Houston Memorial in Sam Houston Park for a memorial service to honor the warship and her courageous crew.

The members of the Greatest Generation that were aboard the USS Houston were true American heroes. They represent the finest the Nation has ever produced. We honor the brave who served and their country. We thank them for the sacrifices they made for freedom. We also pay tribute to the families of those who lost their lives in doing so. The heroic freedom fighters aboard the USS Houston will never be forgotten. They have made Texas proud. That’s just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING CITY OF RIO RANCHO’S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TOM UDALL
OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the City of Rio Rancho on its 50th anniversary of being incorporated.

Started nearly 50 years ago as an investment and retirement community, Rio Rancho has blossomed into the third-largest city in the State of New Mexico and one of the fastest growing communities in our country.

Rio Rancho has become a model for its commitment to economic development, acquiring technology-based jobs, providing affordable housing, and establishing a first-rate public school system. The city has made these significant advancements while maintaining a high quality of life for residents. For these qualities and much more, the “City of Vision” is to be commended.

It is my privilege and honor to serve as Rio Rancho’s Member of Congress. I look forward to the “City of Vision’s” continued success and prosperity.

Once again, best wishes and congratulations on turning 25 Rio Rancho.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN’S FOUNDATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a unique and valuable organization that for the past 50 years has been partnering with employers to build successful workplaces and empowering workingwomen to achieve their full potential. The Business and Professional Women’s Foundation will be celebrating its 50th anniversary all year long starting on its incorporation date, February 27, 2006. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting the Business and Professional Women’s Foundation’s record of helping workingwomen and their families in the areas of research, education, knowledge, and policy.

Established in 1956, the BPW Foundation is a nonprofit research, and educational institution governed by a volunteer Board of Trustees. As a national convener, the foundation has influenced, informed, and educated presidents, Members of Congress, state officials, policymakers, women of influence—making research and educational resources available that accurately portray the challenges and important role of workingwomen.

This year, the Business and Professional Women’s Foundation will actively engage workingwomen and employers in dynamic discussions, innovative research projects, and exciting educational opportunities. These activities will empower workingwomen and help build a stronger future as the BPW Foundation embraces its 50-year history as a research and education institution, it is setting the stage for a whole new phase of growth and engagement.

The 50th anniversary celebration will highlight the history of the BPW Foundation and its many milestones in the areas of research, education, knowledge, and policy. The BPW Foundation has marked its over the past 50 years, making a tangible difference in the lives of American workingwomen and their families. To date, $6 million in scholarships, grants, and loans have been awarded to more than 8,000 women and valuable research has been published that assists employers to improve work environments and workingwomen to pursue career advancement.

I ask all of my colleagues to join me in thanking the BPW Foundation for their contribution to our country.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

SPEECH OF
HON. AL GREEN
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to express my support of S. Res. 79. This resolution reaffirms the long-standing policy of the United States against dealing with terrorists by expressing the sense of Congress that no aid should be given to the Palestinian Authority should any political party holding a majority of Parliamen
tary seats seek the destruction of the state of Israel. In the past years, the United States has given aid to the Palestinian Authority in the hopes of meeting the humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people. It is my hope that we will be able to provide for Palestinians who are in need of our help, but it is imperative that our assistance contribute to peace in the region.

As a nation committed to peace, assisting a Palestinian Authority with a political party holding a majority of the seats that actively calls for the destruction of the state of Israel is a step backwards on the path to peace. The internationally backed Roadmap requires that the Palestinian Authority launch “sustained, targeted, and effective operations aimed at confronting all those engaged in terror.” The Palestinian Authority cannot call for the destruction of Israel if it is to be a serious partner for peace.

As this majority party maintain a position calling for the destruction of Israel should the majority party maintain a position calling for the destruction of Israel. This resolution clarifies our commitment to peace, real peace, for peace. The members of the Palestinian Authority must assure us that they are interested in a better future for the Palestinian people and to do so, they must take steps to recognize Israel and its right.

It is up to the United States and the international community to ensure that we do not directly aid the Palestinian Authority should the majority party maintain a position calling for the destruction of Israel. This resolution clarifies our commitment to peace, real peace, for peace. The members of the Palestinian Authority must assure us that they are interested in a better future for the Palestinian people and to do so, they must take steps to recognize Israel and its right.

TRIBUTE ON THE RETIREMENT OF BISHOP JAMES H. GARLAND

HON. BART STUPAK
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding man of faith, The Most Reverend James H. Garland, the Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Marquette. On December 13, 2005, Bishop Garland officially retired as the Bishop of Marquette; serving as Diocesan Administrator until January 25, 2006, when The Most Reverend Alexander K. Sample was ordained and installed as the twelfth Bishop of Marquette. On February 26, 2006, the Diocese of Marquette will host a retirement gathering for Bishop Garland to show their appreciation for his ministry and leadership.

Bishop Garland has been committed to the ministry and service for the Diocese of Marquette for 13 years, and 47 years as an ordained priest. Bishop Garland’s contribution to the Catholic Church and his faith has touched so many lives in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and beyond.

Bishop Garland was born to Ada and Leo Garland on December 13, 1931. Growing up on a farm in Wilmington, OH, young James Garland learned the value of hard work by sharing chores with his four brothers and two sisters. That Midwest work ethic would come handy years later when he studied at Ohio State University. In 1953, Bishop Garland graduated from Ohio State receiving a bachelor’s degree in Education.

Immediately upon graduating, Bishop Garland began studying at the seminaries of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and in 1960 received a Master’s Degree in Philosophy from Mount Saint Mary’s Seminary of the West. Several years later in 1965, he went on to obtain a Master’s Degree in Social Work from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

Bishop Garland served in several parishes after being ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati on August 15, 1959.
Through the years, he directed offices of Catholic Charities in Springfield and Dayton, OH before directing the Archdiocesan Offices of Catholic Charities. On June 2, 1984 Pope John Paul II appointed Bishop Garland to the Episcopacy and then, on July 25, 1984, ordained him Bishop of Marquette. Since that time, Bishop Garland has served on the Administrative Committee and Board of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. From November 1992 to November 1995 he also served as Chairman of the United States Catholic Conference for the Campaign for Human Development. From November 1995 to November 1997 he served as the Chairperson of the Bishops of the Region VI of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

During his time as Bishop of the Diocese of Marquette, Bishop Garland also began the Legacy of Faith to raise $10 million toward the Diocese’s endowment. To acclaim and to palish such a feat, he recruited the Bishop’s Ambassadors to help achieve the objective of allowing future generations the opportunity to experience all that the tradition of faith has to offer. Among the many wonderful causes this campaign has aided, it has benefited Catholic schools and the Upper Peninsula Catholic Social Services. My wife Laurie and I have proudly served as Ambassadors humbly assisting with this valiant effort.

Throughout his nearly 50 years of ministry, Bishop Garland has touched many lives, bestowed many lessons of faith. Although Bishop Garland is retiring, he will continue to help people and serve his faith. He plans to stay in Marquette to remain involved with the church. When called upon, he looks forward to substituting for local priests and celebrating confirmations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in thanking Bishop James H. Garland for his service to the Diocese of Marquette, to the Holy Catholic Church and his commitment to the value of education and involvement in his faith community. Beyond the incredible credentials, leadership roles and accomplishments that span his lifetime, Bishop Garland has shown unwavering commitment to the people he has served. He has truly done God’s work through his teachings and as a role model for parishioners.

REMEMBERING JACK HERRITY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia and I to remember the Honorable John F. “Jack” Herrity, former chairman of the Fairfax County, Virginia, Board of Supervisors, who passed away on February 1. If anyone is worthy of the title “Mr. Fairfax,” Jack Herrity is that person.

A driven leader during his time with the Fairfax County Board, Jack was the guiding force in setting the firm foundation for a growing and developing Fairfax County. His leadership brought us the Fairfax County Parkway, Interstate 66 inside the Beltway and the Dulles Access Road. The Virginia General Assembly aptly named the Fairfax County Parkway in his honor in 1995.

After attending Georgetown University as an undergraduate and as a law student, Jack formed Jack Herrity and Associates, a pension consulting and governmental affairs management consulting business. Banning and the private sector was Jack’s forte. He quickly became engaged in northern Virginia politics, serving on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors from 1971 to 1987. He was elected chairman of the board in 1975 and served three terms. He recognized the potential of Fairfax County to become the largest jurisdiction in the Washington area and helped develop the once sleepy rural crossroads, Tysons Corner, into the thriving commercial district it is today.

Jack Herrity cared for people, a quality which is now and will forever be unmatched in Fairfax County history. We honor and remember Jack for his countless accomplishments and unwavering dedication to the people of Fairfax County.

We insert for the RECORD a Washington Post excerpt he observer today: “Jack will be deeply missed by the people of Fairfax County, and at home by his family.”

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 2, 2006]

(By Lisa Rein and Peter Baker)

John F. “Jack” Herrity, the former chairman of the board of supervisors who shepherded Fairfax County through a development boom that transformed the county from sleepy bedroom community to suburban colossus, died yesterday of heart failure. He was 74.

Herrity, whose scrappy battle with a weak heart first endeared him to Fairfax voters in the 1970s, succumbed to an aortic aneurysm at Inova Fairfax Hospital, where he was admitted two weeks ago with chest pain. He had a heart transplant 12 years ago.

In his heyday, Herrity dominated Northern Virginia politics as few others have, commanding attention with his pugnacious style and unabashedly pro-growth policies. He is best remembered for his classic criticism story from his landslide victories as the Fairfax economy soared to unprecedented heights to his crushing defeat in 1987 when the onslaught of new cars finally overwhelmed country residents and put the bureaucrats in it.”

Herrity was in county affairs until the end. From his hospital bed last week, he was asking former aides to help run his likely campaign for board chairman next year, a race he lost in 2003 in a Republican primary. He was busy fighting plans to extend Metro-rail to Dulles International Airport, saying the expense could not be justified. And, in an about-face some local politicians saw as cynical, he had joined in recent months with anti-business forces—businessmen who had defeated him, slow-growth Democrat Audrey Moore—to fight dense development planned for the county’s last slivers of open space. He was at the time almost every night.

“To Jack’s credit, if he had a difference of opinion (with the county’s leadership), he never sat on his hands,” Eric Lundberg, the Fairfax GOP official said. “He was willing to engage in the battle.”

Herrity could be seen most mornings in a classic navy suit, slouching in a cottage-level chair near his Vienna home, where he lived with his wife, JoAnn Spveace-Herrity. They married in 1961.

“He’s a piece of our history,” said Board Chairman Gerald E. Connolly (D), who ordered county flags flown at half-staff yesterday. “He was a political adversary, but he would do it more often than not with a certain twinkle in his eye. It was more the love of the fight than the substance of the moment.”

Herrity was the fourth person to serve as chairman of the board. He first held the job for a full term, let alone three. He defined the role as a quasi-mayoral position even though it has no real executive power. He played a major role in what was commonly referred to as the economic engine of Virginia. By fostering a superheated business environment, he helped lure Fortune 500 companies, was then known as the Mobil Corp. to Fairfax and convert a suburban crossroads called Tysons Corner into a commercial center larger than downtown Miami.

“Instead of jobs going out of the county,” Herrity wanted jobs to stay in the county, Northern Virginia developer John T. “Til” Hazel said. During this period of growth under Herrity, more than 1,000 people moved into Fairfax County each year, the equivalent of the largest jurisdiction in the Washington area. From Herrity’s first election as chairman in 1975 to his ouster in 1987, the county’s population jumped by 50 percent, from 554,500 to 746,600—surpassing most U.S. cities and even several states. Today, more than 1 million people live in the county.

He was an advocate for improving the county’s road network and pushed to widen Interstate 66 inside the Capital Beltway. He first opposed, then campaigned hard for a major new road cutting through the county’s midsection.

The General Assembly named the Fairfax County Parkway in his honor in 1995. It was his quick-witted, never-say-die brand of politics that earned him a loyal following during a crucial transition period in Fairfax history.

With his burly build, balding pate and ever-present U.S. flag lapel pin, Herrity became a familiar figure in political and civic circles. Known simply as Jack, he crisscrossed the 399-square-mile county almost every day in search of any gathering of two or more people, often the kind that he collected a glove compartment full of speeding tickets that became legendary.

Throughout his tenure, Herrity was notorious for his penchant for the outrageous, shoot-from-the-hip statements.

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