

Joining the water district team in 1990 as the project coordinator, followed by the role of Deputy General Manager, Mr. Pack was appointed to the post of General Manager on September 4, 2001. Over the last decade, Mr. Pack's management and leadership has been instrumental to EMWD's success on critical projects that have made a tremendous impact throughout the District.

As the General Manager, Mr. Pack introduced the District to the superior principles of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Program and the State counterpart, the California Award for Performance Excellence. Under his guidance and expertise, Mr. Pack implemented and administered these principles to ensure they were met at every level. As a result of this rigorous program for performance measurement and continuous improvement, EMWD has attained the highest level of any public agency in the State.

During his tenure with EMWD he has provided assistance to the State, Federal and local legislators in addressing complicated water related issues and worked cooperatively with government agencies in implementing policies and projects.

Among his many roles, Mr. Pack has served as president and vice president of the California Municipal Utilities Association, a statewide association of publicly owned utilities, a board member of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, and currently serves as a board member for the California Council for Excellence.

Prior to joining the District, Mr. Pack served 20 years with the U.S. Marine Corps in posts throughout the United States, Japan and the Middle East, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1990. I would also like to extend my appreciation for his years of military service.

Through his work at EMWD he has assisted the community and the California water industry. I offer Mr. Pack my congratulations and may he enjoy a rewarding retirement with his wife Kelly, their two sons and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to please join me in paying tribute to Mr. Pack's dedicated and loyal service to the Eastern Municipal Water District.

2011 NATIONAL STROKE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of May as National Stroke Awareness Month, the time each year that we as a nation reaffirm our support in the fight against stroke, a leading cause of death and disability.

National Stroke Awareness Month plays an important role in educating Americans on the warning signs and risk factors for strokes, as well as how the latest neuroscience discoveries enhance our understanding of strokes and lead to new and exciting treatments.

According to the American Stroke Association, a stroke occurs every 40 seconds, affecting roughly 795,000 Americans each year—killing approximately 136,000 people a year, and costing the nation through healthcare services, medications, and missed days of work.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition, and through my experience as a nurse and health care advocate, I know firsthand the importance of educating the American people to recognize the warning signs of a stroke and be ready to act fast.

Moreover, the most effective method to combat stroke is to prevent it, and that to do that, we need to place a greater focus on educating the American people on the risk factors associated with an increased risk of stroke: high blood pressure, atrial fibrillation, diabetes, heightened cholesterol, lack of exercise, and smoking.

Family history of stroke, gender, and place of residence are also factors.

While strokes are one of the major reasons that quality of life can diminish as people get older, they are not inevitable.

The same steps that contribute to keeping physical vigor—regular exercise, a healthy weight, and a balanced diet—can maximize the chances of staying sharp and alert for decades to come.

Mr. Speaker, based on basic science findings, neuroscientists have developed several options for treating stroke, including clot-busting drugs and minimally invasive surgery techniques.

Yet despite numerous advances, the global and national prognosis for stroke is dire.

According to a study by the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association published earlier this year, stroke prevalence is projected to increase by 25 percent in the U.S. by 2030, and direct medical costs for treating stroke are expected to increase by 238 percent, to \$95.6 billion within the same time period.

This makes continued strong and sustainable funding for the National Institutes of Health even more critical.

By supporting the National Institutes of Health, researchers will be able to discover better ways to protect the brain from potential strokes, minimize the damage that occurs, and develop better ways to repair and reorganize the brain after a stroke.

For all of these reasons, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing National Stroke Awareness Month, celebrating the outstanding contributions the field of neuroscience is making to learn more about stroke; the contributions of the American Stroke Association in educating the public about stroke warning signs and treatment; and the investments made in scientific research through the National Institutes of Health to develop treatments for those suffering from this devastating disease.

HONORING MR. RONALD SHELLEY

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ronald Shelley of Boeing Defense, Space & Security. Ron will be retiring this coming June after more than thirty years with the company.

In his more than three decades with Boeing, Ron has held a number of leadership positions; with ever increasing responsibilities. During the development and first flight of the

C-17 Globemaster III, today the backbone of our air mobility, Ron served as General Manager, Supplier Management, in Long Beach, California.

Ron also served as program manager for the F/A-18 Super Hornet, responsible for directing, planning, organizing, leading and controlling development, production and cost support for all Super Hornet programs in St. Louis. Ron clearly knows his business, because the Super Hornet program has consistently delivered aircraft to the United States Navy on time and on budget.

Additionally, Shelley held a number of director-level Supplier Management and Procurement positions in Naval Systems, Production Operations and Phantom Works—the advanced prototyping arm of Boeing Defense, Space & Security.

Today, Ron Shelley serves as vice president of Global Sourcing for The Boeing Company and as vice president of Supplier Management for Boeing Defense, Space & Security, based in St. Louis. He leads an organization of more than 2,800 employees in 30 States and 10 countries; and he's responsible for annual purchases of nearly \$17 billion in products and services. Clearly you don't just put anyone in charge of spending \$17 billion!

My staff and I have had the honor of working with Ron on a number of occasions over the past decade. Through his work on C-17 and Super Hornet, he has contributed much to our national security. His fellow citizens are more secure today because of the contributions Ron Shelley made to these vital defense programs.

Thank you, Ron. I wish you all the best in your retirement and God's blessing.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHAPEL OF CLIFFORD, MI

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to properly acknowledge a special event occurring in the 10th Congressional District. On Sunday, June 5, 2011, St. Patrick Catholic Church of Lapeer County in Clifford, Michigan will celebrate a significant and historic milestone—its 125th Anniversary Celebration. This achievement will begin with a 1 p.m. Celebration Mass presided by special guest, Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron of the Archdiocese of Detroit. Following mass, the celebration will continue with an open house and reception for all to enjoy. Although I will be unable to personally attend this festive occasion, I certainly wanted to recognize this extraordinary accomplishment and offer my heartfelt congratulations.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it would be fitting to share some history about St. Patrick Chapel. However, first let me start with the Archdiocese of Detroit which was formally established in 1833, but can trace its Catholic lineage back to 1701 when the first French traders arrived in the region. The history of St. Patrick Chapel shares a similar story in that the Church was first built in 1886, but Father Clement Krebs started offering masses inside the homes of local residents in 1879—seven prior to the church being constructed.

Despite lacking an official diocese or church, both stories exemplify a Catholic presence and influence which exceeds the creation of physical infrastructure. It is a testament to an often repeated adage which states that the people inside the church are the church; a church without people is just an empty building.

St. Patrick Catholic Church has been an important resource for Michigan's Thumb Region, and has always worked to improve the community. It has always answered the call of service and almsgiving. And despite the struggles and obstacles faced along the way, St. Patrick has remained steadfast and resilient exhibiting its core values and trust in God.

Currently, over 1.4 million Catholics embody the Archdiocese of Detroit and St. Patrick Church has been a strong part of its history and the history of Lapeer County. Parishioners can be extremely proud of this keystone anniversary and have every reason to celebrate. Reaching this notable achievement is a strong reflection of the faith and commitment of the people who attend religious services and worship every Sunday.

Lastly Mr. Speaker, I commend the leadership, parish staff, event coordinating committee and everyone who had a helping hand in seeing this day come to fruition. Their hard work is recognized and greatly appreciated. I extend my best wishes to St. Patrick Catholic Church on a successful and wonderful celebration.

AMERICAN JEWISH HERITAGE MONTH

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of American Jewish Heritage Month. For more than 350 years, members of the Jewish faith have lived in this country, built this country and contributed to this country.

From colonial days to the present, the course of American history would be profoundly different if it were not for the contributions of American Jews. The early settlers arrived in New York in 1654 and won official toleration, despite the objections of Peter Stuyvesant, marking America as a place where Jews would be free to practice their religion. America's toleration was unusual. Elsewhere in the world the Spanish Inquisition was in full swing; Italian Jews were confined to ghettos; Jews had not yet officially been readmitted to England or France; and they were banned from Scandinavia. Toleration became accepted practice in New England and the South as well, and Jewish communities began to form in many parts of America. A Jewish doctor, Samuel Nunez Ribiero, kept the settlers of the new colony of Georgia from being ravaged by malaria in 1733, which persuaded the founder of the colony, James Edward Oglethorpe, to allow Jewish people to settle in Savannah.

Jews played an important role in the Revolutionary War and the establishment of the fledgling United States. From the merchants who carried supplies and arms to Hayim Solomon who helped bankroll the new government at a crucial time, Jews contributed to the

birth of our country. And, as the country grew, Jews found opportunities and freedom in the new towns and cities that were built in the West.

Jews began to immigrate to the United States in large numbers during the 1880s. And their language, customs and stories were incorporated into American culture. What could be more American than nosh on a bagel while watching a Woody Allen movie? Thanks to comedians like Milton Berle, Jack Benny, Fanny Brice, Mel Brooks, Carl Reiner, Neil Simon, Phil Silvers, Jerry Seinfeld, Roseanne Barr, Sacha Baron Cohen, Gilda Radner and thousands of others, American comedy often seems to have a distinctly Jewish humor.

Jews have made their mark in American literature, music and the arts. Saul Bellow, Herman Wouk and Michael Chabon are among the 14 percent of Pulitzer Prize winners in literature who are Jewish; Barbara Tuchman, Studs Terkel and Jared Diamond are among the 51 percent of Pulitzer Prize winners for non-fiction who are Jewish. From Leonard Bernstein to Aaron Copeland, some of America's most famous composers are Jewish. And many of the most influential artists of the last 100 years have been Jewish, including Man Ray, Helen Frankenthaler and Mark Rothko.

Jewish scientists have expanded our knowledge of the world and have helped discover new cures. From Albert Einstein to Jonas Salk, Carl Sagan to Mark Zuckerberg, Jews have used their scientific knowledge to change our understanding.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in celebrating Jewish American Heritage Month, and the myriad of ways in which Jewish Americans have influenced our lives.

INTRODUCING THE SMALL BUSINESS TAX EQUITY ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Mr. POLIS (D-CO), Mr. FRANK (D-MA), Mr. ROHRBACHER (R-CA), and Mr. PAUL (R-TX) to introduce the Small Business Tax Equity Act.

Our tax code currently undercuts legal medical marijuana dispensaries by preventing them from taking the full range of deductions allowed for other small businesses. While unfair to these small business owners, the tax code also punishes the thousands of patients who rely on them for safe, legal, reliable access to medical marijuana as recommended by a doctor.

The Small Business Tax Equity Act would create an exception to Internal Revenue Code Section 280E to allow businesses operating in accordance with state law to take tax deductions associated with the sale of medical marijuana. This legislation is one in a series of bills being introduced today that would help ensure the fair treatment of medical marijuana businesses and the patients they serve.

Forty years after the start of the War on Drugs, 16 states and the District of Columbia now regulate and allow the sale of marijuana for medical purposes. Our tax laws have not kept pace with these changes in state law. My legislation would amend a portion of the Inter-

nal Revenue Code that was intended to prevent criminal drug dealers from claiming tax benefits. Under this bill, dispensaries operating legally under state law will no longer be prohibited from taking tax deductions and credits attributed to the sale of marijuana to patients.

Medical marijuana dispensaries operate legally in my home state and pay federal, state, and local taxes. California now collects over \$100 million in state taxes annually from these small businesses. They should be able to claim the full range of benefits under the U.S. tax code just like other businesses that operate legally under state law. I urge my colleagues to join us in support of fair tax treatment for the medical marijuana industry and to ensure safe access to the patients it serves.

IN MEMORY OF KEN MORGAN

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great voice for labor, a great Mainer and most importantly, a great friend, Ken Morgan.

For 35 years, Ken worked at the AFL-CIO fighting for the rights of Maine's hard-working men and women. As a union brother of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1837, Ken believed that united in solidarity, we could all move our society forward.

In the late 1960s, Ken's principles led him to refuse his doctorate from Northwestern University because of a dispute regarding the extension of civil rights based upon sexual orientation. Ken carried this strong commitment to justice and solidarity into all aspects of his life and was a trail blazer in the civil rights community. During his long career, Ken served as a member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, was an award-winning member of the Maine Gay and Lesbian Political Alliance and a member of the Board of Directors of the Maine Center for Economic Policy. These are only a few of the many organizations Ken was involved with, all of which worked to help those who might otherwise be forgotten.

However, Ken is best remembered by his friends and family as a great man, with a mind that was deep, broad and keen. His heart was huge. He was a gentle soul who leaves a huge void and who so richly filled the lives of his many friends and family. Above all, Ken was a loving friend, mentor, brother, son and partner.

On the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, President Obama declared, "Dr. King once said that the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends towards justice. It bends towards justice, but here is the thing: it does not bend on its own. It bends because each of us in our own ways put our hand on that arc . . ." Ken's work and life embodied this active engagement with our nation's, and our world's, struggle to be a place of equality and freedom.

Ken leaves behind his partner of more than three decades, Rick Strout, his brother Charles, his sister-in-law Jerie, and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in remembering a great American, Ken Morgan.