

As a coach and as an educator, Marty Taggart has been devoted to helping his students grow and succeed. He has emphasized discipline and hard work as a way for every person to achieve at the height of their ability. In doing so, he has made a profound impact on his students, his colleagues and the community as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Marty Taggart. The commitment he has shown to both the academic and athletic programs at Moapa Valley High School has truly enriched countless lives. I applaud Marty's years of service to the school and surrounding community and I wish him the very best for an enjoyable retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF IKE AND OLIVE HAMMOND OF ORLEANS, INDIANA

**HON. MICHAEL E. SODREL**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. SODREL. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a minute to recognize a couple of my constituents marking a truly momentous occasion. W.E. "Ike" and Olive E. Hammond of Orleans, IN will celebrate 60 years of marriage on Wednesday, August 2nd, 2006.

Both Ike and Olive have been lifelong residents of Orleans and have been active participants in their community. Both are involved in the local Republican Party, and have been for quite some time. In fact, their daughter shared a memory of riding on a float in a parade in 1952 proudly wearing her, "I like Ike" memorabilia. Olive served as County Vice-Chairwoman for the party and Ike served three terms on the Orleans Town Council. To this day, the Town Council looks to Ike for consultation on matters of importance to community. In 2001, Ike was recognized as "Citizen of the Year" in Orleans. The Hammonds have been members of the Orleans United Methodist Church for over 60 years.

Ike proudly served our country in the Second World War in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a crew member on a B-17. Ike continues to be an active member of the American Legion in Orleans. In his civilian career, Ike was in the insurance business retiring in 1988 after a 40-year career. Olive served the area as a Probation Officer in Orange County and has since retired.

In what was perhaps their most important job, the Hammond's raised three daughters who love, support, and congratulate them on their 60 years of marriage.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor I share in congratulating these two fine people who have enjoyed 60 years of love together as husband and wife. I wish them many more years of happiness and memories together.

HONORING TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE BOB HUNTER

**HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Bob Hunter has served the people of Taylor and

Nolan Counties honorably in the Texas Legislature for the past 20 years. He truly is a statesman and a scholar. Now, as he leaves the Texas House of Representatives, I would like to take time to recognize his tireless service to the State and her people.

Dr. Hunter was born in California, but his home is firmly in Texas. He has left a legacy of service that began with the Navy in the South Pacific and has spanned the six decades since. He has been a champion of higher education and a servant to the people of Abilene and the surrounding area.

Dr. Hunter began his relationship with the region with his enrollment as a student at Abilene Christian University in 1948. He took his first job after his Navy service back at ACU in 1956 and remained a vital part of the university's administration until 1993, when he retired as Senior Vice President. The degrees he earned in his time at ACU were just his first. He has gone on to be honored with no fewer than seven honorary doctorate degrees.

Dr. Hunter received many honors in gratitude for his work to open the doors of academic choice for all Texans. He was instrumental in passage of the Texas Tuition Equalization Grant program, which helps Texas students to attend the Texas private college or university of their choice. While an ACU administrator, he was appointed to the State's Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education and served as Executive Vice President of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas, serving 40 institutions statewide.

In 1986 Dr. Hunter was elected to the Texas House of Representatives and since then has served the citizens of his district faithfully, chairing several House committees and working on issues such as higher education, economic development, tourism and veterans affairs. While a State Representative, he has continued to serve his alma mater and the people of his district through involvement in civic organizations and charities.

As Representative Hunter retires from the Texas Legislature to return to his wife, three children and four grandchildren, I congratulate and thank him for his many years of service to the Abilene area and the State of Texas.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "FEDERAL LIVING WAGE ACT ACT"

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Federal Living Wage Act," legislation to mandate a livable wage for employees under federal contracts and subcontracts. Twenty Representatives are original cosponsors to this important legislation.

I introduce this bill after the Chicago City Council took a strong stand for workers by passing a living wage ordinance for employees of big-box retailers. The ordinance is an important victory in the fight for living wages for all workers.

That fight now needs to come here, to Washington, where it is long overdue. The bill I am introducing today will hopefully move us closer to delivering all workers in America a fair and equitable wage. No full-time worker

deserves to live in poverty. And certainly, the federal government should not be in the business of paying federal workers, or federally contracted workers, sub-poverty wages.

Although Congress passed laws, such as the Davis-Bacon Act and the Service Contract Act, to help ensure that employees of Federal contracts earn a decent wage, thousands of Federal workers and federally contracted workers still do not earn enough to support themselves and their families.

This legislation will allow hard-working individuals to earn quality wages and to increase their savings for such essential needs as their retirement and their children's education. The Federal government must take responsible, workable steps to reward working Americans and to help keep them out of poverty. This bill represents a practical and tangible step toward this goal and I urge my colleagues to join me in calling for the passage of this important and sensible legislation.

WSSC EXTENSION REMARKS

**HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 28, 2006*

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the commendable efforts of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) in safeguarding the citizens of Prince George's and Montgomery counties in Maryland from flooding. On the weekend of June 24, 2006 anywhere from six inches to two feet of rain fell in the Washington, DC area, leaving some homes under water, bridges washed away, and residents displaced.

The WSSC is among the ten largest water and wastewater utilities in the Nation, serving 1.6 million customers in Prince George's and Montgomery counties. The agency's response to the storms and subsequent flooding was executed with foresight and sound planning. Their staff remained in constant communication with city, state, and emergency officials, allowing residents to evacuate in a safe and timely manner.

One noteworthy individual is WSSC Systems Control Group Leader, Karen Wright. Wright and her staff were responsible for monitoring the rainfall and opening the dam gates. Recently, she was recognized by The Baltimore Sun for her efforts.

In crisis situations such as the June storms, it is comforting to know that the employees of the WSSC can rise to the occasion, make the difficult decisions, and safeguard our citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in commending the WSSC and its employees on a job well done.

HONORING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE VETERANS HOMES

SPEECH OF

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 24, 2006*

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 347, honoring