

(Oncology Nurse Ruth Van Gerpen. Oncology nurses play an important and essential role in providing quality cancer care. These nurses are principally involved in the administration and monitoring of chemotherapy and the associated side-effects patients experience. As anyone ever treated for cancer will tell you, oncology nurses are intelligent, well-trained, highly skilled, kind-hearted angels who provide quality clinical, psychosocial and supportive care to patients and their families. In short, they are integral to our nation's cancer care delivery system. ONS has five chapters that serve the oncology nurses of Nebraska and help them continue to provide the best possible cancer care to patients and their families in our state.

On behalf of the people with cancer and their families in Nebraska's First Congressional District, I would like to specifically acknowledge Ruth Van Gerpen for her leadership within the Oncology Nursing Society as a member of the ONS Board of Directors. Ruth is a clinical nurse specialist (CNS) for oncology at BryanLGH Medical Center in Lincoln, Nebraska. She has been an RN for 28 years and has devoted 20 of those years to oncology nursing. Ruth works to improve patient outcomes, enhance professional and consumer awareness, and educate and support newly diagnosed individuals and their families. Through Ruth's and ONS' leadership, our nation is charting a course that will help us win the war on cancer.

Cancer is a complex, multifaceted and chronic disease, and people with cancer are best served by a multidisciplinary health care team specialized in oncology care, including nurses who are certified in that specialty. According to the American Cancer Society, one in three women and one in two men will receive a diagnosis of cancer at some point in their lives, and one out of every four deaths in the United States results from cancer. This year approximately 1.37 million people will be diagnosed with cancer and another 570,000 will lose their battles with this terrible disease. Every day, oncology nurses such as Ruth see the pain and suffering caused by cancer and understand the physical, emotional, and financial challenges that people with cancer face throughout their diagnosis and treatment.

Today, more than two-thirds of cancer cases strike people over the age of 65, and the number of cancer cases diagnosed among senior citizens is projected to double by 2030. At the same time, many of the community-based cancer centers are facing significant barriers in hiring the specialized oncology nurses they need to treat cancer patients. We are on the verge of a major national nursing shortage, and it is estimated that there will be a shortage of 1.1 million nurses in the year 2015.

The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) is the largest organization of oncology health professionals in the world, with more than 31,000 registered nurses and other health care professionals. Since 1975, the Oncology Nursing Society has been dedicated to excellence in patient care, teaching, research, administration and education in the field of oncology. The Society's mission is to promote excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care. To that end, ONS honors and maintains nursing's historical and essential commitment to advocacy for the public good by providing nurses and healthcare professionals with access to

the highest quality educational programs, cancer-care resources, research opportunities and networks for peer support.

I commend Ruth Van Gerpen for her leadership and ongoing commitment to improving and assuring access to quality cancer care for cancer patients and their families, and I urge my colleagues to support oncology nurses in their important endeavors.

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IN REMEMBRANCE OF  
ARCHBISHOP IAKOVOS

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**HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2005*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos, who faithfully led the Greek Orthodox Church in North and South America for over thirty years. With his passing on April 10th, the world lost a great spiritual leader and humanitarian who desired peace and unity between all nations and religions.

Archbishop Iakovos, who was born as Demetrios Coucouzis on July 29, 1911, first set foot on American shores in 1939, after graduating from the Halki Theological Seminary. In 1945 he received a graduate degree from Harvard Theological Seminary and five years later he became an official U.S. citizen.

When Archbishop Iakovos became the leader of the Orthodox faithful in 1959, he made it his goal to bring the church into mainstream life for his followers. In the spirit of incorporating Greek Orthodoxy in America, he encouraged the use of English in the liturgy, set up dialogues with other Christian denominations, as well as Jewish and Muslim leaders, and became the first Archbishop to meet with a Roman Catholic Pope in 350 years.

As a humanitarian, Archbishop Iakovos also became very interested in political issues, particularly those impacting human and civil rights. He regularly visited the White House and met with every U.S. president from Eisenhower to Clinton. His strong vision for peace compelled him to voice his opposition to the Vietnam War, support for the rights of Soviet Jews, and encouragement for the Middle East Peace process. As a champion of social causes, he will forever be remembered for assisting the civil rights movement in America by marching in 1965 with Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Selma, Alabama.

Throughout his career, Archbishop Iakovos was highly honored for his work. In 1980, former President Jimmy Carter awarded him the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. He served on the World Council of Churches and also was awarded honorary degrees from over forty colleges and universities.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the life and legacy of Archbishop Iakovos, who through faithful leadership brought the ideas of faith, equality, peace, and unity to the forefront of the world's political and religious stage.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF CELIA  
BARRAGAN OF CANYON INTER-  
MEDIATE SCHOOL

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the many, accomplishments of Celia Barragan, Canyon High School Teacher of the Year.

Celia Barragan received both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Texas State University in San Marcos. She currently teaches fourth grade in Comal Independent School District. With over twenty-eight years of experience in teaching, she understands the unique needs of our kids.

She personally believes that the two most important qualities that can be nurtured are "positive self-esteem" and "responsibility". Teaching young people to place value in these virtues is important for skills and development later in life. With a long and distinguished career, Celia Barragan has helped generations of our students to excel in, school.

I am proud to have this opportunity to honor the contributions of Celia Barragan, the Canyon Intermediate School Teacher of the Year. Her many years of passionate service have been a blessing to the Comal community.

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LONGFORD WATER COMPANY, LLC

**HON. JERRY MORAN**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2005*

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of the citizens of Longford, Kansas in their work to create and support Longford Water Company, LLC.

For years, this town of 89 people has had a reputation for providing high quality, good tasting water. Road signs near the community advised, "For Good Health and Longevity Drink Longford Water, Kansas Purest." Groundwater from Longford is clean and soft because it is naturally filtered by a distinctive group of underground rocks known as the Kiowa Formation. Years ago, communities used to compete at the Kansas State Fair regarding the quality of their water. Water from Longford was a frequent winner.

More than a year and a half ago, a group of local individuals formed Longford Water Company, LLC. The reason: to research the possibility of capitalizing on Longford's reputation for high quality water by bottling it for sale. They discovered that most of the bottled water for sale has been treated by reverse osmosis, a process used to purify water through removal of unwanted chemicals. This procedure is expensive and removes natural minerals from the water that contribute to good physical health. Due to its high quality, Longford water does not need to be subjected to this added expense.

Following extensive research, the company took the following actions: announced that the production facility will be located in Longford; agreed to purchase water from the City of Longford; in order to minimize marketing and shipping costs, established a marketing distribution system that focuses on a 50-mile

area around the community; selected KIWATA as the marketing name for the water and financed the entire project through private funds.

Because of this team effort, The Longford Water Company is now ready to produce, market and distribute KIWATA water. According to Wava Kramer, president of the board of managers, the company has raised the real estate tax base of the city, provided local employment and contributed to the positive image of the Longford community.

Ms. Kramer also noted the entire effort has resulted in other benefits. "Langford water has been long known as nature's finest gift to Kansas," said Kramer. "Another gift is that the process of creating Longford Water Company has brought our community together. Our town is small in size but big in spirit."

For rural communities to survive and prosper into the future, citizens must be willing to create their own opportunities for success. The Longford Water Company is an example of how hard work, innovation, professional management and community pride can create just such an opportunity.

Citizens throughout the First Congressional District of Kansas are working together to enhance the quality of life in their communities. Longford Water Company, LLC is a success story that demonstrates how teamwork and creative thinking can make a positive difference in rural America.

HONORING DELTA COLLEGE  
PRESIDENT DOCTOR PETER D.  
BOYSE

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2005*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, Mr. CAMP, Mr. STUPAK and I rise together to pay tribute to Dr. Peter D. Boyse, a visionary educator who will retire July 31, 2005, after 17 years of dedicated service to Delta College and the community it serves. Friends and colleagues will gather June 10 to honor his dedication and his many accomplishments.

Dr. Boyse came to Delta College in July 1988 as executive vice president and became president in January 1993. During his tenure, Delta College has completed a \$26 million renovation of its computer and science laboratories, and its library, and a \$42 million renovation and addition to its Technical Trade and Manufacturing Complex. These renovations place Delta College on the cutting edge of training for tomorrow's jobs in the sciences and in manufacturing.

Delta College, which serves the people of Bay County, Midland County and Saginaw County, as well as many others from surrounding counties in Mid-Michigan, has grown to be one of our Nation's leading community colleges under the guidance of Dr. Boyse. Support for Delta College within that community is demonstrated by the passage of a renewal of an operating millage with an unprecedented 70 percent approval.

Dr. Boyse's visionary leadership has brought about growth in both the size and stature of Delta College. Through its Corporate Services arm, the college has helped people all across the United States to grow

and succeed in their careers. His influence as an administrator and a leader in the field of higher education will be felt for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, we ask that all of our colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join us today in recognizing Dr. Peter D. Boyse for his exceptional leadership. His guiding hand has helped shape Delta College into a truly world class institution of higher education. We wish Dr. Boyse all the best in retirement and hope for his continued involvement in our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ERICH R.  
WEBER, OWNER OF WEBER'S  
BAKERY

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2005*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of a member of my community who truly exemplified the dedication and hard work required of his ancient profession.

As the longtime owner and operator of a popular Chicago neighborhood bakery, Erich R. Weber never knew an easy day.

For many years, the Chicago native would begin his workday at 2 a.m., breaking by mid-afternoon to have dinner with his family, then returning to the bakery later in the evening. Family members said that in addition to keeping the business side running, he was also the baker behind many of the pastries that disappeared quickly from the shelves.

"He was first and foremost a baker," said his son Michael. "He wore his whites every day."

Mr. Weber, age 71, the longtime owner of Weber's Bakery on the Southwest Side, died April 7, 2005.

Mr. Weber graduated from St. Rita High School in 1951. He received a bachelor's degree in baking science and management from Florida State University in Tallahassee in 1955. That same year he married his wife of 49 years, Bernadine, a fellow student.

Mr. Weber learned to bake from his father, a German immigrant, who founded the bakery in Chicago in 1930. Originally on Kedzie Avenue, the bakery moved in the 1940s to 63rd Street, and in 1979 to 7055 W. Archer Ave. in the Garfield Ridge neighborhood.

After serving 2 years in the Air Force during the late 1950s, Mr. Weber returned to Chicago, where he joined his father at the bakery. For several years, father and son served as co-presidents of the Chicago Lawn Chamber of Commerce.

"With his college background, my father brought an understanding of the business end of things," said Mr. Weber's son, Michael, who now owns and operates the bakery. "He was technology wise and willing to take chances."

Family members said that when more Hispanic residents moved into the bakery's neighborhood, Mr. Weber introduced more ethnic pastries such as tres leche cake, or three milk cake, which became popular with his customers.

"He was very good at adapting to the changing needs and times of the neighborhood, but he never gave in to trends," his son said.

The father of seven sons, including his late son, David, Mr. Weber often sought the help of family at the bakery, especially during holidays.

"One of my fondest memories is of Dad and me rolling hundreds of loaves of bread during Holy Week at Easter time, and all before the sun came up," said his son Michael. "It was a chance to be alone with him and just talk."

After retiring in 1996, Mr. Weber spent much of his time traveling with his wife and enjoying winters at his home in Naples, FL.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Weber and Mike Weber, as well as Mr. Weber's five other sons, Mark, Paul, Phillip, Stephen and Kurt; his brother, Gilbert; and his 21 grandchildren.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF BARBARA KEMPER-NOLAN

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the many accomplishments of Barbara Kemper-Nolan, Saegert sixth grade teacher.

Ms. Kemper-Nolan is a sixth grade teacher specializing in resource math and language arts. She has two years of teaching experience in the Seguin Independent School District, five years as an instructional aide and one year as a substitute. With her short time at Saegert she has already started to make an impact on her students.

Ms. Kemper-Nolan has a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, a Master of Counseling from Arizona State University, and a Special Education Alternative Certification in grades prekindergarten through twelve.

When Ms. Kemper-Nolan was asked, "why would someone choose to work with some of the most challenging students who are faced with daunting intellectual and emotional obstacles," she quickly replied that "there is no greater feeling than watching the light go on in the eyes of a child, especially a child who has given up on him or herself . . . one teachable moment at a time."

Through her initiative, energy, and audacity, Ms. Kemper-Nolan proves to be an exemplary teacher, and a blessing to the people in her community. She has an excellent career ahead of her, and I wish her the best of luck.

IN MEMORY OF STAR NUCKOLLS

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 26, 2005*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, the greatest sadness for most of us is the loss of a child, and today I want to honor the life and help preserve the memory of Star Nuckolls of Sulphur Springs, Texas, whose life ended on February 7. Star was four years old. Her life and her struggle captured the hearts of hundreds in her community and throughout the Nation, and today we celebrate the joy and inspiration she brought to so many.

Star was first diagnosed with cancer in June 2004 and received numerous medical treatments during the six months prior to her