

He was the only corpsman on the scene for the first ten minutes of the attack. Although he was able to help many Marines, there were many others that lost their lives that day.

Furthermore, when several Marines in his unit showed signs of suicidal thoughts, he worked to help them get through it and allowed them to bunk above him during their last days in Afghanistan to ensure their return home was as peaceful as possible. He remains committed to his Marines and makes himself available around-the-clock to discuss these issues.

Petty Officer Santos has received numerous awards and recognition for his exemplary service, including the Purple Heart, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Good Conduct Medal, and a Combat Action Ribbon.

He is married to Easton Santos; together they have a 10-year-old daughter, Keana, and are currently expecting another child.

I congratulate Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (FMF) Joseph Santos on being named U.S. Pacific Fleet's 2012 Sailor of the Year. I join the people of Guam in thanking him for his bravery and selfless service to our nation, and for making our island proud.

TRIBUTE TO LUCILLE SUTTON

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, the lives of many have been touched by the life of this one woman who has given of herself to her family and her community; and

Whereas, Mrs. Lucille Sutton's spirit is as sweet as pie, she was an exemplary mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great grandmother, neighbor and friend; and

Whereas, Lucille Sutton was a virtuous woman, a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of her community and family which in turn uplifted others; and

Whereas, she was an exemplary matriarch, serving as compass and wise counselor and bringing great joy to our district, her family and friends; and

Whereas, this remarkable woman gave of herself, never asking for fame or fortune as she became a quiet storm, a spark that starts a flame; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional Recognition on Mrs. Lucille Sutton for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens of DeKalb County and the nation; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Mrs. Lucille Sutton of DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition": Mrs. Lucille Sutton, U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Proclaimed, this 2nd day of January, 2013.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SSG STEPHEN RYAN

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Mr. SMITH OF WASHINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate SSG Stephen Ryan on being honored with the Howard O. Scott Citizen-Soldier of the Year Award from the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber's Military Affairs Committee. He is a valued NCO who also serves in the Washington Army National Guard with distinction of more than 12 years.

The Citizen-Soldier Award is given to an exemplary Soldier, Airman, Sailor, Marine, or Coast Guardsman who demonstrates Mr. Scott's belief that giving back to the community is one's responsibility.

SSG Ryan has excelled in each position he has held throughout his career. He is highly regarded in the maintenance community as one of the best practitioners of the Standard Army Maintenance System Enhanced (SAMS—E) in the Washington National Guard.

His off duty work with the 951st Maintenance Company's Family Readiness Program is a tribute to his unit and fellow soldiers. He continues to volunteer and devotes his personal time to the men and women of the 951st as a leader and mentor of our Citizen Soldiers.

For the last six years SSG Ryan has volunteered often with the Pierce County Friends and Athletes (PCFA), one of the largest independent Special Olympics programs in the State. He also is the head usher at Lakewood New Hope Community Church, where he spent a year as a board member.

The Citizen-Soldier Award memorializes Howard Scott who grew up in Tacoma and served his nation when called upon during World War II. He returned to succeed as a banker in Tacoma—giving of much his time to community service organizations, believing that service is a core responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize SSG Stephen Ryan. His dedication to serving our community is an inspiration to others.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,755,788,437,042.45. We've added \$6,128,911,388,129.37 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE 95TH REPUBLIC DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Republic of Azerbaijan as it celebrates its 95th Republic Day on May 28, 2013. Later this year, Azerbaijan will also celebrate the 22nd anniversary of its freedom from the Soviet Union and the establishment of diplomatic relations with the United States.

Azerbaijan's initial independence was short-lived, and was overtaken by the Bolshevik Revolution and the force of Soviet Russia. Many Azerbaijanis lost their lives in 1920, trying to retain their independence. After decades of living under Soviet rule, in 1991, Azerbaijan once again regained its independence after the fall of the Soviet Union.

Over the last two decades Azerbaijan has become an increasingly important partner to the US, with Russia as a neighbor on its' northern border and an extensive border with Iran in the south, Azerbaijan is located in a geopolitically dynamic region between Europe and Asia. It is a predominately Muslim secular democracy noted for religious tolerance that is also home to Christian and Jewish communities.

As highlighted by former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, Azerbaijan plays a key role in supporting the Northern Distribution Network, which provides passage for Coalition supplies bound for Afghanistan. In addition to supporting U.S. security interests in the region, Azerbaijan serves a paramount role in supplying world markets with oil and gas. It is the only secular Muslim country that maintains close ties with Israel, supplying roughly forty percent of Israel's energy needs.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Republic of Azerbaijan on the occasion of its 95th Republic Day. I also encourage my colleagues to join the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus to show support for the important partnership between the United States and Azerbaijan.

HONORING JOYCE GEORGE

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Educational System; and

Whereas, Mrs. Joyce George began her educational career in teaching in Alabama and this year she retires from teaching at Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Theme School in Lithonia, Georgia, she has served the DeKalb County Public Schools System well and our community has been blessed through her service; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents as a Teacher, Educator and Motivator, giving the citizens of

Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader, a devoted scholar and a servant to all who want to advance the lives of our youth; and

Whereas, Mrs. George is formally retiring from her educational career today, she will continue to promote education because she is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Joyce George on her retirement from the DeKalb County Public Schools System and to wish her well in her new endeavors; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim May 10, 2013 as Mrs. Joyce George Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 10th day of May, 2013.

SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY PARK BOARD 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Springfield-Greene County Park Board's 100th Anniversary.

The Park Board was founded on May 22, 1913 and immediately assumed the maintenance and preservation of Washington and Lafayette Parks, both created shortly after the Civil War. By the end of World War II, it administered Springfield's ten historic parks, including: Dickerson Park Zoo, Doling, Grant Beach, Fassnight, Lafayette, Phelps Grove, Sequiota, Silver Springs, Smith, and Washington.

Tremendous growth took place from the 1950s to the present, particularly under the leadership of longtime Parks Director Dan Kinney, who more than doubled the size of the system during his tenure from 1971 to 2005. The name changed to the Springfield-Greene County Park Board in 1996, when voters approved expansion of the system beyond city limits.

The Park Board now counts more than 100 sites and many more facilities within its county-wide system, ranging from neighborhood playgrounds to multi-use recreational facilities. The system includes three golf courses, three Emily centers, a zoo, a farm park, a botanical center, several sports and athletic complexes, two indoor aquatics centers, six outdoor swimming pools, multiple school-park sites and more than 100 miles of recreational trails.

The Park Board has earned state and national recognition, most notably the "Gold Medal Award" for best overall parks and recreation department of its size in 2000 from the National Recreation and Park Association. In 2003, the City of Springfield, Missouri—Greene County was named "Missouri Sportstown USA" by Sports Illustrated magazine. The United States Olympic Committee has designated the Park Board as one of its select Community Olympic Development Program sites for the sports of tennis, volleyball, archery, and ice hockey.

Each year, park facilities host more than 50 national, regional, state and local tournaments

in softball, baseball, soccer, hockey, tennis, volleyball and golf, and it maintains an active partnership with more than 200 volunteer groups and entities in the area, enhancing recreation and outreach both within and beyond parks facilities.

For 100 years, the Park Board has skillfully managed the beautiful parks and recreation facilities throughout the Springfield area, and I am confident that the next 100 years will be even more impressive.

CONGRATULATING ROBERT F. CERVENKA OF PHILLIPS, WIS- CONSIN, ON BEING PRESENTED THE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD BY THE PRICE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSO- CIATION

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the business accomplishments of Robert F. Cervenka of Phillips, Wisconsin, who has been presented the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Price County Economic Development Association.

Bob Cervenka was born and raised in the small town of Phillips, Wisconsin. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After his graduation in 1958, Bob returned to the community that he loved to pursue his new business venture—the Phillips Plastics Corporation.

Phillips Plastics began operations on October 20, 1964, occupying an old creamery building in Phillips. In 1967, the company broke ground on a new 12,000 square foot custom plastic facility where they employed 30 skilled workers dedicated to crafting innovative control knobs for automobiles, dishwashers, fans, dehumidifiers, and dryers. In 1973, Phillips Plastics opened Precision Decorating in Medford, Wisconsin. Shortly thereafter, the facility became known as Phillips Automotive, a full service design, manufacture, decoration, and assembly plant for high volume injection molded components. As industries from the Midwest moved to the south and offshore, Bob recognized that Wisconsin's rural, small community workforce offered a unique competitive advantage. He developed additional plants in Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire, Menomonie, New Richmond, Hudson, and Prescott among others.

Capitalizing on the company's success, Mr. Cervenka and co-founder Louie Vokurka established the independent philanthropic Ann Marie Foundation in 1974. Named after their mothers, the foundation worked to improve the quality of life within local communities that are home to Phillips Plastics facilities. Since its inception, the foundation has given over \$8 million to schools and non-profit organizations.

Thanks to the business contributions of outstanding citizens like Robert F. Cervenka, Wisconsin's economic future looks bright. I ask that my colleagues join me today to express our appreciation for Bob's entrepreneurial spirit and our congratulations to him on receiving this well-deserved award.

RECOGNIZING VICE SPEAKER BEN- JAMIN J.F. CRUZ ON RECEIVING THE HUSTISIA AWARD 2013 HUSTISIA AWARD FOR GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Benjamin J.F. Cruz, the Vice Speaker of the Guam Legislature, on being awarded the Judiciary of Guam's 2013 Hustisia Award.

The Hustisia Award is awarded annually to recognize a person or organization that has contributed to improving the administration of justice and good government.

Vice Speaker Cruz has committed his life to promoting justice in Guam as an attorney, jurist, and current senator. This award recognizes his 40 years of service in advocating for justice and equality and for promoting and strengthening respect for the rule of law. Throughout this career, he fostered building public support for the judiciary, promoted understanding of the judicial system, and encouraged civic responsibility and service.

Born to Antonia C. Franquez and the late Juan Quenga Cruz, former Commissioner of Piti, Vice Speaker Cruz received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Economics from Claremont Men's College in 1972. In 1975, he received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Santa Clara Law School.

Vice Speaker Cruz returned home and became an attorney and member of the Guam Bar Association. Throughout his career, Vice Speaker Cruz has worked for all three branches of government. From 1975 to 1979, he served as Legal Counsel to my late husband, Governor Ricardo J. Bordallo. A few years later, in 1983, he served one year as Director of the Guam Liaison Office in Washington, D.C.

His work in the judicial branch of government began in 1984 when he was appointed a judge of the Superior Court of Guam. He was elevated to the Supreme Court of Guam and served as an associate justice from 1997 to 1999. In 1999, his colleagues elected him Chief Justice of Guam and served in this capacity until his retirement from the bench in 2001.

In December 2003, he was federally appointed as Commissioner of the Guam War Claims Review Commission. He served in this post until June 2004.

He is currently serving his second term as Vice Speaker of the 32nd Guam Legislature; he has served as a senator in the 31st, 30th and 28th Legislatures. He was also the Minority Legal Counsel for the 15th, 16th, and 29th Guam Legislatures.

Additionally, Vice Speaker Cruz remains an active member of our island community. He has been involved in numerous community and civic organizations, and has spearheaded several non-profit corporations focused on social justice issues, cultural preservation, and youth services.

I congratulate Vice Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz on receiving the Judiciary of Guam's 2013 Hustisia Award. I join the people of Guam in commending him for his award and thanking him for his many contributions to our community.