

Utility District in Oregon and Trinity Public Utility District in Northern California, amply prepared Jeff for his extensive role at South San Joaquin Irrigation District. He began with the company in June of 2004, and after 3 short years was appointed as the general manager.

During Jeff's tenure with South San Joaquin Irrigation District, he was instrumental in implementing successful advances to the region. A solar farm was built to provide power to the Nick C. DeGroot Water Treatment Plant which supplies the drinking water to Manteca, Lathrop and Tracy at a minimum cost. In addition, an award winning, state of the art pressurized water delivery system was built called the Division 9 Irrigation Enhancement Project. This project has received numerous state, national, and international awards and recognition.

One of Jeff's most notable contributions was successfully getting the approval for South San Joaquin Irrigation District to become the retail electric provider in its service territory. Because of this accomplishment, all current PG&E customers in Escalon, Manteca and Ripon will see a 15% rate discount. This is a great triumph for the citizens of South San Joaquin County.

With California experiencing its fourth consecutive year in a serious drought, Jeff has expertly managed the irrigation district through its most difficult water delivery year in the district's history. He is implementing a succession plan that would assure a smooth transition to new management as they continue to work through the severe drought. Jeff plans on continuing his active involvement in water and energy issues.

Being involved in the community is important to Jeff, as he is a member of the Manteca Rotary Club and a director for the Give Every Child a Chance organization. He is on the board of The Utility Reform Network, as well as the board of the Local Energy Aggregation Network.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending the outstanding contributions made to the South San Joaquin County Irrigation District by the General Manager Jeff Shields. We wish him continued success in his retirement and his future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING HILARY STERN ON HER RETIREMENT

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Hilary Stern, Executive Director at Casa Latina, on her retirement after twenty-one years of hard and dedicated work that has built opportunities and provided a voice for members of the Latino community in Seattle.

Prior to starting Casa Latina, a Seattle-based non-profit, Hilary sensed tension between the incoming Latino workers and the community at large. In response, Hilary founded Casa Latina in 1994 and began offering services on the sidewalks and in borrowed space. These services included English classes and educational street theater productions.

Despite the positive impact of these services, Hilary believed that Casa Latina could do more. This drove her to expand the scope of

Casa Latina's services to also assist members of the Latino community to achieve greater economic gains and to participate to higher degrees in civic efforts. With this vision, Hilary was able to transform Casa Latina into a large, nonprofit social organization that focused on providing a variety of educational and economic opportunities for hundreds of Latino men and women living in Seattle. These services included its previous, traditional programs, along with others, such as day labor employment, workplace safety and job skill trainings, leadership development and dealing with issues of public policy that affect immigrant workers.

After two decades at Casa Latina, Hilary recently announced that a new Executive Director would take her place in early 2016. Despite moving on from the role of Executive Director, Hilary plans to continue to be actively involved in contributing towards building a better society for everyone both within and outside of Seattle.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize and congratulate Hilary Stern on her outstanding work as Executive Director for Casa Latina.

#### RECOGNIZING SPRINGFIELD RE-MANUFACTURING CORPORATION FOR THEIR RECERTIFICATION AS A VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAMS STAR SITE

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2015*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Springfield ReManufacturing Corporation's (SRC) employee owners, who have recently earned their workplace's recertification as a Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) Star Site, making it their 20th consecutive year to be hailed with that commendation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

OSHA's VPP program encourages private industry and federal agencies to prevent workplace hazards by emphasizing better worker and management cooperation and analysis involvement. The program's goal is to achieve injury and illness rates that are below National Bureau of Labor Statistics averages for respective industries. A "Star" certification is the highest level of recognition OSHA offers, and denotes that a site has exemplary workplace standards and health management programs.

The employee owners at SRC have worked for many years to achieve this goal, and will be formally receiving their award this Friday, November 6, 2015, at a celebratory ceremony and luncheon.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to help recognize SRC for this great achievement and wish its workers a joyous and well-earned celebration of their success. The corporation's employee ownership, "Open Book Management," philosophy has clearly paid off. This commendation is proof that their employees have made Missouri's Seventh Congressional district a better place to work and, in turn, a better place to live.

#### HONORING THE LEGACY OF PAUL JENNINGS

**HON. TOM PRICE**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2015*

Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to speak about the unfortunate passing of a good friend, Paul Jennings. Having known Paul for years, including back in my time in the Georgia General Assembly, I know personally his hard work ethic and the legacy he will leave behind with those he's influenced.

After a successful marketing career in Manhattan, Paul came to the state of Georgia in 1970 to work for Decatur Federal Savings and Loan. During his two decades with the company, Paul helped Decatur Federal become a leading mortgage lender in Georgia from his position of Senior Vice President of Marketing. Paul was a leader of local and national marketing organizations, where he was able to be a mentor and role model to students and young professionals alike. From 1998 to 2002, I was able to serve alongside my friend, Paul, where he served in the Georgia State House of Representatives.

A man of Paul Jennings' integrity and compassion is hard to come by. In his free time, Paul served on the boards of the United Way, DeKalb Medical Center, arts groups, and other local nonprofits that continue to serve the people of Georgia, just as Paul did. On behalf of the Sixth District of Georgia, we extend our thoughts and prayers to Paul's wife Edna, his daughter Jan, and his sons Danny, David, and Tommy.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL HUIZENGA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2015*

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding a missed vote on Tuesday, November 3, 2015. Had I been present for roll call vote number 585, H. Res. 354, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the safety and security of Jewish communities in Europe, I would have voted "yea."

#### RECOGNIZING JILL WAKEFIELD ON HER RETIREMENT

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jill Wakefield, Chancellor of Seattle Colleges, on her retirement after her forty impactful years working in higher education throughout Seattle.

Prior to becoming Chancellor in 2009, Jill was already deeply involved in the Seattle's higher education community, having served in various capacities at South Seattle College (SSC) for more than thirty years. Jill began her tenure at South Seattle College as a program assistant in the Veterans office and her

hard work resulted in a series of promotions; culminating with her tenure as President. While leading South Seattle Community College, Jill oversaw the development of leading-edge programs and upgrades to campus facilities.

Upon being named Chancellor of Seattle Colleges, Jill's focus shifted to increasing the number of four-year degrees available and leading a district-wide initiative to promote green and sustainable programs. She also facilitated numerous grants and initiatives that supported both student success and retention, such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Pathway to Completion and the City of Seattle's Pathways to Careers grants. Her success as Chancellor was quickly recognized throughout the Seattle area when she was named a 2010 Woman of Influence by the Puget Sound Business Journal, and later as one of 2012's Most Influential People by Seattle Magazine.

Jill has devoted her time and expertise to other higher education organizations as well, including service on multiple boards for Seattle University and as President of the League for Innovation at SSC. Furthermore, she has served on the National Advisory Committee of Presidents for the Association of Community College Trustees and a variety of other boards that focused on not only improving higher education, but the general well-being of people throughout Washington State.

After six years of amazing work, Jill announced earlier this year that she would retire in June. Upon her retirement, Jill leaves behind a lasting legacy as the district's first female Chancellor. Despite her departure, Jill is confident in the foundation that has been created for Seattle Community Colleges in educating the workforce of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize and congratulate Jill Wakefield on her retirement and outstanding work as the Chancellor for Seattle Colleges.

#### THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT ACT OF 2015

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2015*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Medicaid Reimbursement Act of 2015 as open enrollment begins this week for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. That important legislation, among other things, expands eligibility for Medicaid to reduce the number of Americans without health insurance. My bill increases the federal government's reimbursement for a portion of the District's Medicaid costs from 70 to 80 percent. In 2012–2013, New York City, the jurisdiction that powers the economy of New York State, contributes a 20 percent share for Medicaid costs, while the state pays 33 percent, less than the District's federally mandated 30 percent contribution.

Medicaid is financed mostly by the federal government and the states. However, the District, a city with no state to contribute to it, must alone absorb the state portion of Medicaid. Thus, the District pays for 30 percent of Medicaid, more than any U.S. city. Consid-

ering the difference in the size of its tax base, the District should certainly contribute no more than the New York City contribution to Medicaid. Therefore, my bill would raise the federal contribution to the District's Medicaid program to 80 percent, equal to that of New York City.

Under the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (Revitalization Act), Congress recognized that state costs are inappropriate for any city to shoulder. To address this unfairness to the District, the Revitalization Act transferred certain, but not all, state responsibilities from the District to the federal government, including the cost of prisons and courts, and increased the federal Medicaid reimbursement to the District from 50 to 70 percent, partially relieving this burden. The city continues to carry many state costs, however.

In 1997, a formula error in the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital allotment reduced the 70 percent Federal Medical Assistance Percentage share, and, as a result, the District received only \$23 million instead of the \$49 million it was due. I was able to secure a technical correction in the Balanced Budget Act of 1999, partially increasing the annual allotment to \$32 million from fiscal year 2000 forward. I appreciate that in 2005, Congress responded to our effort to get an additional annual increase of \$20 million in the budget reconciliation bill, bringing DC's Medicaid reimbursements to \$57 million, as intended by the Revitalization Act. However, this amount did not reimburse the District for the years the federal error denied the city part of its rightful federal contribution.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill.

#### HONORING MR. TOM BORDEAUX

**HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2015*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Savannah Alderman Tom Bordeaux and his dedicated service to the Savannah City Council.

About seven months away from the end of his four-year term, Savannah Alderman Tom Bordeaux announced that he will not run for re-election. Mr. Bordeaux is serving the final year of his first term after defeating two opponents in 2012. As an alderman at-large, Post 2, Mr. Bordeaux's district covers all of Savannah. When he announced his candidacy in 2011, Mr. Bordeaux said his priorities included building unity and focusing on sound fiscal oversight.

Mr. Bordeaux grew up in Savannah and graduated from Savannah High in 1971. He then attended the University of Georgia where he received his bachelor's degree in 1975 and his law degree in 1979. Following school, Mr. Bordeaux returned to Savannah to practice law, and has continued to practice ever since. Before joining the council, he served eight terms from 1991 to 2007 in the Georgia House of Representatives. Mr. Bordeaux was also elected dean of the Chatham County legislative delegation. Although Mr. Bordeaux has decided to not seek re-election, he hopes to continue serving the community in other ways.

Mr. Bordeaux says that his ticket to living in the Savannah area is to be involved, and that is exactly what he intends to do.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to join Mr. Tom Bordeaux's colleagues, family and friends in honoring his many years of hard work and dedication to our community.

#### ACKNOWLEDGING MARTIN VAN BUREN SASSER, JR.

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2015*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Mr. Martin Van Buren Sasser, Jr. of Tracy, for his outstanding military service as a World War II Bomber Crewman and his exceptional dedication to Southern Pacific Transportation Company as a longtime employee. The beloved husband, father, and community member passed away on October 27, 2015.

In Beatrice, Nebraska on June 9, 1924, Martin Sasser, Jr. was born to Martin and Leota Sasser. At the age of four, Martin and his family moved to Tracy, California, which became their lifelong hometown. He attended school in Tracy throughout his youth and graduated from Tracy High School in 1942. After his high school graduation, Martin became an employee of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company, which has played a vast role in railroad transportation since 1865.

After working on behalf of Southern Pacific, Martin enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He held numerous personnel positions, including that of tail-gunner and belly-gunner for the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress during its World War II deployment. Martin completed thirty-five bombing missions out of England, towards targets residing in France and Germany and was involved in the first United States raid over Berlin. Martin also participated in one of the most notorious events of World War II, assisting in the D-Day bombing missions in support of the Normandy Landings.

At the end of World War II, Mr. Sasser returned to Tracy after passing through Fox, Oklahoma. During this passage through Oklahoma, he met his wife, Alice, whom Martin would return to Tracy with.

Once home in Tracy, Mr. Sasser returned to Southern Pacific Transportation Company, where he resumed working as a crew-dispatcher. After numerous years of diligent work, Mr. Martin Sasser retired as a Southern Pacific agent in 1984. Martin also developed and marketed a recreational balance board called the "Tilt-O-Bord." This device was not only creative, but highly enjoyable.

Martin's dedication to his community and fellow brothers and sisters in arms, both former and current, was evident through the work he did throughout Tracy. Mr. Sasser was an avid member of the James McDermott Post 172, the American Legion, Tracy Post 1537, and of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Martin also participated in a vast number of Memorial Day and Veterans Day Services.

For a number of years, Mr. Sasser enjoyed his time entertaining hospital and rest home patients, as he was a skilled guitar, harmonica and mouth-harp player. Mr. Sasser was committed to his faith. He served as a charter member of the Grace Baptist Church and held