Perhaps his most profound gesture was presenting his Air Achievement Medal to the man who taught him life saving techniques and served as a mentor, his Northwest High School athletic trainer.

Sergeant Davidson has demonstrated a deep passion for his country and his community. I want to express my appreciation for his commendable efforts on behalf of his fellow citizens within the 26th District and for his valuable service to the State of Texas and our great Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF WARREN HECKMAN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Warren Heckman who has spent his life serving our community and sharing his passion for music with those around him.

As a teacher and band instructor, Mr. Heckman brought the joy of music to hundreds of students for more than thirty years. He started teaching at South San Francisco High School in 1950, and created the Blue Knights, a jazz ensemble that won countless awards and put South San Francisco High School's music program on the map. The Blue Knights were one of the first high school jazz ensembles and paved the way for similar programs around the country. This jazz group is still part of South San Francisco High School's music program today.

Mr. Heckman's passion for music spread to his students, many of whom have remained in touch with him. In 2006, 180 former Blue Knights from around the country gathered together for a reunion. Many of them continue to play music, both recreationally and professionally, a testament to Mr. Heckman's influence on his pupils at such a transformative age.

In 1958, Mr. Heckman received his Master's degree from San Francisco State University. He also earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music in 1949 and a teaching credential in 1950 from the University of California-Berkeley where he met his wife, Marie, who has since passed away.

During World War II, Mr. Heckman served his country in the United States Navy. He entered the Navy in 1943 one month after graduating from high school. He attended college in Missouri for 18 months, then transferred to midshipman school at Cornell University where he received his commission in May 1945. He attended Fire Control School in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and was stationed aboard the aircraft carrier USS *Midway* CV–41. As a Fire Control Officer he spent one year on board the *Midway* until he was honorably discharged in July of 1946.

For many years, Mr. Heckman participated in community organizations, including a long tenure as a member of the South San Francisco Elks Lodge. In addition, he helped create the School Personnel Credit Union and led that organization for 17 years, contributing as a board member, secretary and president.

After retiring, Mr. Heckman began a successful business tuning pianos. At 87, Mr. Heckman continues to play the trombone with a group of local musicians. Mr. Heckman believes that music is a lifetime adventure, and he's been playing the trombone since he was 7 or 8 years old.

Family has always been an important part of Mr. Heckman's life. He enjoys spending time with his son, Mark, and his daughter-in-law, Kathy, who live locally. His twin daughters, Patty and Tina, both live in Gridley, California. Mr. Heckman is also the proud grandfather of David, Sean, Kelly and JW, and the great-grandfather of James.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor the outstanding service of Warren Heckman to the city of South San Francisco and the whole of San Mateo County. He was a role model for other teachers, a beacon for his students, and he will be remembered as an exceptional human being for many years to come.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DON EDWARDS SAN FRANCISCO BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 40th anniversary of the creation of the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, the first urban national Wildlife Refuge established in the United States. The Refuge is dedicated to preserving and enhancing wildlife habitat, protecting migratory birds, protecting threatened and endangered species, and providing opportunities for wildlife-oriented recreation and nature study for the surrounding communities of the south San Francisco Bay area.

As of 2004, the Refuge spans 30,000 acres of diverse habitats throughout South San Francisco Bay, including open bay, salt ponds, salt marshes, mudflats, upland areas and vernal pools. Located along the Pacific Flyway, the Refuge hosts over 280 species of birds each year. Millions of shorebirds and waterfowl stop to refuel at the Refuge during the spring and fall migration. In addition to its seasonal visitors, the Refuge provides critical habitat to resident species like the endangered California clapper rail and salt marsh harvest mouse. Today, hundreds of thousands of people visit the Refuge each year to enjoy its diverse wildlife and habitats.

The Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge is part of a complex of six other wildlife refuges in the San Francisco Bay Area. Created by legislation signed by President Richard Nixon in 1972 as the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and administered since then by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it was renamed the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge in 1995 in recognition of Congressman Don Edwards' efforts to protect sensitive wetlands in the South San Francisco Bay.

I join in congratulating the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge on its 40th anniversary and I applaud the commitment of all who have contributed over these many years to preserving and protecting our precious San Francisco Bay.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HOLY ANGELS CLASS OF 1969

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a rare and special occasion for 45 individuals who went to grammar school together 43 years ago. It is nothing short of remarkable that two thirds of the Holy Angels Class of 1969 will gather on this day of November 10, 2012 to reminisce and exaggerate old stories.

The Sisters of the Holy Infant Jesus taught at Holy Angels, a Catholic school founded in 1952.

The Class of 1969 consisted of 45 students: Donna Abrahamsohn, Charlene Behnke, Robert Bernie, Kevin Chapot (deceased 2010), Raymond Ciardella, Shirley Conti, Richard Delgado, Mary Dillon, John Gallagher, Robert Gerughty, Randy Golobic, Susan Gomez, Joseph Gordon, Kathleen Griffin, Dennis Harvey, Stephen Haught, Loretta Kelly, Patricia Kerns, Catherine Lapachet, Carole Lindsey, Patrick McLoughlin, James McCarthy, Maura Moran, Paul Nannini, Bruce Olmanson, Thomas O'Shea, Mary Pinelli, George Putkey, Elizabeth Randall, Timothy Rea, Marie Antoinette Rodriguez, Mary Rushka, Kimberly Seitz, Debra Sola, Terrie Sottile, Marialena Spadaro, George Tinetti, Barbara Trapp, Robert Trapp, Linda Tricerri, Peter Woolery, Nina Varni, Thomas York, David Zanini, and Loretta Zolezzi.

By today's standards, a class of 45 is unheard of, but the Holy Angels students assert that it didn't harm any of them in their later lives. They moved on to careers in teaching, public safety, law enforcement, the military, the medical field, and more. Many of them stayed right here in the Colma and Daly City area, home to Holy Angels.

The class of 1969 was the first second grade class to celebrate their First Holy Communion in 1963, a year after Holy Angels church was built. All of the teachers at the school were nuns, except for Miss Sandy Sheffield—unanimously voted everyone's favorite teacher in the 4th grade for her innovative and fun teaching style. Until Miss Sheffield brought in a piñata, most students had never seen one.

Another teacher bringing fond memories to the students is Miss Whitney who taught all the dance routines for the annual May Day festivities. Each class performed a variety of folk dances on this popular day of games and raffles.

Back in the day, the TV show "The Man From U.N.C.L.E." brought out the best in a group of Holy Angel girls portraying themselves as secret agents. They would pass around secret messages in an empty Chapstick container and they would reveal the locations of dangerous enemy agents via walkie talkies. The Class of 1969 refuses to disclose whether one of the class members later joined the CIA.

Life at Holy Angels wasn't all fun and games. In 1963, televisions were not part of the regular classroom, but when President Kennedy was assassinated, the nuns brought in TVs so that the students could witness the funeral.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor the Holy Angels Class of 1969 which reminds all of us of

the ties that hold us together as members of our community and country.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NEW BEDFORD AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce as the organization celebrates its 126th Annual Meeting this year.

Founded in 1885, the New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce today serves ten communities situated along the South Coast of Massachusetts. Those ten communities, in addition to the city of New Bedford, include Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Mattapoisett, Marion, Rochester, Wareham, and Westport. Over 210,000 Massachusetts residents are served by this Chamber as the organization guides local economic development, and encourages professional development among its members. The positive impact that the New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce has had on Massachusetts' South Coast region over the course of its 126-year lifetime cannot be overstated, and I look forward to seeing the Chamber's continued success in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce upon its 126th Annual Meeting and in thanking this organization for its years of service to the South Coast community. I am certain that the Chamber's and its member organizations' future will be bright.

REMEMBERING KEMAL ATATURK

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, as countries in the Middle East undergo drastic change, they are redefining their political systems, looking to other countries in the region, like Turkey, to serve as examples of positive transition. In Turkey, November 10th is a date remembered for the premature death of Kemal Ataturk, the leader of modern Turkey who transformed that country from an agrarian society caught in the past to a modern, secular and forward looking western model. While the changes were recognized at the time as stunning, given recent developments in the region, Turkey's transformation is even more relevant and noteworthy today.

President John F. Kennedy noted:

> The name of Ataturk reminds people of the historical successes of one of the great individuals of this century, the leadership that gave inspiration to the Turkish nation, farsightedness in the understanding of the modern world and courage and power as a military leader. It is without a doubt that another example can't be shown indicating greater successes than the birth of the Turkish Republic and ever since then Ataturk's and Turkey's broad and deep reforms undertaken as well as the confidence of a nation in itself.

His leadership contributions were noted internationally. Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Winston Churchill, also wrote:

> Ataturk's death is not only a loss for the country, but for Europe is the greatest loss, he who saved Turkey in the war and who revived a new the Turkish nation after the war. The sincere tears shed after him by all classes of people is nothing other than an appropriate manifestation to this great hero and modern Turkey's Ata.

As Co-chair of the Congressional Turkey Caucus and on behalf of Turkish Americans, I join my friends in paying tribute to a great man and a great leader. I congratulate the people of Turkey, and continue to work to remember Ataturk's legacy and his contributions to world peace and to the region.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE REOPENING OF ST. EMERIC CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of St. Emeric Church, one of the 11 Cleveland Catholic Diocese parishes that will be reopening this year.

In 2009 it was announced that several of the Cleveland Catholic Diocese's area churches, including St. Emeric, were to close. However, just months ago, the Vatican overruled this decision and St. Emeric reopening its doors on and celebrated its first mass on Sunday, November 4, 2012. St. Emeric was the last of the 50 churches closed and was be the last of the eleven to reopen.

St. Emeric Church was founded in 1904 and has been home to many of the Cleveland area's Hungarian-American Catholic community. Prior to its closing on June 30, 2010, St. Emeric Church was home to nearly 650 parishioners.

The celebratory mass that ushered in the reopening of St. Emeric Church was held on November 4th, which is especially significant for the parish because it is also the feast day of St. Emeric. The mass was led by the parish's former pastor, Reverend Sandor Siklodi, who was transferred to Chicago's St. Stephen King of Hungary parish in 2010. Siklodi had served as St. Emeric's pastor for 24 years after being sent to the church by a Hungarian bishop in Romania. The parishioners of St. Emeric appealed for the return of Rev. Siklodi because he performs mass in their native Hungarian language.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the reopening of St. Emeric Church, a beloved parish that has returned to Cleveland's near West Side neighborhood.

LEXINGTON MEDICAL CENTER WINS ''PINK GLOVE DANCE'' VIDEO COMPETITION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Lexington Medical Center in West Columbia, South Carolina, for winning the 2012 ''Pink Glove Dance'' video competition. Designed by Medline Industries, Inc., the Pink Glove Dance contest is designed to raise awareness about breast cancer and show support for cancer survivors.

Lexington Medical Center's video featured nearly 1,000 hospital employees dancing to the Katy Perry song ''Part of Me'' while wearing pink gloves. Lexington Medical Center beat 260 other health organizations. And, it was the second year in a row they won this contest.

We are fortunate to have the leadership of Lexington Medical Center President and CEO Mike Biediger, Board Chairman Dan Jones, and Director of Marketing Mark Shelley. Thank you to Lexington Medical Center for everything they do to treat cancer patients and educate our community about cancer prevention.

HONORING WORLD WAR II VETERAN, AVIATOR AND PATRIOT LT. VICTOR B. SCHOON

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great loss to our community, Lt. Victor B. Schoon, who passed away on September 25, 2012 at the age of 93. My heart goes out to his loving children, Andra Lew, Jo-Anna Schoon-Kormo, and Marcus Victor Schoon; his grandchildren, Michael Lew, Kenneth Schoon, Juliarma Marie Schoon, Eric Konno and Allison Konno; and the rest of his family, friends and loved ones. He now goes to join his loving wife, Dora Song, who passed away in 1999.

When Lt. Schoon enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1943, he did so during a time when Chinese Americans could not vote, could not immigrate to the United States, and could not even become citizens. But he enlisted anyway, regardless of the prejudice and discrimination he faced. Such was his patriotism to his country.

Within two short years of his enlistment, Lt. Schoon had become a First Lieutenant piloting his own B–17 over the European Theatre during World War II. He served with distinction, stationed with the 340th Bomb Squadron, 97th Bomb Group based in Foggia, Italy between 1944 and 1945.

During that time he saw air combat over the Balkans, Southern France, Germany, Rome, Arno and the North Appennines. And thanks to his bravery, skill and flying prowess, he flew 50 successful missions, bringing all of his 9 crew members home safely, and contributing to the Allies' defeat of the Axis powers and the end of the war.

For his efforts he was rewarded with the European, African and Middle Eastern Theater Service Medal; an Air Medal with 2-Oak Leaf Cluster; and a Distinguished Unit Badge.

He went on to receive an honorable discharge, enrolled at the University of California, Berkeley and earn a bachelor's degree in architecture. He became a successful architect, drawing custom office buildings for various prestigious firms and opened his own architectural firm in Hollywood.

But this selfless patriot, who dropped out of high school to help provide for his nine siblings after his parents' death, who enlisted in