

tenure, he has continuously held an open-door policy, and has committed himself to high ethical standards. Respected by all who know him, he has been the recipient of many awards and accolades recognizing his hard work and dedication to his job. After Hurricane Fran, the violent storm that devastated much of Eastern North Carolina in 1996, every government office in town was closed except one: the clerk's office.

Mr. Speaker, Will Crocker has selflessly dedicated many years of his life to serving the citizens of Johnston County. His enduring commitment to his community makes him an exemplary public servant, and his accomplishments will continue to benefit Eastern North Carolina for many years to come. As his time as Clerk of Court comes to a close, let us honor Mr. Crocker and pray that both he and his family may receive God's richest blessings.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CLIFF HAGEDORN, AN AMERICAN PATRIOT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many contributions of Cliff Hagedorn, a long time resident of Des Plaines, Illinois, and a pillar of our local veteran community. Mr. Hagedorn is a great example of a true American patriot.

Cliff Hagedorn grew up in Des Plaines—graduating from what is today Maine East High School and marrying his high school sweetheart, Valerie. Like so many other Americans during World War II, Mr. Hagedorn enlisted in the U.S. Army and prepared to risk his life on behalf of our nation.

On Easter Sunday 1944, Cliff Hagedorn landed with the allied forces in North Africa, and participated in actions that eventually stopped and then reversed German advances in the region. After succeeding in North Africa, he and his fellow soldiers spent the remainder of the war in Italy, pushing German forces back at every opportunity.

After the war, Cliff Hagedorn's contributions to his community continued—he raised a family in Des Plaines and helped to create the Des Plaines Senior Center. The Senior Center continues to offer vital services to this day and Mr. Hagedorn now holds emeritus status with the organization.

Cliff Hagedorn has also been an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2992 for several decades. In fact, earlier this month he celebrated 70 years of service with this institution—a truly remarkable achievement.

Today, at the age of 91, Cliff Hagedorn continues to work tirelessly in support of his country and his local community. Serving as Adjutant of his local VFW post, Mr. Hagedorn engages in outreach to the local community, visiting schools and teaching young people about the value of knowing their civics and their nation's history.

Cliff Hagedorn has devoted his life to public service, and we are all better off as a result. On behalf of a grateful nation, I want to extend our sincere thanks for all he has done for our country, and a heartfelt congratulations for

seventy years of service to his local post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES KAUFMAN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of James Kaufman, who passed away on October 31, 2013 at the age of 71. As one of the founders of American Ambulance, Jim was a true supporter and advocate for our Central Valley. His kind heart and generosity will be greatly missed.

Jim was born and raised in Fresno, California. After graduating from Roosevelt High School, he joined the United States Coast Guard Reserves. He also worked part time at Jones Ambulance and attended Fresno City College. While Jim was working at Jones Ambulance, he met his wife, Joyce, and a year later they married in Carmel, California. Jim and Joyce raised one son together, Stan.

One of Jim's greatest role models was his father, Martin. Martin was a teacher and coach, and Jim saw himself following in his father's footsteps. However, when Jim completed his 16 years of service in the Coast Guard, he decided to run his own ambulance business. In 1975, Jim and three other individuals founded American Ambulance. Jim and his partner, Larry Ward, remained as the owners of the company for almost four decades as American Ambulance grew into a successful business with approximately 600 employees.

Jim's entrepreneurial spirit led him to establish a new business, KY Farming, with his good friend, Tony Yasuda. They grew cherries and blueberries, and they also managed a packing house, KY Packing. Jim's businesses brought him great joy. He cherished his employees and always did what he could to help, whether it was through financial support, guidance, or simply heartfelt encouragement.

Aside from his work, Jim loved the Dallas Cowboys. He also enjoyed tennis, golf, and dove hunting. Spending time with family was most important to Jim. He will be greatly missed by Joyce, Stan, his daughter-in-law, Stephanie, and his grandchildren; Abel, Lilly, Evan, and Faith.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of James Kaufman. His presence will be missed, but his legacy will surely live on in the Central Valley.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE NUTLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Nutley Public Library, located in Essex County, New Jersey, as it celebrates its Centennial Anniversary.

The Nutley Public Library has a strong history, as its building and collection have continued to grow since its opening in August, 1914.

The origins of the Nutley Public Library begin in 1896, when a private library held the starting 3,000 book collection. The intention of the private library was to hold the books until the Township of Nutley could find a location for a library. However, it was not until 1914, when the town was provided an Andrew Carnegie grant that the new public library, designed by Armstrong and DeGelleke, was built, and the collection was moved to its current home.

In January 1942, the library expanded the original building to accommodate its ever-growing collection. Through the funding of a Federal Works Project Administration Grant and local funds, the library added three stories, designed by Behee and Kramer.

On August 25, 1980, the second floor ceiling collapsed. The fall of the 65 by 40 foot ceiling section knocked over many bookcases, and caused severe damage. Thankfully, the library was closed at the time of the collapse. The first floor was able to remain open through the duration of the repairs, with the librarians retrieving books from the upstairs rooms when requested.

In October 1990, an addition and renovation completed the library's current facility. Designed by James Goldstein and Associates, a 20,000 square feet addition was added on, with its appearance preserving the essence of the original and historic Carnegie structure. The library used its own reserve funds, and turned to the community, to help pay for the renovation. The library received its financial help through the Friends of the Nutley Public Library, Township bonds, and a New Jersey State Library Construction Grant.

The Nutley Public Library became the 70th member of the Bergen County Cooperative Library System in 1996. This system allows the library to be fully computerized and view the holdings of all the BCCLS libraries, and is accessible 24 hours a day.

Today, the Library maintains a collection of approximately 90,000 books. The collection includes reference books, adult books, young adult books, and approximately 25,000 children's books. The Library is able to provide large print books, magazines, videos, music, downloadable eBooks, and audio books. It is currently governed by a Board of Trustees and two ex-officio members. The Board members are chosen by the Mayor and serve five year terms. The two ex-officio members include the Mayor and the Superintendent of Schools, or their delegates. The library is currently funded by the New Jersey Per Capita State Aid, donations, and the Township. Eighty percent of interest from these funds is used for the purchase of books and other material. The library is proud to celebrate its history and look forward to its continuous growth in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Nutley Public Library and thanking the Friends of the Nutley Public Library as it celebrates its Centennial Anniversary.

HONORING THE ARMITAGE FAMILY

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the Armitage family for the leadership values

they have demonstrated and passed onto their children. They have built a model for leading in the community that will be continued by their adult children to provide the same leadership as their parents.

Dr. James and Nancy Armitage are being honored for not only their leadership to the Omaha community, but also their contributions to research and training in the medical profession.

Dr. Armitage is internationally renowned for his expertise in bone marrow transplantation. He is also a leading expert in the management of lymphoma worldwide. He is currently the Joe Shapiro Professor of Medicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) in Omaha; is active on several committees and his expertise is sought worldwide. James has also served on several community boards and has received professional honors from national and international organizations that are too numerous to list.

Nancy began her career practicing psychiatric and intensive care nursing before the needs of her family led her to leave the field. Currently, Nancy is extremely involved in volunteer leadership positions with local boards, schools, hospitals, nonprofits, and her church. To name a few, Nancy has served on the Munroe-Meyer Institute Guild, Samaritan Counseling Center of the Midlands Board and the executive boards for the Faculty Women's Club and the University Hospital Auxiliary. Her many years of volunteer work at UNMC Hospital has led to her being named a co-chair of the Faculty Women's Club scholarship committee, raising funds for UNMC students. Nancy and James also serve as trustees of the Nature Conservancy of Nebraska.

James and Nancy have four adult children: Amy, Greg, Anne, and Joel. Amy, a substitute teacher at Mary Our Queen School and Parish, lives in Elkhorn with her husband Jeff. Greg works as a CPA with FBL Financial Group, Inc and lives in Des Moines with his wife Cheryl. Anne, an attorney and stay-at-home mother, lives in Omaha with her husband Stephen. She also serves as an officer on the Girls Inc. Girl Friend board. Joel practices internal medicine and lives with his wife Anja in Omaha. Nancy and James have been blessed with ten grandchildren.

It's an honor to recognize their commitment to make the metro area a better place.

CELEBRATING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the passage of the 1968 National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, signed into law 45 years ago by President Lyndon Johnson. This landmark legislation has resulted in the protection of more than 100 rivers, including Minnesota's Saint Croix River. Across the country, these beautiful riverways cross many political boundaries and state borders, uniting Americans in appreciation of our natural heritage.

As a Senator, Minnesota's own Walter Mondale joined Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson to sponsor the Act, and include the Saint Croix

River as one of the eight original rivers designated as a Wild and Scenic Riverway. Creation of the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway recognized the largest scenic riverway east of the Mississippi River and helped protect its nationally renowned fishery.

Once the epicenter of the American logging industry and a busy corridor of commerce, the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway is now a testament to the rugged beauty that was home to Native Americans for millennia, and that greeted early European visitors who followed them. Under the wise stewardship of the National Park Service in partnership with more than 1,000 private land owners, 252 miles of the Saint Croix River watershed from the Namekagon in Wisconsin, its largest tributary, to the Mississippi confluence are protected from logging, invasive development and industry. Tens of thousands of visitors have benefited from the river's national protection and enjoy its natural beauty; future generations will be able to appreciate its natural splendor.

Today, 45 years after passage of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the legacy forged by Senators Mondale and Nelson has grown from the original eight rivers to 150 Wild and Scenic Rivers. This designation protects these rivers and the outstanding natural, cultural, and recreational values in a free-flowing condition for the enjoyment of present and future generations. The Act has safeguarded the special character of our most precious rivers and helped lead to further protection of our valuable natural resources, including passage of the Clean Water Act of 1973.

Despite the passage of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, these national treasures are under constant threat from modern development and misuse. In Congress, it is my priority to protect and strengthen our Wild and Scenic Rivers, including the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway, for our children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of the 45th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, it is my pleasure to commend all who have made the Act a success, including Vice President Mondale, the late Senator Gaylord Nelson, National Park Service staff, private land owners, and countless volunteers who are dedicated to keeping these beautiful riverways wild and scenic.

HONORING THE PUERTO RICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF SOUTH FLORIDA

HON. JOE GARCIA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce.

Over the past twenty years, the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce of South Florida has been an important partner for promoting business, driving job creation, and supporting economic development in South Florida. Through partnerships with the Miami-Dade County Office of Public Housing and Community Development, the members of the Chamber help create much needed jobs and advance community development.

This organization strives to support entrepreneurship and innovation for Puerto Ricans

and Hispanics in both South Florida and Puerto Rico. As our economy in South Florida continues to recover from the recession, the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce serves as a leader in strengthening the economic foundation of our communities.

I hope you will join me in commending the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce of South Florida on twenty years of outstanding advocacy and service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 602, I was not present for the vote due to a family emergency.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FACETS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th Anniversary of FACETS, a Northern Virginia nonprofit that helps individuals and families overcome the challenges of poverty.

Since 1988, through its collaboration with more than 100 faith communities, local businesses, fellow nonprofits, and government agencies, FACETS has improved the lives of thousands of families and individuals by helping them obtain emergency shelter, food, and medical care; helping them gain safe, sustainable and permanent housing; and working with them to end the cycle of poverty through educational, life skills and career counseling programs. This wrap-around approach not only addresses the immediate needs of those in crisis, it also provides the support and services necessary to develop long-range solutions that allow each person to become self-sufficient and live with dignity.

During my tenure on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, I was pleased to partner with FACETS in launching the Hypothermia Prevention and Response Program, which will be starting up again soon. Under this program, churches have opened their doors to provide our most vulnerable neighbors with a warm and safe place to stay during winter nights. Last year FACETS served 244 guests in this program, and since it began no unsheltered individuals have died due to hypothermia. In 2008, when I was Chairman of the County Board, I worked with FACETS founder Linda Wimpey and other community partners to initiate the 10-Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. Thanks to the success of that program we have made significant strides reducing the rate of homelessness by one-fourth.

FACETS also helps people develop the skills necessary to create better lives for themselves and their families by operating Education and Community Development programs