

TRIBUTE ON THE RETIREMENT OF  
MR. JAMES D. RUTH, GENERAL  
MANAGER, ORANGE COUNTY  
SANITATION DISTRICT

**HON. GARY G. MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2013*

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the retirement of Mr. James D. Ruth, the General Manager of the Orange County Sanitation District. I worked with Jim during the past several years when the District was within my congressional district and learned to appreciate the tremendous public servant that Jim embodies. He was appointed interim General Manager of the Orange County Sanitation District in December 2005 and was originally supposed to stay about three to six months. Today, seven years later, Jim has worked with the OCSD Board of Directors to guide the District through some of the most challenging times that any public official could face. Jim's good humor, his expertise in public administration, his commitment to deliver the finest work resulted in successes that others could hope to attain. I must note that Jim also enabled his staff to take risks and make tough decisions that have strengthened the District and will allow it to make the transition with a new General Manager seamless. In his tenure, Jim oversaw a number of significant accomplishments and gaining national and international acclaim for the third largest wastewater treatment plant west of the Mississippi River.

While I no longer serve Orange County, I am proud to have worked hand-in-hand with OCSD and others on some very important issues. Under his watch, Jim Ruth oversaw the relocation of the Santa Ana River Interceptor Line—an important link between the Inland Empire and Orange County—and once completed, will finally remove an environmental threat that has been looming for many, many years.

Jim transformed OCSD and was leader in trimming costs and saving ratepayer dollars. Thanks to his leadership, OCSD was one of the first agencies to implement a lower cost second tier pension system across the board and save millions of dollars with efficiencies and elimination of duplicative services.

With 55 years of public service, Jim Ruth leaves a legacy of transforming public agencies and bringing out the best in the people around him. Many of us think, Jim really isn't retiring but moving on to something else as those of us who know him well, know he cannot sit still.

Congratulations Jim on a very successful career at OCSD and on serving the people of Orange County for many years. I wish you the best in retirement.

TRIBUTE TO RACHEL MCLEAN

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Rachel McLean for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree

by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Rachel McLean currently serves as the Vice President and a consultant for Ruan Companies in Des Moines. The daughter of John Ruan III and Janis Ruan, Rachel has found her talents and expertise uniquely suited for leading the family business. Previously the director of communications and ultimately Vice President of Communications at Ruan Transportation Management Systems, Rachel was tasked with managing the communication processes among Ruan's 4,500 employees. Mrs. McLean now hones those experiences as she oversees charitable giving for the Ruan Family Foundation, conducts quantitative research to maximize the company's performance, and manages the customer satisfaction initiative for Ruan Transportation. Outside of work, Rachel is heavily involved in the Des Moines community through her involvement in the Des Moines Founders Garden Club, Linden Heights Neighborhood Association, and Harkin Institute of Public Policy. Mrs. McLean also serves on the Board of Directors for the Des Moines Community Playhouse and Youth Homes of Mid-America. Rachel and her husband Ben are kept busy at home with their son, set to turn two later this year. In all facets of her life, Rachel is a shining example of hard work and service that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Rachel in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mrs. McLean for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Rachel on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF  
JOAN MARGARET (KATHAN)  
ZERZAN

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2013*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the passing of a great Oregonian whose contribution to my State and our nation bears recognition.

Joan Margaret (Kathan) Zerzan was born in Grants Pass, Oregon on June 26, 1927. A child of the Great Depression, she grew up in a house up Evans Creek Road in Rogue River, Oregon that was for a good part of her youth not wired with electricity. And yet, as she was fond of saying, if her family was poor she didn't know it at the time.

A descendent of pioneers and frontiersmen, throughout her life Joan Zerzan demonstrated the indomitable spirit of her forebears. During World War II she served as a civilian spotter of air traffic while working on her sister's ranch. A musical prodigy, she attended Willamette University at the age of 17 on musical scholarship, having been born with the unique ability to play almost any instrument seemingly just by looking at it.

It was while at Willamette that Joan met the great love of her life and husband of 60 years, Charles Zerzan. Almost exactly 5 years ago I memorialized Charles Zerzan's life on this floor, and recounted his many accomplishments. There is no question that these would not have been possible without his beloved wife Joan.

In Joan Zerzan's life she served in many roles—patron of the arts, poll worker on election day, volunteer at school and church. Yet for all her many endeavors, there was no field in which she excelled so much as in being a mother. Joan Zerzan gave birth to 12 children, 8 sons and 4 daughters, and provided each one with the love and succor that only a mother can provide. As the Psalmist wrote, so Joan Zerzan truly believed, "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth." In not only raising fine children, but in teaching them her core values of faith and hard work, she richly contributed to the ongoing success of our nation in the irreplaceable way upon which all of civilization ultimately rests. She provided an example of the matchless power of these two values throughout her life through her words and her actions—beliefs she instilled not only in her own children but in her 32 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Though we mourn the loss of Joan Zerzan, we also celebrate the life of a woman whose contributions to this country leave an enduring legacy and inspiration to others. Joan Zerzan believed nothing was impossible and taught her children and grandchildren that, when faced with uncertainty or given a choice between hope and despair, the only reasonable choice was hope. As recounted in the Gospel of Matthew, "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock." The woman who built her own life on solid ground, who grew up in a humble dwelling in southern Oregon, now retires to the mansion that has been promised her. On this solemn but ultimately joyful occasion I know this whole body will join with me in giving thanks for the life of Joan Zerzan.

CONGRATULATING RITA FOLEY  
HALPIN ON HER 92ND BIRTHDAY

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2013*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the 92nd birthday last week on March 5th of Rita Foley Halpin of Glenview, Illinois. Rita is one of the few surviving Americans who can say that her grandfather fought

in the Civil War. Captain Patrick Foley, an immigrant from County Kerry, Ireland, served in the 23rd Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry ("the Irish Brigade"), fought under General Philip Sheridan in the last major Civil War battle, the siege of Petersburg, and was present at Appomattox Court House for the final surrender.

Rita's father, Dr. Thomas P. Foley, was a past President of the Chicago Medical Society. Following in the footsteps of her mother, Elizabeth Hannon Foley, Rita graduated from Chicago Teachers College in 1943 and started her career as a kindergarten teacher in Chicago public schools.

Rita's husband, the late Thomas J. Halpin, to whom she was married for over sixty-two years, was a captain serving with the 88th Infantry during the liberation of Rome in World War II. Her grandson, Sean R. Halpin, continues the family tradition of military service as a first lieutenant in United States Forces/Korea.

Rita raised four children and then returned to teaching where she was an elementary school teacher at St. Paul of the Cross School in Park Ridge, Illinois for almost two decades. She is still fondly remembered by her many pupils.

For historical purposes, I submit this statement to be made part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in honor of Rita Foley Halpin and the contributions that she and her family have made to this country.

#### TRIBUTE TO BOY SCOUT TROOP ONE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2013*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Boy Scouts of Troop One in Ballston Spa, NY and their 100th anniversary celebration.

On December 27, 1912, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Ballston Spa signed a charter with the Boy Scouts of America to sponsor Boy Scout Troop One. Troop One formed just three years after the first national chapter of Boy Scouts of America, making it one of New York's oldest Boy Scout Troops.

For the last 100 years, Troop One's young men have demonstrated the Boy Scouts of America's principles of loyalty, leadership, resourcefulness and commitment to community service. Its members have engaged in countless volunteer projects and educational activities that have built a stronger community.

I commend the scout masters, parents and volunteers who have mentored so many of the Capital-Saratoga Region's young men, 58 of whom have risen to the highest level of scouting and become Eagle Scouts. That proud tradition continues today with the 45 scouts currently active in Troop One.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all current and former members of Boy Scout Troop One of Ballston Spa for this milestone, thanking them for all their contributions to the Capital-Saratoga Region and wishing them all the best in the many years of scouting ahead of them.

#### HONORING LARRY GOMEZ FOR HIS SERVICE TO OMAHA CHAMBER

**HON. LEE TERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2013*

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Gomez on his last week as Director of Small Business Services at the Omaha Chamber of Commerce. After 36 years serving small business owners in Omaha, Larry will hang up his Chamber shoes on March 15th and replace them with golf shoes.

A graduate of Bishop-Ryan High School in 1966 and of the University of Nebraska-Omaha in 1971, Larry spent his days as captain of the baseball team. When he wasn't busy with baseball, he earned a speech and communication/business degree from UNO. Upon graduating, he took a job with the City of Omaha in 1972 as the Chief Relocation Officer where he spearheaded the relocation of 52 businesses from the Central Park Mall.

Since he joined the Omaha Chamber in 1976 he hasn't looked back. As Director of the Omaha Regional Minority Purchasing Council, he matched minority businesses with corporate buyers. In 1978, Larry was named Director of Small Business Council and Area Councils. Major milestones during his tenure with the Chamber include: Buy the Big O! Show, Omaha 25 Fastest Growing (now the Big O! Excellence Awards), Business on the Green, and the Area Council Golden Spike Awards. In the last five years, Larry has been an integral part of the membership team and member retention.

Larry has been a tremendously valuable resource for my office. Whether it was setting up a group of business leaders to discuss cyber technology or the hurdles facing owners, Larry was always the first call.

I am going to miss seeing him at the many ribbon cuttings we've attended together through the years. What I do look forward to, however, is seeing if he puts his band—Larry Gomez and the Brotherhood—back together again.

So I rise today to thank him for his years of service and for his efforts to strengthen our city. May his drives be straight and his putts be few. I speak for all Omahans when I say we'll miss him and the energy he brought to the Chamber.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2013*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, March 4, 2013, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 56 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 307).

#### TRIBUTE TO EMILY HARRIS

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Emily Harris for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Emily Harris is a patent attorney and shareholder at Davis Brown Law Firm. In the firm's intellectual property department, Emily is tasked with obtaining patent, trademark, and copyright protection for clients and supporting the intellectual property litigators. Ms. Harris' role at Davis Brown also allows her passion for science to intersect with her avocation of supporting startup businesses. Emily co-founded the firm's Startup Launchpad website to assist young companies in accessing legal solutions and avoiding legal pitfalls. Outside of work, Emily enjoys reading and has published numerous articles on property law. Ms. Harris is also heavily involved in her community through her service as a member of the Greater Des Moines Partnership's Capital Crossroads Technology Transfer committee, as well as her previous work with the Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys and pro bono work for the former Iowa Biosciences Alliance. In all aspects of her busy life, Emily is an example of hard work and service that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Emily in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mrs. Harris for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Emily on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

#### IN HONOR OF SERGEANT LORAN LEE "BUTCH" BAKER, JR.

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 13, 2013*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a brave and honorable community hero, the late Sergeant Loran Lee "Butch" Baker, Jr. A Sergeant in the Santa Cruz Police Department, Butch was known not only for his investigative ability and skills in gathering intelligence, but also for his larger-than-life personality, his commitment to his family, his