

by The 2006 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state and the District of Columbia.

Ms. Sack is being recognized for conducting personal interviews and research to create museum-like displays and a dramatic play that portray important aspects of her city's history.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ms. Sack are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention—The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards—was created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. Over the past 11 years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, and has more than 70,000 young volunteers at the local, state and national level.

Ms. Sack should be extremely proud to have been singled out from the thousands of dedicated volunteers who participated in this year's program. I heartily applaud Ms. Sack for her initiative in seeking to make her community a better place to live, and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that young Americans can—and do play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

HONORING DANA REEVE

HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a remarkable woman, Dana Reeve, whose courage and grace in the face of life's adversities bring inspiration and hope to millions of people. Dana Reeve was the devoted caregiver and wife to her late husband, Christopher Reeve, a dedicated mother, an advocate and founding board member of the Christopher Reeve Foundation. I am honored to have known Dana and to have worked with her on many issues, and I am deeply saddened by her passing on March 6, 2006. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me today in commemorating the life of this outstanding woman.

Dana Reeve was born Dana Morosini on March 17, 1961 in New York. Dana graduated cum laude from Middlebury College in 1984 and began her career in acting and singing with graduate studies at the California Institute

of the Arts. Drawn together by their mutual love of drama, Dana married actor Christopher Reeve in 1992, and later, gave birth to their son, William.

In 1995, Dana Reeve became her husband's constant caregiver and supporter after a horseback-riding accident left him paralyzed. Dana embodied loyalty and devotion as she selflessly cared for him and her family, while being committed to helping others in need. Together with her husband, Dana faced challenges with determination and courage.

After her husband's untimely death in 2004, Dana became the chairperson of the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation, which funds research on paralysis and works to improve the lives of people living with disabilities. Dana also worked to establish the Quality-of-Life grants program and the Christopher & Dana Reeve Paralysis Resource Center. Under her outstanding leadership, the Foundation has awarded more than \$8 million in Quality-of-Life grants and more than \$55 million in research grants since its inception. Additionally, she was an activist for persons with disabilities and a champion for stem cell research.

Dana served on the boards of The Williamstown Theatre Festival, The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, TechHealth, and The Reeve-Irvine Center for Spinal Cord Research and was an advisory board member to the National Family Caregivers Association.

Dana received numerous awards for her work, including the Mother of the Year Award from the American Cancer Society in 2005, an American Image Award from the AAFA in 2003, the Shining Example Award from Proctor & Gamble in 1998, and was named by CBS in 1995 as one of America's Outstanding Women. Additionally, Dana authored the book *Care Packages*, which was published in 1999.

A woman who faced some of life's greatest adversities, Dana approached each challenge with dignity and grace, remaining optimistic in even the most difficult circumstances. In August of 2005, Dana announced her battle with lung cancer, only months after her mother passed away from complications with ovarian cancer. Her positive attitude was an inspiration, and her commitment to encouraging and helping others remained strong. Referring to her late husband, Dana stated that she views him as the "ultimate example of defying the odds with strength, courage, and hope in the face of life's adversities." Truly, Dana is deserving of our deepest respect and tribute.

Dana is survived by her father, Dr. Charles Morosini, sisters Deborah Morosini and Adrienne Morosini Heilman, her son William and two stepchildren, Matthew and Alexandra. Dana will be remembered by us all for her life, her work, her passion to help others, and her courage and loyalty in facing life's challenges.

Mr. Speaker, I would once again like to pay tribute to this inspirational woman. Her life was a testament of loyalty and courage, and I am honored to speak on her behalf today. I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating the life of Dana Reeve.

JEROME GROSSMAN CRITIQUES THE IRAQ ELECTION

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, for many decades, Jerome Grossman has been a leader in the fight for a rational, humane foreign policy for the United States. Alongside my predecessor in this body, former Congressman Robert Drinan, Jerome Grossman was one of the effective leaders of the opposition to the war in Vietnam. He has continued over his long career with undiminished energy to fight for the principles in which he believes and in which our country ought to act. On January 5, in the Wellesley Townsman, the weekly newspaper in the town where he lives, Mr. Grossman published an article on the election in Iraq. As the newspaper noted, Jerome Grossman is the Chairman of the Council for a Livable World, and in that capacity has been an insightful critic of the President's Iraq war from the earliest days of the Administration's initiation of this policy. In this article, he notes the problem of having a fully free election in a situation of military occupation.

Mr. Speaker, although I greatly respect Mr. Grossman and I am one of many in Congress who have benefited significantly from his wisdom and advice over the years, I do not fully agree with the critique that he puts forward in this column. He is of course correct that there is not an autonomous government in Iraq, and it is also the case that the conditions in which the recent elections were held were far from ideal. But given all of those factors, I also believe that the elections were to a very significant extent an expression of the views of the Iraqi people.

Unfortunately, what we have seen since that election is that those views fall far too heavily along sectarian lines, and the prospects for a genuinely democratic, functioning government coming out of this process is much more clouded than the President would have us believe. But despite this difference in emphasis between myself and Mr. Grossman on this particular aspect of the situation, I believe his article is a very useful contribution to the debate about our policy, and it is an important counter to the unrealistic optimism expressed by the Administration. I think it would be very useful for Members to read Mr. Grossman's viewpoint, drawing as he does on his decades of experience with these issues, and I ask that the article be printed here.

A 'FREE AND FAIR' ELECTION IN IRAQ

President Bush hailed the Dec. 15 parliamentary election in Iraq as a "landmark day in the history of liberty." It was an election in which 11 million Iraqis voted—a 70 percent turnout, which is remarkably high. But was it "free and fair?"

It is impossible to have a "free and fair election" under foreign military occupation, by definition. President Bush himself pointed out this obvious fact at his March 16, 2005, press conference on the election in Lebanon. "Our policy is this. We want there to be a thriving democracy in Lebanon. We believe that there will be a thriving democracy, but only if—but only if—Syria withdraws her troops completely out of Lebanon, but also her secret service organizations . . . There