

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO JAMES A.
GALLAGHER

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to pay tribute to James A. Gallagher, who is retiring after 28 years as the voice and face of the San Mateo County Transit District, which operates throughout my Congressional District. For almost three decades Mr. Gallagher has worked to improve our community, and he has left a lasting mark on the agency and the Bay Area as a whole. Both his colleagues and the citizens of San Mateo County will miss his leadership.

Born in Fresno, California, James Gallagher joined the United States Marine Corps where he served our country for two years. After his service in the Corps, James worked for several newspapers throughout the region, before becoming the sportswriter, copy-editor and city editor for the Redwood City Tribune in my district.

James left the newspaper industry to become the fifth employee hired at the San Mateo County Transit District in March 1976. Back then the transit district operated in a dozen cities in San Mateo County and served 7,500 riders per day. Today, SamTrans connects 100,000 people each day to all 20 communities in the county, as well as cities from San Francisco to Gilroy, California. SamTrans has become a major player in transportation in the Bay Area through its gifted employees, and due, in no small measure; to the perseverance of Mr. Gallagher. James rose up through the ranks at SamTrans, from the Public Information Officer to the Director of Administration and Marketing and finally the Deputy General Manager.

Mr. Speaker, when James went to Stanford University, he would have to race his teammates each week to make the traveling squad for the university track team. His friends like to say that even then he was racing to catch the bus. At SamTrans, James worked tirelessly to ensure that not one resident would have to run to catch the bus. He will be remembered as someone who, among other things, attempted to make the county accessible for those who were underprivileged, underserved and underrepresented. Mr. Speaker, James A. Gallagher's contribution to the growth of SamTrans cannot be measured or replicated. I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to James A. Gallagher, and wishing him well on his well-deserved retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MATT
HEMINGWAY

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, the 2004 Summer Olympic Games are returning to the birthplace, Athens, Greece. The Games are an opportunity for the world's athletes to showcase their talents, and have the possibility to earn the distinction of the World's best of their sport.

Matt Hemingway, a relative of Ernest Hemingway, has trained rigorously to earn a spot on the 2004 American Olympic team; to be classified as one of America's best high jumpers. Hemingway cleared 7 feet, 7.25 inches, winning the silver medal. The gold medal winner, Sweden's Stefan Holm, jumped 7-9.

At the 2004 Olympic trials, Matt placed second with a jump of 7-6.5, a foot more than his 6' 7" frame. In 2000, Hemingway reached his personal best height of 7-9.5, the best jump in the world that year; earning him the 2000 United States Indoor title.

Matt occupied a two year hiatus by acting as a whitewater river guide in Colorado. However, his passion for the sport and the thrill of competition called him back to competing. Matt now trains by playing basketball and running in the Colorado hills. Colorado's high altitude and temperate climate provides an excellent environment for Olympic caliber athletes to train and live.

Mr. Speaker, the accomplishments of the 2004 Olympic athletes are awe-inspiring. Matt and the other Olympians have made us all proud.

HONORING MARTHA VIRGINIA
PENNINO

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Martha Virginia Pennino, a former vice chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Mrs. Pennino died September 17, 2004 at Inova Fairfax Hospital at the age of eighty-six.

Mrs. Pennino was born in 1918, in Roanoke, Virginia and was raised in Gloucester, Massachusetts. She received a bachelor's degree from Emerson College in Boston.

Mrs. Pennino served three terms on the Vienna Town Council prior to being elected to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in November 1967, representing what was then the Centreville District. From 1968 to 1991 Mrs. Pennino was at the center of nearly every major decision made in Fairfax County. She was involved in such projects as the Dulles Toll Road, Reston Hospital Center, South

Lakes High School, the Reston Community Center and the Reston Regional Library. Mrs. Pennino played an instrumental role in the planned community of Reston, which was taking shape when she took office. She became one of the longest-serving members of the Board of Supervisors spending 24 years on the board. Mrs. Pennino served as Vice Chairman for 17 years.

During her many years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Mrs. Pennino was deeply committed to helping the poor and homeless. She pushed for the building of the Embry Rucker shelter for the homeless, supported building low-cost housing and buying and renovating the run-down Stonegate apartment complex. Prior to the construction of the shelter, she even provided cots in her supervisor's office and opened it at night to people with nowhere else to go.

Mrs. Pennino received many accolades for her work in Fairfax County. In 1985, she was awarded the Tom Bradley Regional Leadership award from the National Association of Regional Councils. The group cited her efforts in developing the first energy policy for a metropolitan area; the region's car-pool program and a fair-share housing program. In 1986, Washingtonian magazine named her "Washingtonian of the Year."

Mrs. Pennino was also involved with many community boards and foundations. She was a member of the advisory board of the Northern Virginia Youth Services Coalition, director of the Northern Virginia Community Foundation, a commissioner on the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and a member of the Board of Visitors of George Mason University. Additionally, Mrs. Pennino served as president of the Virginia Association of Counties of the Virginia Municipal League and was a member of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments for 17 years, holding posts of president and chairman.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to express my gratitude to Martha Virginia Pennino for her service to Fairfax County. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding Mrs. Pennino's past accomplishments and remembering her dedication to her community.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL CHARLES
COMPTON

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Corporal Charles Compton, a World War II veteran who resides in the Fifth Congressional District of Florida.

On August 16, 2004, I had the pleasure of recognizing Corporal Compton for his heroism and bravery as a U.S. Marine who fought in the Second World War from May 1943 until November 1945.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.