

from local officials and the community, the Clifton Heights Co. has emerged as a model of excellence in fire fighting capability. Over the years, the company has successfully procured only the best state of the art fire fighting apparatus. Modern equipment combined with excellence in training has resulted in a first class company in which we can all take great pride.

As a former volunteer fire chief and founder of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I know firsthand the dedication, determination, and hard work associated with the fire fighting profession. Yet, all too often we take for granted our local fire and emergency service personnel.

With this in mind, I want to thank the brave men and women of the Clifton Heights Fire Co. for all they have done over the past 100 years in making the community of Clifton Heights a safer place to live. Congratulations and I wish you luck in your next 100 years.

TRIBUTE TO PAT DILANNI

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on October 3, Mr. Pasquale "Pat" Dilanni will be honored by the Passaic County, NJ, Democratic committee at an event being held in Hawthorne, NJ.

Mr. Dilanni was born in Paterson, NJ. He is a longtime Clifton resident, having graduated from Clifton public schools. He received his bachelor and master degrees from Montclair State College. He taught junior high school science for several years. His love of the law became evident when he received his law degree from Rutgers Law School in 1957. He subsequently maintained a law practice until recently. Mr. Dilanni has served his community well as an assistant prosecutor of Passaic County and Pompton Lakes borough attorney. His civic activities include work with the Clifton Memorial Hospital Association and the Kiwanis Clubs. He has held many Democratic Party posts including Clifton coleader, Passaic County Democratic Chairman and president of the Passaic County Democratic Club.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Dilanni is an outstanding leader with a good sense of humor. He has a great love and respect for his family and community. I am sure my colleagues will want to join me as I extend best wishes and congratulations to Pat Dilanni and his family; his wife, Ludmilla; his children, Patricia, Denise, Diane, Richard and David; and grandchildren, Rebecca, Alden, Annaclair and Marcus who, according to their grandfather, are potential presidents of the United States someday.

TRIBUTE TO VICE ADM. EDWARD M. STRAW, SC, USN

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, on October 25, 1996, Vice Adm. Edward M. Straw, Supply Corps, United States Navy, Director of the De-

fense Logistics Agency [DLA], will retire after a distinguished military career of over 35 years. His accomplishments during that period are many and significant, and the legacy he leaves to the business of the Defense Department is beyond comparison.

Vice Admiral Straw, a native of Marysville, PA, in my congressional district, joined the Navy Supply Corps upon commissioning from the United States Naval Academy in 1961. As he rose through the ranks, he served in numerous challenging operational postings in the United States and overseas, including three sea duty assignments. In those progressively more responsible positions, he honed his business and logistics management skills and led his supply forces in supporting improved readiness at reduced cost at critical Navy commands, such as on the U.S.S. *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN-69) during its unprecedented 10 month deployment in the Persian Gulf.

Moving on to senior headquarters-level policy and execution responsibilities with great impact Navywide, then-Captain Straw rose from chief financial officer of Navy Supply Systems Command [NAVSUP], to director of supply policy and programs for the Chief of Naval Operations [CNO], and finally to Vice Commander of NAVSUP, attaining the rank of two-star Rear Admiral. He pioneered the use of commercial unit-costing techniques and other innovative approaches which drove infrastructure savings exceeding \$500 million per year. He developed numerous supply support initiatives which contributed immensely to revitalized Navy combat preparedness, including record high levels of sustained operational readiness support during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

With this record of innovative performance and savings, he was selected in July 1992 to become Director of DLA, DOD's largest combat support agency. Now a Vice Admiral, he became responsible for providing worldwide logistics support to American warfighters, numerous federal agencies, and U.S. allies directing over 50,000 civilian and military personnel at over 300 locations and managing a budget of \$14 billion per year. DLA acquires, distributes, and arranges reutilization of the vast majority of DOD's supply system assets, and also administers 377,000 contracts valued at over \$900 billion and involving over 24,000 contractors.

Vice Admiral Straw's 4 years at DLA represent a watershed, not only for the agency, but for public sector management. He thoroughly reengineered the agency's structure, processes, and leadership approach. He focused on the customers' needs, changing DLA's strategy from one of buying, storing, and delivering large inventories of items just in case they are needed, to arranging cost-effective material sources that could deliver to the warfighters when items are needed. He accomplished this by taking advantage of cost saving market leverage and the benefits of emerging technology. In both materiel management and contract administration, selected functions have been privatized, modern business techniques brought to bear, and high quality partnerships with the country's vast supplier base fostered. Through these and other efforts, the Agency has achieved savings or cost avoidances exceeding \$10 billion to date, with firm commitments to its warfighting customers and the taxpayers for \$20 billion more over the next 7 years. In ad-

dition, DLA now provides more responsive materiel deliveries and direct on-scene logistics support to contingency and humanitarian support forces wherever they go, including Haiti and Bosnia.

Under Vice Admiral Straw's leadership, DLA has received a variety of prestigious awards, including the Joint Meritorious Unit Medal from Secretary of Defense William Perry. A key DLA field activity became one of the first two federal activities to win the Ford Foundation/Harvard University "Innovations in American Government" award in 1995. As a result of his exceptional performance at DLA, Vice Admiral Straw was selected for additional duty as Director of DOD's Defense Performance Review from June 1994 to August 1995 in support of the National Performance Review. He subsequently received the Defense Distinguished Service Medal from Secretary Perry in recognition of his performance at DLA and the DPR, and won the 1996 Founders Award from the Society of Logistics Engineers.

Throughout his long and extraordinary career, Vice Admiral Straw has continually introduced new ideas wherever he was assigned, achieved unprecedented performance breakthroughs, challenged his people to fulfill their potential, and always left his organization better prepared for the future. He has done so again at DLA, and will be leaving behind an Agency on the forefront of best business practices and frontline combat support. Upon his impending retirement from active duty, the citizens of Pennsylvania and the rest of this great Nation are forever in his debt and wish him, his wife Chris, and daughters Sylvana, Katie, and Megan, good health, happiness, and much success in the future.

HONORING LONGTIME FRIEND AND STAFF MEMBER, DOLORES ANN NOUHAN

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a very dear friend of mine, Dolores Ann Nouhan who passed away on August 31, 1996. For 22 years, Dolores served as a loyal, competent and devoted member of my staff.

It was over two decades ago that I first met Dolores Nouhan when I was serving in the Michigan State Legislature. She had walked into my office looking for a job, and because of her great reputation and warm personality, I hired her the day I met her. From day one, Dolores acted with the highest degree of honesty, integrity and loyalty. She immediately became close friends with all of my family, including my wife and three children who saw Dolores as an extension of our family.

When I was elected to the Congress in 1976, I asked Dolores to leave her lifelong home and join me in Washington, DC. Dolores, being the dedicated and unselfish person she was, said yes immediately. For the last several years, Dolores served as my office and business manager. She was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the office, as well as dealing with groups and individuals who were coming to Washington for visits. I have not met a person in this city who could

find a White House tour ticket as effectively as Dolores did.

Dolores' personally-guided tours were legendary. She would drive you from monument to monument and you would have a set amount of time to see each site before Dolores moved you onto the next one. She also arranged hundreds of tours for groups, ranging from young school kids to senior citizens. One of her happiest jobs through the years was sending thousands of American flags to individuals and veterans groups in my district. She also played a crucial role in enabling my office to return over \$1 million to the U.S. Treasury.

Mr. Speaker, since Dolores passed away, I have heard from many people, ranging from school kids, lawyers, doctors, farmers, teachers and school principals, public officials, and FBI agents telling of the wonderful and sensitive assistance Dolores had given to make their stay in Washington, DC, so special. And many of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives have told me what a joy it was to work with Dolores. There is no question that Dolores touched thousands of people's lives and made their stay in our Nation's capital a special event.

But more than anything, Dolores loved her family and friends. While she took her work seriously, she always looked forward to visits from her family, and going to see her specially chosen nephew, Father Greg Mansour, or going to Michigan to see her brothers and sisters and numerous nieces and nephews.

Dolores was an active and devoted member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Falls Church, VA, where she volunteered her secretarial and organizational skills in the office. She also served as a Eucharistic Minister in the church. Although Dolores told me she felt unworthy in serving in that capacity, I told her that there was no one on all of Capitol Hill who was more worthy than was she.

Mr. Speaker, I will never forget my friend Dolores Nounhan. I know that she is now with God, and her spirit will always be with those who had the pleasure of knowing Dolores. She was better than we deserved.

A TRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY OF WENDELIN

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the community of Wendelin, IL. This beautiful village, nestled in a small corner of Illinois, has a rich, ethnic tradition. The members of this community joined together to write the Holy Cross Book which traces their roots from Schutttert, Germany. It was through a church, St. John's Church, that the people from this small town teamed up and dedicated many countless years to complete this wonderful work.

Holy Cross Book describes the struggle of settling into a town in the 1850's. A momentous change took place in Wendelin, IL., as the United States railroad was introduced. The railroad brought many new families to the area

Irish, Germans, and other European Catholics. Each emigrant sought to start a new life and thus, a community was born. These pioneers established a church, school and the various businesses necessary to excel in their modern world. Some of the families that helped settle this land were the Fehrenbacher, Kern, Maier, Obert, Schafer, Schiele, Volk and Weber. As Wendelin grew into the prospering community it is today, these families decided to build a religious community that would provide a church, a wholesome upbringing, and stewardship. On January 22, 1860, the people joined together and built their first church, St. Ignatius Church, which later changed its name to St. John's Church.

In the 1860's more German settlers arrived in the area settling further to the northwest. The existence of the church was too small for such a growing population. St. John's decided to divide its parish, some wanting to rebuild 1/2 mile east of its property, while others wanted to transfer the site of the parish to St. Wendel, as it was then known. A decision was made in 1868 to build a new church, Holy Cross Church, the namesake for their work.

I congratulate the entire Wendelin community and give them my heartfelt congratulations for the success of the completion of their book. It is my pleasure to honor a rich tradition.

IN HONOR OF THE STATEWIDE HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COM- MERCE OF NEW JERSEY FOR YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SER- VICE TO THE HISPANIC BUSINESS COMMUNITY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey, an organization dedicated to promoting the continued development of New Jersey's economy by strengthening and expanding the network of Hispanic and professional businesses throughout the State. On October 23-24, 1996, the organization will host their 6th Annual Convention and Exhibition. The 2-day event recognizes the many individuals and business organizations that have contributed in assisting the Hispanic community navigate the complexities of a rapidly changing economy.

The Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce [SHCC] is a voluntary membership network of 17 Hispanic chambers of commerce and professional business associations across New Jersey and the Philadelphia area. The organization aims to identify and communicate the needs of the Hispanic business community by increasing relations with the corporate sector, influencing legislation, policies, and programs that have a positive impact on the business community, providing leadership and support for excellence in education for future business leaders, and supplying technical assistance to Hispanic businesses, professional associations, and entrepreneurs through regional meetings, seminars, conferences, and annual State conventions.

The 6th Annual Convention and Exhibition will recognize the efforts and contributions of business owners, CEO's, and other top management from large and small Hispanic businesses throughout the State. Since the Hispanic market is the fastest growing business sector in the country, with an estimated \$30 billion of buying power, it is reassuring to know that organizations like SHCC continue to foster growth and provide leadership to Hispanic businesses as we approach the 21st century.

This year's convention and exhibition, will honor eight outstanding professionals for their contributions to the Hispanic business community: Freddy Rosado, Chamber of the Year; Pilar S. Howe, Sanchez to Sanchez to Smith; Argentina Ramirez, Volunteer of the Year; Olga Melendez, Diego Leiva, and Leila Perez Ross as Business People of the Year; and Dave Barger, Corporate Advocate of the Year; and Fred Davila, Presidents Award

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding work of the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and those being honored at its annual convention. I commend their accomplishments and all that they have done for Hispanic businesses throughout New Jersey.

GLENN BOWERS, WAR HERO AND FIGHTER ACE RECOGNIZED FOR HIS SERVICE IN WORLD WAR II

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished war hero who is one of my constituents. Mr. Glenn Bowers, a veteran who served in the Marine Corps during World War II, recently received his Air Medal with Gold Stars.

Glenn Bowers has been credited with 70 missions during the war in the South Pacific. He served with distinction in the Marine Corps' famous "Blacksheep" Squadron No. 214, and with Squadrons No. 218 and No. 251 from November 1943 to September 1994.

Serving in the military during World War II is nothing unusual for a large part of America's population. Over 16 million men were a part of the massive military effort to turn back the armies of Nazi Germany and the navies of the Japanese Empire. But Glenn Bowers is different. He flew many combat missions, risking his life and safety numerous times over the period in which he served. He fought the menace of fascism, and played no small role in preserving the freedom and independence of the United States for his and future generations. Glenn's service is well-recognized by his receipt of the Air Medal.

Glenn Bowers is having his service to all of us in the United States recognized by receiving the Air Medal. Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Glenn. I am proud to have such an outstanding war hero be one of my constituents.