

been successful at increasing alumni donor participation by 400 percent, and securing the university's first-ever endowed professorship.

During Dr. Garcia's tenure as President of CSU Dominguez Hills, her leadership and commitment helped to make the university a hub for higher education in the South Bay and greater Los Angeles. In 2008 CSU Dominguez Hills was awarded the highest possible evaluation from Western Association of Schools and Colleges, receiving a rare 10-year re-accreditation.

Upon Dr. Garcia's arrival, CSU Dominguez Hills faced a \$2.8 million structural deficit, with the state appropriation of \$71,489,966. Under her leadership, the university successfully eliminated its structural deficit in spite of the continued decrease in state appropriation, which today is \$59,766,882 (a 16 percent decrease).

Under Dr. Garcia's leadership, CSU Dominguez Hills has won federal grants to help expand online education access to students, improve the quality of teaching in high-need schools by creating model teacher preparation and teaching residency programs, and provide students the support they need to complete their studies and graduate. All of these initiatives have helped to make CSU Dominguez Hills graduates active players in our economic recovery by improving community spirit, inspiring local business growth and lowering the local unemployment rate.

Last summer, Dr. Garcia was chosen by President Barack Obama to serve on the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. As a member of this commission, Dr. Garcia has been tasked with advising the President and Education Secretary Duncan on ways to improve the success rates of Hispanic students across the country.

At the conclusion of this academic year, Dr. Garcia will take her talent for leadership to California State University, Fullerton, one of California's largest universities. Although CSU Dominguez Hills is sad to see Dr. Garcia leave its campus, the legacy of her work and her impact on the community will continue to have an influence the university for years to come.

I am proud to have worked closely with Dr. Garcia to help make CSU Dominguez Hills a model urban public university, and I am sure she will bring the same enthusiasm for success to CSU Fullerton. Although she will no longer be working in my district, I am positive that Dr. Garcia and I will continue our work together to ensure that every student in California has access to a quality and affordable college education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Mildred Garcia for her appointment to become the next president of CSU Fullerton.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN BACHMAN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of WHO-TV news anchor John Bachman, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment in his years of service to the people of Iowa.

John traveled a long and winding road before becoming a nightly guest in thousands of homes across Iowa. He was born in Texas, raised in New York, attended college in Minnesota, and worked in Chicago and Cedar Rapids before appearing on Des Moines WHO-TV's airwaves in 1987. John aspired to be an anchor in a place where he could raise his family and be a part of welcoming community, and it seems John and I agree that there is no better place than the state of Iowa.

For the last 25 years, Iowans have heard some of the biggest news stories through Mr. Bachman. From the Persian Gulf War, to the attacks of September 11, 2001, to the recent 2012 Iowa Caucuses, John has narrated and helped us come to grips with events in our rapidly changing world.

Throughout his memorable career, John has never wavered in his commitment to the truth and journalistic integrity, and in doing so, has rightfully earned his viewers' trust. While John's evening broadcasts are sure to be missed across the state, his commitment to Iowa and its people continues as strong as ever. I wish John and his wife Barb a long, happy and healthy retirement. Thank you.

RECOGNIZING WOODLAND CEMETERY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the historic Woodland Cemetery located in our nation's capital, one of the only remaining 19th century African American burial sites.

Woodland Cemetery was established as the successor to Graceland Cemetery, which decided to relocate due to the imminent expansion of the District of Columbia. Woodland cemetery initially interred the more than 6,000 African Americans who were buried at Graceland, but as time went on, the location became more desirable for prominent figures in the D.C. African American community. The cemetery is the final resting place for such notable individuals as, Blanche K. Bruce, the first African American U.S. Senator; Mercer Langston, the first African American President of Virginia State University and the first dean of Howard University Law School and also the first African American Member of Congress from the state of Virginia; and John Willis Menard, the first African American elected to Congress. There are also many other distinguished people, who made our country what it is today, buried on this hallowed site.

Woodland Cemetery remained a highly desired location for African Americans to be interred until the 1970s. In the early 1990s Woodland earned the distinct honor of being placed on both the District of Columbia's Inventory of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places. Today, the daily operations of the cemetery are entrusted to the Woodlawn Cemetery Perpetual Care Association, which is comprised of mostly volunteers who have loved ones buried there. The main focus of the association is to preserve the cemetery and to raise funds to renovate and restore prominence to this sacred site.

I ask the House to join me as we recognize the historic value of this hallowed place not only in the month of February but year round.

NATIONAL SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, January marked National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

As a former judge and prosecutor in Texas and as co-chair of the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus this issue is significant to me.

Many believe that slavery is an issue of the past, but sadly it is not.

Throughout the world humans are forced into human trafficking, modern-day slavery, whether this is sex trafficking, labor trafficking, domestic servitude or some other form of slavery.

This is not just a problem other countries face, but one that is alive in the United States. Houston, Texas, my hometown, is a hub for this awful crime.

Fortunately, Houston and the state of Texas have taken the bull by the horns and are working hard to prosecute traffickers and protect victims.

On the federal level, I am working with Members on both sides of the aisle to ensure traffickers are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and victims are treated as victims and given the support they need.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING SGT. DANIEL E. SEWELL

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 3, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sgt. Daniel E. Sewell, who recently was awarded the Outstanding Public Service Award from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in appreciation for his great efforts in support of this nation's veterans. The Outstanding Public Service Award is the second highest honor given by the Chairman to a public servant who "has rendered service or assistance to considerable personal sacrifice, motivated by patriotism, good citizenship and a sense of public responsibility."

Sgt. Sewell enlisted in the United States Air Force on January 23, 2003, and was assigned to Spangdahlem Airbase, Germany, as a Munitions Systems Inspector. During his service, he was deployed to Afghanistan with the 52nd Fighter Wing in support of the unit's A-10, which assisted in the first elections held in Afghanistan. He completed his military service in August of 2007 with the 509th Bomb Wing at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. Currently, Mr. Sewell is a Staff Sergeant with the Missouri Air National Guard with the 131st Bomb Wing in Whiteman Air Force Base.

Sgt. Sewell received a bachelor's degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Missouri. He's currently working toward the completion of his master's degree in

Business Administration from the University of Missouri. Mr. Sewell was the president of the student veteran's group at the University of Missouri, and he led the organization in efforts to establish the first on-campus Veteran's Center in the country. The Veteran's Center provides a "one-stop" resource center for our veterans on campus, which assists the veteran with all student veteran needs. He con-

tinues to find ways to assist veterans by teaching a class called "Learning and Transition Strategies for Veterans." The goal is for veterans to have a successful transition from military life back to academic life.

Sgt. Sewell continues to find ways to help veterans by being an advocate. He was the advocate for the review of military transfer credits. This led to hundreds of veterans re-

ceiving academic credit for their applicable military education and training. He manages and coordinates with the Student Veteran Volunteer network, which helps veterans working toward their higher education on a national level.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Sgt. Daniel E. Sewell for this well-deserved recognition.