle flying." We thank you, we salute you—Connecticut owes you a debt that words cannot express.

The other person who deserves special thanks, but who could not be here today is Jim Parent, Assistant Directing Business Representative of District 26 and chief negotiator for UTC issues. Both management and labor here at Pratt, and people across the state and around the country, have benefited from the work of Brother Parent, on this and countless other issues. This day is his, and we thank him. Jim will be retiring in January, and we wish him well.

Let me end with two brief comments. First, to David Hess and Louis Chenevert. We were proud to work with you in the fight to get these contracts—and will continue to work with you whenever and wherever we can jointly fight for work that keeps jobs and grows jobs in Connecticut. We even have a coalition called GrowJobsCT—we invite you to join, and we'll waive the initiation fee.

Finally—Pratt & Whitney employees, hourly and salary, sister and brother Machinists Union members—stand proud today, and every day. It's your skills, your hard work, your dedication—that keep this company thriving, and most important, help defend our great country.

More than anybody—this victory belongs to you—and was earned by decades of hard work. We salute you. Congratulations!

IN RECOGNITION OF PAGE MORTON BLACK AND THE PARKINSON'S DISEASE FOUNDATION

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2011*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Page Morton Black, an extraordinarily selfless and effective leader who has distinguished herself through her dedication to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation, PDF, and its critical mission. I urge my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Black and her service to others as chair of the Board of Directors of PDF. Following the observance in April of "Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month," her immense contributions to the fight against Parkinson's Disease will be recognized this month by PDF supporters at its annual "Bal du Printemps" at the Pierre Hotel in New York City.

Founded in 1957 by Mrs. Black's late husband, William Black, the Parkinson's Disease Foundation, PDF, is a leading national presence in Parkinson's Disease research, education and public advocacy. The PDF serves the nearly one million Americans who live with Parkinson's by offering critical support for cutting-edge medical research to determine the causes of Parkinson's and develop a cure, while assisting those afflicted by the disease and their families and caregivers with educational outreach, vigorous public advocacy, and a host of support services. Led by Mrs. Black and her late husband, PDF has provided more than \$85 million in funding for research on Parkinson's Disease all over the world, as well as \$34 million in support of educational and support programs for families and care partners of persons with Parkinson's. As the chair of the Congressional Working Group on Parkinson's Disease, I can attest first-hand to the critical role the PDF continues to play in the fight against Parkinson's.

The creation of the Parkinson's Disease Foundation is an inspirational story. William Black, an immigrant to America, was the founder of the renowned and much beloved Chock Full o'Nuts coffee and restaurant business—which was made famous in no small part due to its advertising featuring Page Morton Black singing the company's catchy jingle about Chock Full o'Nuts' "heavenly coffee," a performance which quickly entered the popular lexicon. Mr. Black was moved to found the PDF after his close friend, the company's controller, was diagnosed with Parkinson's. He was greatly dismayed to learn that not only was there no truly effective treatment, but also that no basic research on Parkinson's was being conducted. Using his own funds, he established the PDF, which was the first private foundation in the United States created specifically to advance research into the causes of Parkinson's, help develop a cure, and support those living with the disease.

William Black was determined to launch a research program aimed at finding effective drug treatment for the disease. Working with some of the nation's most prominent and re-

spected researchers, the Blacks made two major donations to Columbia University, one to help construct the research laboratory building that now bears Mr. Black's name, which houses one entire floor dedicated to Parkinson's research; and the other to endow support for that research. This close relationship between the PDF and Columbia University has persisted to this day. Following Mr. Black's passing Page Morton Black became chair of the PDF Board of Directors, helping ensure that the PDF has remained a driving force in combating Parkinson's Disease. Under her leadership, the PDF expanding its outreach, advocacy, and research funding. The PDF is making a real difference in our understanding of Parkinson's Disease, leading to new therapies and, in time, hopefully a cure.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues rise to join me in recognizing Page Morton Black, a great American and a great New Yorker who has distinguished herself through her lifetime of extraordinary service to others.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL LINGO

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2011*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Lingo, who is retiring as Superintendent of the Bakersfield City School District (BCSD) in Bakersfield, California. Mike has been an education leader in the district for 41 years and has spent the last 5 years as Superintendent of BCSD, the largest non-unified pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade district in California.

Mike grew up in Bakersfield and was educated in the community where he now works. He attended Horace Mann Elementary, Sierra Junior High, East High, and Bakersfield College. He finished his college education at California State University, Fresno. After graduating, he returned to Bakersfield and started teaching in BCSD in 1970.

After 20 years of teaching, Mike shifted his career and began his service in school administration. He served as the Supervisor of Employer-Employee Relations for BCSD in 1990. Then in 1995, he became Director of Personnel Services. In 2000, he was again promoted to Assistant Superintendent of Business Services. In this role, he oversaw all of the financial and services aspects that the district performs on top of pupil instruction. Mike became Superintendent in 2006.

Many of his coworkers have expressed appreciation for Mike's leadership at a time when the school district has seen budget cuts year after year. Yet during Mike's time as superintendent, the district's academic performance index score rose from 643 to 688, a testament to his leadership and the hard work of the teachers, students, and parents in the school district. In addition, BCSD was the first major district in California to implement Learning Village, an online curriculum system.

Dedicated to education on multiple levels, Mike's retirement will leave big shoes to fill at BCSD. The Bakersfield community and I commend his service to the thousands of BCSD students over four decades and we hope that Mike enjoys his transition into the next chapter of his life.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF JUDGE FRANCIS E. SWEENEY, SR.

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Judge Francis E. Sweeney, a former Justice on the Supreme Court of Ohio, who passed away on April 10, 2011.

Born on January 24, 1934, Judge Sweeney was raised in Northeast Ohio. He graduated from St. Ignatius High School before attending Xavier University. He received the Legion of Honor Award from his alma mater upon graduating in 1956. After completing his undergraduate education, Judge Sweeney spent several years playing professional football in Canada with the Ottawa Rough Riders. In 1957, Judge Sweeney joined the U.S. Army and served his country bravely during the Korean War.

Judge Sweeney returned to Cleveland in 1958 and began working in Allstate Insurance Company's legal department. While working at Allstate, he attended Cleveland-Marshall Law School and earned his juris doctor degree in 1963. He left Allstate and started working as an assistant prosecuting attorney for Cuyahoga County.

In 1970, Judge Sweeney began his career as a judge for the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas. In 1988, he began sitting as a judge for Ohio's Court of Appeals of the Eighth Appellate District, the busiest and largest appellate court in the state of Ohio. In 1992, Judge Sweeney became a Justice on the Supreme Court of Ohio and would serve two terms until his retirement in 2004. After retiring, Judge Sweeney continued serving as a retired assigned judge in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court.

Judge Sweeney was a highly accomplished lawyer and judge. He was the recipient of the Outstanding Judicial Service Award by the Ohio Supreme Court for fourteen consecutive years. He was named Xavier University's Alumnus of the Year in 1977, received the Cardinal Bellarmine Award for Legal Excellence 1994 from St. Ignatius High School, and was presented with the Outstanding Alumnus Award in 2000 by Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Judge Francis E. Sweeney, Sr. I offer my sincere condolences to his wife, children and grandchildren.

COMMEMORATING MAY 19TH AS A HISTORIC DAY IN THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2011*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to a historic day in the Republic of Turkey. On May 19th, while Congress was in recess, the Republic of Turkey and Friends of Turkey commemorated the 92d anniversary of the launching of Turkey's national campaign to establish an independent nation by Mustafa