

modify the casework procedures to meet the new standards of the United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services. Her suggestions and expertise were also instrumental in assisting my efforts to dramatically expand the BCIS presence in South Jersey; now, individuals needing the agency's services do not have to travel long distances to other parts of the state to have access to them. It is this dedication and assistance on the part of Ms. Wood that demonstrated to me why she was worthy of my personal nomination for this award.

Mary Philbrook, for whom the award is named, was the first woman admitted to the New Jersey Bar and a founder of the state's first statewide legal aid society, as well as an eminent leader in the efforts for women's suffrage and the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. It is in this tradition that the award is given each year, and it is clear that Ms. Woods' work has made her more than worthy of this recognition. She truly has demonstrated the difference that one person can make in the lives of others, and I offer her my congratulations and best wishes in her future endeavors.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
WILLIAM DAVID THARP

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2004*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, William David Tharp has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, William David Tharp has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and

Whereas, William David Tharp has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, William David Tharp must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with William's Boy Scout Troup and his family and friends in congratulating William David Tharp as he receives the Eagle Scout Award.

HONORING SISTER M. SAMUEL  
CONLAN

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2004*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister M. Samuel Conlan, who died July 11, 2004, at the age of 77. Sister Samuel served Dominican University of California in San Rafael in many capacities, including president, for many years. Her association with the school dates back to 1944 when she enrolled as a freshman.

Sister Samuel was born Patricia Conlan in 1927 and took the name of her father, Samuel Leo Conlan Jr., when she entered the religious life with the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael in 1949. She taught for five years while

earning a master's degree in English literature from Catholic University of America, then joined the faculty as an English professor. In 1963, she earned her doctorate from Stanford University.

From 1968 to 1980 she served Dominican University as dean of students, academic dean, and eventually president. She is remembered for admitting male undergraduates to the all-girls college during her tenure, but to all who knew her, her contributions were so much greater. She inspired by bringing out the best in people, teaching by her example of faith and service. Her community work, which earned her an induction into the Marin County Women's Hall of Fame in 1995, included championing the needs of children in special education.

Retired from teaching in 1997, Sister Samuel continued to serve Dominican University in various capacities until her death, including fundraising for a new chapel to be built on the campus.

Mr. Speaker, Sister Samuel was a mentor and role model to generations of students and friends. Her guiding light will be missed in our community even as we know her spirit lives on in so many around the world.

RECOGNIZING MARILYN HURT

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2004*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the good works of Marilyn Hurt, who has served as supervisor of the School Nutrition Program for the school district of La Crosse, Wisconsin for 27 years. Mrs. Hurt has been dedicated to improving the lives of children and child nutrition, and I would like to thank her for all her hard work upon her retirement.

Over the years, Marilyn has been an active member on numerous community boards, including the American School Food Service Association and the Wisconsin School Food Service Association. Marilyn has found good public policy to be her passion, which she has illustrated by serving as a legislative chair on Wisconsin's executive board, six times, and, in 1984, she was appointed as regional Representative on ASFSA's public policy and legislative committee. Further, in July of 2000, Marilyn was installed as president of ASFSA. To better serve her community, she was mayor of Dakota, Minnesota for two terms, participates in rotary international, and is part of the La Crosse area hunger task force.

Her relentless commitment to improving the lives of those around her has earned Marilyn several honors. In 1994, she was the first recipient of the WSFSA Director of the year award. The Massachusetts school food service association selected Marilyn to receive the Thomas O'Hearn award, and most recently, she was the recipient of the prestigious silver plate award, bestowed by the International Food Service Manufacturers Association in 2000.

Marilyn has nourished the lives of countless children, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to have worked with such a committed and devoted person. Marilyn's dedication has satisfied more than the grumbling

stomachs of young children. Her efforts have improved the food service program in numerous schools across Wisconsin.

Marilyn has played an instrumental role in the lives of children and their families and her selfless desire to improve the nutrition of children will be remembered not only by the children who walked through the lunch line everyday, but by the entire La Crosse community. She will be missed, and we are grateful for the work she has done over the past 27 years.

PILOT POINT SELECTED AS A  
PRESERVE AMERICA COMMUNITY

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2004*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to rise today to recognize the Town of Pilot Point, Texas as a Preserve America Community. Pilot Point, located in my North Texas District, was one of 26 Texas cities to receive this prestigious designation.

The Preserve America Community program recognizes communities for their dedication to protecting and celebrating America's cultural heritage; for using their historic assets for increased economic growth and community revitalization; and for promoting history education and historical tourism.

The Preserve America Community program is part of the White House's Preserve America Initiative. This initiative is dedicated to preserving our country's heritage, increasing awareness of what as well as who we are as a nation, and keeping our legacy enhanced, and intact, for future generations. Since the formation of the program, First Lady Laura Bush has recognized more than 100 communities with the Preserve America honor.

Other components of the program include a History Teacher of the Year Award, educational outreach, and grants to assist communities in preserving their cultural and natural resources.

I would like to commend Mayor Jerry Alford and the City Council, as well as all those who participated in the Main Street project, for this distinction.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2004*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday September 21, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall votes that day.

Had I been present I would have voted the following:

Rollcall 457, on the Van Hollen amendment prohibiting any funds in H.R. 5025—Transportation, Treasury, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act for FY 2005, from being used to implement the administration's "OMB Circular A-76" contracting out/privatization initiative, I would have voted "yea", rollcall 458, on the Sanders-Miller amendment prohibiting funds in H.R. 5025 from being used to overturn a 2003 judicial ruling, which held that cash-balance pension conversions violate anti-

age discrimination statutes, I would have voted "yea", and on rollcall 459, on the Norton Amendment prohibiting Federal Employee Health Plans from offering high deductible plans that do not require at least a 3-year minimum enrollment, I would have voted "yea".

PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF  
STAFF SERGEANT DONALD N.  
DAVIS

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2004*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and community of SSG Donald N. Davis upon the death of this outstanding soldier.

SSG Davis was a member of the 660th Transportation Company, U.S. Army Reserve, Zanesville, Ohio serving our great Nation in the country of Iraq. He was a determined man and a loving husband. SSG Davis did his best to make his country a better place to live.

SSG Davis will be remembered for his unsurpassed sacrifice of self while protecting others. His example of strength and fortitude will be remembered by all those who knew him.

While words cannot express our grief during the loss of such a courageous soldier, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family, friends, and colleagues of SSG Donald N. Davis.

HONORING STEVE MCNAMARA OF  
MILL VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2004*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Steve McNamara of Mill Valley, California, for his 39 years as editor and publisher of the award-winning and innovative weekly newspaper, the Pacific Sun. Steve purchased the paper in 1966, and developed it into a newsweekly known for its quality writing, environmental advocacy, commitment to journalistic integrity, and strong relationships with the communities it serves.

The Pacific Sun, under Steve's leadership, set a national standard for how local newspapers can influence the fabric of a community. The paper told stories about local people and took positions on important social issues, fulfilling its mission "to cover events of ongoing significance with clarity, intelligence, style, and wit."

The Sun was an influential player in opposing unfortunate environmental projects such as building a nuclear power plant at Bodega Bay on the San Andreas Fault and filling in Richardson Bay for Los Angeles style marinas. Steve also promoted the creation of Point Reyes National Seashore, preserving the beautiful Marin county coast as a jewel of the national park system rather than home to thousands of commercial and residential sites. He successfully championed the building of a new civic center designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, now the pride of Mann County, and

was prophetic, though unsuccessful, in encouraging development of a solar village at Hamilton Air Force Base.

Steve has always believed that the written word should be celebrated. More importantly, he has always stuck to the notion that ideas and activities should be reported on what he calls the "human scale"—focusing on small, tangible issues and activities to which people can relate. During his career at the Sun, he was passionate about reporting local events, local politics and social issues, and local people. Steve was able to bring these elements together, and by doing so, he helped make up the fabric of the community.

Prior to purchasing the Sun in 1966, Steve was the Sunday editor of the San Francisco Examiner and Chronicle. He had also been the executive sports editor of The Examiner, a writer covering Grand Prix auto racing in Europe for Car and Driver Magazine, and a reporter and editor at The Miami Herald and Winston-Salem Journal. Steve became the first president of the National Association of Alternative Newsweeklys (now AAN), which has nearly 130 member papers and was a founding president of the California Association of Alternative Newsweeklies (Cal-AAN), president of the California Society of Newspaper Editors and a member of the board of the California Newspapers Association. After 50 years in journalism, 39 of them at the Pacific Sun, Steve made his decision to sell the Pacific Sun and move on to other projects at the age of 70.

Steve is proud to have been a resident of Mill Valley for so many years. His five children, and especially his wife Kay, all had an active role in the paper at some point in their lives. With his family's help, Steve made the Pacific Sun a success, its reputation as the conscience of Marin County often contrasting with the area's daily newspaper.

Mr. Speaker, Steve McNamara's record social activism, ethical reporting, and community leadership embodies the idea of living and working on the human scale, and as a result, Steve has become an important part of so many lives in the North Bay. I have enjoyed working with Steve and wish him luck in his new endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SAN DIEGO LOCAL  
HEROES

**HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2004*

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, which commemorates the extraordinary contributions that Latinos have made to our country throughout history. During this one-month period of celebration and tribute, we honor the culture and achievements of the Hispanic community, all of which have played a historic role in our Nation.

I am proud, honored and privileged to represent California's 53rd district in Congress. My district is extraordinarily diverse and home to many citizens who are of Latino background.

To commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month 2004, I would like to highlight the remarkable accomplishments of six San Diego residents

who have been named local heroes as part of the Union Bank of California and KPBS Hispanic Heritage Month Local Hero Awards, a program honoring outstanding members of the Hispanic community.

These individuals were selected for their exceptional commitment and contribution to San Diego through community activism, the arts, business, education and social services.

The 2004 honorees are Sylvia Galvez, Jovita Juarez, Beatrice Fernandez, Mario Aguilar and Beatrice Zamora Aguilar, and Lupe Ortega.

Sylvia Galvez: Sylvia Galvez opened a group home in 1995 to help troubled female teens who had no place to stay, and is now operating two six-bed, 24-hour licensed treatment facilities in San Diego. Sylvia was inspired to help these girls because she felt she could relate to them. She herself dropped out of high school when she was 16 and pregnant with her first child. By the age of 21, she had given birth to three children and was working as a painter for both the Navy Public Works Department and the painting company of Mr. Willie Davis. It was Mr. Davis who helped her return to school at the age of 28. She graduated from City College in 1991 with an A.A. in Liberal Arts and transferred to National University where she earned B.A. and M.A. degrees in Human Behavior. Recently, she and her husband purchased an eight-unit apartment complex to help foster teens after they turn 18 years old.

Jovita Juarez: Jovita Juarez is a Prevention Specialist and Community Organizer for the North City Prevention Coalition and an activist working with SAY San Diego. She uses her leadership skills to provide guidance for new prevention professionals, helping them become more productive and successful. Jovita is also the chairperson of two countywide prevention efforts: the statewide organization Latinos and Latinas for Health and Justice, where she is the Southern Chair, and the San Diego Cinco de Mayo Con Orgullo Coalition, where she has been chair for the past four years. Jovita has volunteered with many organizations throughout the years, including the National Council on Alcoholism & Drug, Hispanic Advisory Council-MADD Pass Las Llaves and Youth Access to Alcohol Policy Panel, to name a few. She is now writing a book, God's Transforming Power, which will provide a framework for early leadership development.

Bea Fernandez: Bea Fernandez has worked for San Diego City Schools for 20 years. She is currently the program coordinator for the San Diego District's San Diego Parent University, a four year program designed to help parents become involved in their children's education as academic coaches. Fernandez was also the Chair of the Board of MANA, a National Latina Organization. She began her service in 1995 in the San Diego chapter of MANA, the largest chapter in the nation, and was named MANA Member of the Year in 1995 for her activism, community service and commitment to the organization. Fernandez was born in Calexico, CA and the first in her family to graduate from college, earning a B.A. and M.A. in Education, and an administrative credential from San Diego State University.

Mario Aguilar and Beatrice Zamora-Aguilar: Mario Aguilar is Assistant Director of the Early Academic Outreach Program at University of California, San Diego. Beatrice Zamora-