

IN RECOGNITION OF KELLY
KOLANDER

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Kelly Kolander, who has served Northern Calif. through the O.C. Jones & Sons, Inc. TLC for Kids Sports Program. As his colleagues, friends and family gather together to celebrate these accomplishments, we ask all of our colleagues to join us in saluting this outstanding and giving Company and this businessman.

Kelly Kolander's journey began soon after graduating from The California State University in Fresno where he earned a BS in Heavy Civil Construction. It was there that he began his career in Heavy Construction, working part time and summers for a local firm while going to school. Upon graduation, he continued his career for a few short years in the Central Valley before coming to O.C. Jones as an Estimator in 1987. In O.C. Jones, he found a firm with an outstanding reputation with tremendous experience and top quality people. Today he sits as the President and CEO of O.C. Jones & Sons Inc where he's served since 2006.

While heading O.C. Jones in 2009 the Company searched for a way that they could further their community outreach and support during the difficult recession. The Company's background in Heavy Civil Construction as well as Stadiums and Sports Facilities led Kolander to create the TLC for Kids Sports Program. The TLC for Kids Sports Program allows youth sports leagues to compete for renovations on their subpar facilities that would otherwise go to ruin. It is designed to improve the Community and Youth Sports . . . One field at a Time.

TLC for Kids Sports' Contributions to the community prove to be a great asset in Northern California in the fight to keep sports programs alive and well. Mr. Kolander's work is pivotal in the fight against childhood obesity and diabetes. The newly renovated little fields they have refurbished thus far will surely motivate and keep children interested in America's great pastime.

Kelly Kolander and the TLC for Kids Sports Program have already renovated three baseball and softball facilities in Northern California since 2009. The Tahoe Tallac, Eastridge and Antioch Little Leagues have all benefited from the efforts and charity of the TLC for Kids Program. The Eastridge Little League now has a girls division thanks to the new fields and can now proudly say young boys and girls are part of their organization. Most recently the program renovated the fields for the Antioch Little League in my own 10th district in California. Additionally, TLC for Kids Sports is continuing its efforts in the Community by constructing an Outdoor Classroom Memorial at Las Lomas High School in Walnut Creek to commemorate students Matt Miller and Gavin Powell, who died in February 2011 in a rafting accident. There are also plans to renovate another series of fields and playground area in West Sacramento. Mr. Kolander's contribution to my district is greatly appreciated and does not go without recognition. O.C. Jones and its 'TLC for Kids Sports program' work in the 10th Dis-

trict and throughout the Bay Area can only help create a better tomorrow through a more healthy and motivated youth.

The long lasting benefits of Kelly Kolander's TLC for Kids Sports Program not only benefit children now but will create healthy and more motivated adults in the future; they stand as a testament to what diligent work and true commitment to community can produce.

Mr. Speaker, We are truly honored to pay tribute to our friend and dedicated program founder and president Kelly Kolander. We ask our colleagues to join with us in thanking Mr. Kolander and O.C. Jones and Sons, Inc., for their dedicated service to the citizens of Northern California and wishing continued success in all his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING THE 1,000TH
GRADUATION CEREMONY OF THE
U.S. BORDER PATROL ACADEMY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize the 1,000th graduation ceremony of the U.S. Border Patrol Academy in Artesia, New Mexico, where members of this graduating class will be assigned to one of three Border Patrol sectors: Tucson, Arizona, Del Rio or in my Congressional district in Laredo, Texas.

As an active member of the Committee on Homeland Security in the U.S. House of Representatives, I understand the vital role that Border Patrol plays in securing our country, while facilitating trade and travel responsibilities and enforcing drug laws to protect our nation. Border patrol is a critical component for my Congressional district that sits along the nation's southwest border, as well. Their national presence along the border is necessary to ensure Americans' safety, protect our homeland and serve our nation and is greatly appreciated. The men and women of the Border Patrol make up the largest law enforcement organization; therefore this 1,000th graduating class is a milestone for the agency and enables the organization to foster increased security, trade and travel at the border.

Every day, the Border Patrol processes over 932,000 passengers and pedestrians and over 64,000 truck, rail and sea containers, based on fiscal year 2011 data. Nearly 14,000 pounds of drugs are seized on a typical day showing the product of their vigilance to law enforcement and protection. The intricate composition of the organization includes a range of professionals such as, trade specialists, intelligence analysts, agricultural scientists and more to run an efficient system. With 21,063 CBP officers, 21,137 border patrol agents and 1,220 air and marine agents, their service is unified to their sole mission—"securing America's borders while facilitating legitimate travel and trade" as their slogan states.

The graduation ceremony was held on April 12th and included the Secretary of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano, Acting Commissioner of Customs and Border Protection, David V. Aguilar, and Chief of the United States Border Patrol, Michael J. Fisher.

I look forward to members of this graduating class being assigned to the three sectors, in-

cluding Laredo, Texas in my Congressional district. Congratulations and thank you for your vital work to secure the homeland.

SPORTSMEN'S HERITAGE ACT OF
2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4089) to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing and shooting:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4089, the Sportsmen's Heritage Act. This bill is the latest attempt by House Republicans to use America's natural treasures for the benefit of a handful of private corporations who are eager to mine, drill and log.

Protecting and increasing hunters' access to public lands has been a bipartisan issue for decades, and is something I support. As a result, America's hunters have incredible access to our Federal lands. Today, 75 percent of all Federal lands are open to hunting and fishing. This includes approximately 67 percent of National Wildlife Refuge land and 70 percent of all the land managed by the National Park Service. The Bureau of Land Management allows hunting on 95 percent of the acres it manages. In Minnesota, we are fortunate to have large areas of public land open to hunting, including the Superior National Forest.

In the United States, hunting access on public lands is not a crisis requiring legislation; it is a success story that deserves to be celebrated. H.R. 4089 abandons and reverses this legacy. This bill changes Federal laws to prioritize development over conservation and put corporate interests ahead of hunters.

H.R. 4089 reduces the decision-making power of Park Rangers and other local land managers by centralizing authority in Washington, thousands of miles away. These highly trained professionals must be allowed to do their jobs, keeping land open to the public while protecting areas from disasters such as forest fires.

H.R. 4089 would encourage the destruction of millions of acres of wildlife habitat. Every hunter knows that less habitat leads to less wildlife, which means less hunting. It is obvious that the beneficiaries of H.R. 4089 would not be America's sportsmen and women but instead, the owners of large oil, gas and mining corporations.

This legislation repeals important provisions in the Wilderness Act that would open millions of acres of public land to development. H.R. 4089 allows the construction of new permanent road networks and authorizes permits for logging, mining and drilling in designated Wilderness areas.

As a strong supporter of conservation on America's public lands and our country's proud hunting heritage, I urge my colleagues to stand up for hunters and oppose H.R. 4089.

TRIBUTE TO RAY AND JUDY OBER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to two good friends of mine, Ray and Judy Ober. Ray and Judy passed away just 21 days apart from each other, a testament to their love for one another. Ray and Judy were a pillar of the community in Riverside, California and they will be deeply missed.

Judy was born in New York, and grew up in the San Fernando Valley, while Ray was born in Hollywood and raised in Van Nuys, California. They lived a blessed life in Riverside for 53 years and raised all four of their children there. Ray and Judy owned Ober Graphics, Inc. for many years, where Ray was the "premier graphic artist of Riverside," while Judy went back to school and eventually earned her bachelor's degree from Cal Poly Pomona at the age of 49. After graduating, she passed the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam and went to work at Macher and Clark, where she worked for over 20 years. Their chosen careers, Ray a talented artist and Judy a CPA, may have appeared to be in stark contrast, but were the perfect recipe for a loving, lasting marriage.

Ray and Judy were long time members of Canyon Crest Country Club during the 1970s and 1980s where they played tennis and socialized with many great friends. Ray and Judy enjoyed spending time at their beach house in Newport and trips to Las Vegas. They took their children on many family vacations, celebrating their love of life. Judy held officer positions in various clubs including treasurer of the Riverside County Republican Party and president of the Riverside Soroptimists. Ray's passions were genealogy and "playing the ponies." In their more recent years Judy enjoyed playing golf with her golf girlfriends, going on vacations with her high school girlfriends, spending time with her sisters and friends and playing games with her grandchildren. Ray more recently enjoyed photography, visits from his family and friends and trips to Pechanga. Judy and Ray were both amazing, multi-faceted, rare human beings who will be incredibly missed by all who knew them.

I am particularly thankful for the friendship I shared with both Ray and Judy. They were great supporters and, most importantly, dear friends. I will miss their generous spirit, kind nature and enduring friendship.

On April 15, 2012, there was a combined service celebrating the lives of Ray and Judy. They will always be remembered for their generosity, contributions to the community and love of family. Their dedication to their family and community are a testament to lives lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Ray and Judy's family and friends; although they may be gone, the light and goodness they brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

A TRIBUTE TO KATIE STRICKLAND

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Katie Strickland of Ames for being awarded the Girl Scout Gold Award.

The Gold Award is the highest award that a high school-aged Girl Scout can earn. This is an extremely prestigious honor as less than six percent of all Girl Scouts will attain the Gold Award's rigorous requirements.

To earn a Gold Award, a Girl Scout must complete a minimum of 80 hours towards a community project that is both memorable and lasting. For her project, Katie worked with children in her community to teach them the value of donating their time and the positive effects that selfless volunteering has on others. The work ethic Katie has shown to earn her Gold Award speaks volumes of her commitment to serving a cause greater than herself and assisting her community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young woman and her supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Katie and her family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating her in obtaining the Gold Award, and will wish her continued success in her future education and career.

CONGRATULATING RICK AND KELA ELLIS OF RHINELANDER, WISCONSIN, ON BEING NAMED A 2012 NATIONAL "MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY" AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to acknowledge the great work of the volunteers of Rhineland, Wisconsin, especially those who worked to benefit the Ronald McDonald House of Marshfield, Wisconsin. They have been selected as a one of the 2012 "Make A Difference Day" winners and I could not be more proud.

Make a Difference Day celebrates the power of neighbors helping neighbors. Created by USA Weekend, this annual day of service mobilizes more than three million volunteers to create change in their community.

This group of outstanding volunteers from Rhineland has made a substantial impact on their community by collecting aluminum cans for the local Ronald McDonald House. Rick and Kela Ellis were heartbroken when they lost their 2-year-old daughter, Ashley, to brain cancer in 1989. But within a year they had found a way to honor her memory—by recycling aluminum cans to benefit the Ronald McDonald House of Marshfield, Wisconsin, their "home" while Ashley was hospitalized. Since giving their "Cans for Cancer" collection a huge boost by tying it to Make A Difference Day in 1998, the Ellises have recycled 6,000

pounds of aluminum, raising more than \$2,500.

Rick and Kela will be honored at the Make A Difference Day event presented by Points of Light here in Washington, DC, on April 19, 2012. I congratulate them for this great service in the midst of such loss.

IN RECOGNITION OF VINCENT STURTEVANT

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Officer Vincent Sturtevant for his 30 years of service at the Daly City Police Department.

Mr. Sturtevant was appointed a police officer in 1981 and graduated from San Jose Criminal Justice Training Center Academy the following year.

Officer Sturtevant started his career as a patrol officer serving as a field training officer. In 1994, he was assigned as a detective. He has also served many times as an acting patrol sergeant.

Officer Sturtevant's enthusiasm and commitment to his job are exemplary and didn't go unnoticed by his fellow officers who voted him most valuable police officer for his shift in 1990 and 1992. He also received numerous letters of appreciation from citizens and departmental commendations. In 1993, he received a commendation for his assistance in apprehending a barricaded suspect who had fired a shotgun. In 1994, he was commended for his participation in the capture of three armed robbery suspects.

Vincent is a Daly City boy through and through, having graduated from Westmoor High School and earned his Bachelor degree in history from San Francisco State University.

He lives in Daly City with his wife of 20 years, Marianne.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor the heroic service of Officer Vincent Sturtevant to the residents of Daly City. For over three decades, he has made our community a safer and better place.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF CALEB LIPSCOMB ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Mr. LATTI. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Caleb Lipscomb of Perrysburg, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland.

Caleb's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming midshipmen Class of 2016. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-