

HONORING THE CARROLL HIGH  
SCHOOL NATIONAL MERIT  
SCHOLAR FINALISTS

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 25, 2012*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with exceptional pride that I recognize Brian Bourcy, Colin Kantor, Patrick Liu, Conner O. Mitchell, Lauren Rutherford, Christian Shannon and Hannah Walcek, each of whom is a National Merit Scholar Finalist from Carroll Senior High School.

Every year, approximately 1.5 million high school students take the Preliminary SAT, which doubles as the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. The test is a preview to the SAT and covers reading, writing, and math. Students who do exceptionally well become competitive in the National Merit Scholarship Program. To be a National Merit Scholar semifinalist is a well-recognized achievement that tends to open many doors in a student's academic life. To become a finalist requires another level of application and assessment, and only 15,000 students nationwide (1% of the total entrants) reach this prestigious level.

I am so pleased to convey that seven students from Carroll Senior High have earned their way to become National Merit Scholar Finalists. Their accomplishment is truly a rare one and is a testament to their brilliance and hard work.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Brian Bourcy, Colin Kantor, Patrick Liu, Conner O. Mitchell, Lauren Rutherford, Christian Shannon and Hannah Walcek on their becoming National Merit Scholar Finalists.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF  
SANFORD WEBSTER

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 25, 2012*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary man, a revered Palo Alto, a loving husband, a devoted father, a proud soldier, an investor, risk taker, athlete, a lover of fun, a storyteller and generous philanthropist. Sanford (Sam) H. Webster embodies the best of what our community, the heart and home of Silicon Valley, is all about.

The life of Sam Webster is the saga of nearly a century of accomplishment. From West Point, to parenthood, to pistachios; from Wimbledon to World War II; from the Joint Chief's office to the golf course; from real estate investing, to tangerine growing, to basketball; to Miss Gamble's lovely benefactress and to countless recipients of his and Kim's extraordinary generosity. He has done it all with a smile, with a zest for life and a twinkle in his famous blue eyes. He is a grand gentleman and one I'm proud to honor today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging Sam Webster's extraordinary military service to our nation. He served our country with distinction in the Army for 22

years after completing his education at the United States Military Academy, retiring with the rank of Colonel.

I recently contacted the Secretary of the Army on his behalf, asking that he be awarded the Legion of Merit. He was honored with the Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant in 1958 because "he distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious service as Deputy Chief, Combat Surveillance Department, United States Army Electronic Proving Ground, Fort Huachuca, Arizona, during the period 18 June 1954, to 30 April 1957." His efforts resulted in an effective Battlefield Surveillance capability for the 1956 Field Army through the use of drones.

In light of the extensive and pervasive use of drones for surveillance since Colonel Webster's Army service, I respectfully requested Secretary McHugh's review of the record to determine whether Colonel Webster can now be awarded the Legion of Merit. Having worked to correct an armed forces medal injustice many times, I know that the process can be unreasonably long. By acknowledging in this body the importance of Colonel Webster's work, we acknowledge in a most public and permanent way that his contributions to our nation's expertise at reconnaissance have saved thousands of lives, added to our ability to root out those who would do us harm, and added to our military arsenal. His brilliant work must never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Colonel Sam Webster. While we cannot dispense medals, pin ribbons on lapels, nor convey military rank, we can recognize excellence, applaud honorable work, salute valor and stand in praise of a true American hero, Colonel Sam Webster. He has earned our respect and gratitude for all he has done to strengthen our country.

HONORING THE GOLDEN GATE  
BRIDGE

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 25, 2012*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge, a modern architectural marvel and a landmark that defines California and the West Coast. Since its opening on May 27, 1937, the Golden Gate Bridge has stood as a symbol of human potential—a triumph of ingenuity, creativity, and progressive vision that complements the beauty of our natural surroundings and enriches life in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Since the Gold Rush first brought American settlers to the San Francisco Bay Area, residents have been interested in the idea of linking the Bay Area with a bridge spanning the Golden Gate. A single span would bring together the northern and southern halves of the greatest natural port on the West Coast, easing transportation and spurring economic growth across Northern California. For years, though, the task was considered too costly and too complicated to realize.

By the 1920s, engineers had become more confident that technological advances made a fixed link feasible, and San Francisco City Engineer Michael O'Shaughnessy launched an

effort to make the proposal a reality. In 1921, Joseph Strauss—later the Chief Engineer of the Golden Gate Bridge—submitted his first designs. After they were made public, communities on both sides of the Golden Gate began lining up behind the plan. Under the leadership of Santa Rosa businessman Frank Doyle, a public coalition formed in Sonoma County with representatives from across the North Coast, all pushing for the Strauss design. In 1923, the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District Act, authored by Senator Frank Coombs of Napa, passed in the California Legislature. In 1924, Marin and San Francisco Counties submitted a joint application to the War Department for permission to build on the federally owned headlands at each end of the strait. Permission was granted by the end of that year.

In 1929, the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District met for the first time, with members from San Francisco, Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Mendocino, and Del Norte Counties. Strauss was named Chief Engineer, and the Oakland-based architect Irving Morrow was appointed to consult on the final plans. Morrow would become famous for crafting a design in harmony with the rugged coast, balancing graceful Art Deco features with strong lighting and powerful lines. Morrow was also responsible for convincing authorities to accept the radical choice of painting the entire Bridge in the now-famous international orange.

While the Great Depression deepened, work forged ahead. In 1930, casting aside fears that infrastructure was an unwise long-term investment, District voters overwhelmingly approved a bond measure using their own homes, ranches, and vineyards as collateral. By 1934, the first tower—the Marin tower—was complete. By 1936, both towers and the cable spinning were complete, and over 1,000 workers were employed in the construction. In April 1937, ahead of schedule and under budget, the Bridge was ready for pedestrian and vehicle traffic. The first to cross on foot was a young runner from Tamalpais High School in Mill Valley. The first to cross by car was none other than Santa Rosa's Frank Doyle, the business leader widely credited with uniting Northern Coast residents behind the endeavor.

In the 75 years since its opening, the Golden Gate Bridge has borne witness to millions of lives, and to many changes in the Bay Area. The Bridge is a crucial route to work and school, a magnet for global tourism, and a center for recreation that links two jewels in the federal park system. It is a demonstration of American labor and engineering. It is a theater for advocacy and protest. For many soldiers sailing into the Second World War, it was their last memory of home. For new Americans emigrating from Asia and the Pacific, it is their first welcome to a new future. The Golden Gate Bridge is more than a modern wonder of architecture and engineering—it is at the heart of what it means to live in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge, and in thanking all those who have fought for, built, and stewarded the Bridge over the years. We also owe a special debt to the eleven workers who were killed and the many others who were injured in the course of the construction. The Bridge is a testament to their dedication and expertise,

and it is a proud monument to the greatness that we can accomplish when we harness our collective energy and resources to better our future.

#### HONORING LES AND CHERI CASEY

### HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 25, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Les and Cheri Casey, owners of Mid Valley Foods, Incorporated, for being selected as the 2012 Central California Small Business Person of the Year from the United States Small Business Administration's Fresno District Office.

Annually, SBA honors Central California entrepreneurs for their contributions to the economy. Small businesses have proven, year after year, to be the greatest sources of innovation, jobs and growth for California's economy.

The Small Business Person of the Year Award recognizes a business owner who exemplifies the entrepreneurial spirit and honors his or her individual contributions to the community. Mid Valley Foods was selected after a competition held among businesses located within the 15 Central California counties served by the Fresno SBA. The Alliance Small Business Development Center of Modesto nominated Mid Valley Foods for the award.

Mid Valley Foods (formerly E&E Meats) was started in 1979 by Earl Casey. The company wholesales various processed and packaged meat products to grocery stores, restaurants and delis. In 2000, Les and Cheri Casey purchased the business from Les's father. They incorporated, modernized, and began to expand sales and distribution at a Riverbank facility. By 2005, it became apparent to the Caseys that the business had grown to the limits of the old and antiquated facility.

The Caseys knew that not only would they need additional operational space in order for the company to be successful, but they would also need to develop new innovative techniques to improve their overall operational efficiency.

In 2010, with the assistance of an SBA 7a guaranteed loan and the City of Oakdale, the company was able to construct a 24,000 square foot building. The new building includes warehouse space, cold storage and offices. The new location for the wholesale foods distributor will allow for triple the distribution and has already grown to expand their company from 10 employees to a current work force of 27.

Today, Mid Valley Foods serves over 300 customers from multi-million dollar accounts to local small businesses; and with less than a year in their new facility, the Caseys have already discussed the growing need for an expansion of refrigeration and freezer storage space.

Small Business Person of the Year nominations are judged on seven basic criteria: staying power, growth in number of employees, increase in sales and/or unit volume, current and past financial reports, innovativeness of product or service, response to adversity and evidence of contributions to community-oriented projects.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Les and Cheri Casey, owners of Mid Valley Foods, Inc. for this prestigious recognition and in wishing them great success in their future endeavors.

#### HONORING DEPUTY CHIEF RON NEWTON

### HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 25, 2012*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deputy Chief Ron Newton for his 50 years of tremendous service to the people of Manchester, Maine.

Every day, the men and women of our community fire departments place themselves in harm's way to protect the lives and property of their neighbors. At the age of 17, Ron Newton made the decision to take his place in this proud tradition. After five decades of service, his dedication to the community and his desire to help people has never faltered.

Deputy Chief Newton has been a fixture at the Manchester Volunteer Fire Department for the majority of its existence. He has contributed countless hours responding to fire calls, engaging in fire trainings, and holding safety meetings. As a longstanding Deputy Chief, the department has looked to him time and again for his experience and leadership. There is no question that Ron is a pillar in the Manchester community and a role model for others to follow.

On June 14, 2012, the town of Manchester will honor Deputy Chief Newton during a town meeting for his years of service. I am pleased to lend my own congratulations and best wishes on this occasion.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in honoring Deputy Chief Newton on the amazing milestone.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ANITA HELLAM

### HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 25, 2012*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize Anita Hellam on her 10th anniversary with the Stanislaus County Habitat for Humanity and her dedication to the residents of Stanislaus County.

Ms. Hellam began her housing career as an advocate for safe and affordable housing for Latino field and cannery works in Stanislaus County. Due to her efforts, twenty-seven units of affordable housing were developed and she worked to develop the Workforce Development Program to transition low skilled workers into higher paying jobs in the construction trade. Ms. Hellam worked with ten public and private institutions/agencies to take the program from concept to a sustainable program which has become a part of Modesto Junior College's technical education program. Due to the work done by Ms. Hellam, hundreds of English language learners have been able to increase their skill sets, while finding higher paying jobs in a dynamic industry.

Ms. Hellum was a founding board member and organizer of the Stanislaus County Continuum of Care. She worked closely, as a volunteer grant writer, with the Housing Authority writing the application that wrapped around all of the individual submissions to HUD. Ms. Hellam worked on the original two HUD applications which resulted in nearly \$2 million to Stanislaus County for housing and services to hundreds of citizens at risk of homelessness.

Ms. Hellum served as a Program Manager with the Stanislaus County Affordable Housing agency providing transition housing for mentally ill individuals. In less than two years, she was able to secure approximately \$1.5 million to acquire and rehabilitate a fifty unit apartment complex and a twenty unit scattered site development, which is supported with services by Behavioral Health and Recovery Services. These units will remain affordable through 2040.

Before accepting the position with Habitat for Humanity, Ms. Hellum worked with Renewed Pathways which provides transitional housing to emancipated youth. She continues to volunteer with the organization and offers free grant writing and consulting services to ensure the continuation of the program for the youth in Stanislaus County.

Since taking on the role of Executive Director with Habitat for Humanity, Ms. Hellum has brought in almost \$15 million to create affordable homeownership opportunities for the poor and working class citizens of Stanislaus County. Specifically this created seventy zero interest new home loans and more than 50 new homes were built. Under her direction, the agency contracted with the local college on three separate occasions to revitalize some of the most economically distressed neighborhoods using funding from the HUD HSIAC program. Ms. Hellum worked closely with HUD to gain certification for Housing Counseling Services, becoming the first Habitat for Humanity in the seven Western states to gain this designation. They have assisted more than one thousand individuals with a range of pre and post purchase needs.

Under Ms. Hellum's leadership, the Stanislaus County Habitat for Humanity has inaugurated two retail stores called ReStore, which created approximately fifteen new jobs and provides accessibility to low priced merchandise to the community for home maintenance and repair. The program has given donors a green means of ridding themselves of unwanted or unneeded materials that would have otherwise ended up in the landfill. Ms. Hellum also created the Windows of Hope program, which is designed to help low-income homeowners through Stanislaus County replace broken and non-energy efficient windows with efficient windows. More than two thousand windows are distributed annually. Ms. Hellum has increased the agency's profile in the community and the sustainability by increasing the bottom line of the organization by approximately \$7 million despite the sharp increase in services to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me, and the Stanislaus County Habitat for Humanity, in honoring a truly wonderful member of our community, Anita Hellum.