

Washington State Department of Labor and Industries and CEO of the Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Centers. In each of these capacities, Ms. Rodriguez focused on capacity building, community development and workforce development as means to eliminate healthcare disparities in minority and disadvantaged communities. She also worked to bridge the gap between health care providers and the communities they serve.

Beyond her involvement in community health organizations, Ms. Rodriguez has 15 years experience in direct patient care in a wide range of roles, including cardiology technician, medical assistant, pharmacy technician, and lab technician. She has also worked as a health care educator and has served on a vast array of board and task forces.

Ms. Rodriguez's dedication to eliminating health disparities and providing quality health care services to her community is both admirable and inspiring. I am proud to recognize Ms. Rodriguez and her many accomplishments and wish her the best as she continues to serve the community.

TRIBUTE TO COMMAND SERGEANT  
MAJOR JAMES HAROLD CHENEY

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2006*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to recognize Command Sergeant Major James Harold Cheney, United States Army, as he completes a distinguished tour of duty in the United States Army.

Command Sergeant Major (CSM) James H. Cheney entered the United States Army on September 8, 1976, at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Since joining the U.S. Army, CSM Cheney has completed tours of duty at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri (on five occasions); Fort Rucker, Alabama; Camp Indian, Korea; Fort Lewis, Washington; Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and Vilseck, Germany. Throughout his military career, CSM Cheney has served the White House Communications Agency where he was the NCOIC of the fabrications department and the Office of the Chief of Engineers at the Pentagon where he fulfilled the responsibilities as the Office of the Chief of Engineer Sergeant Major.

Additionally, CSM Cheney has been recognized for his service to the United States Army having held every Noncommissioned Officer leadership position culminating as the United States Army Garrison, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, Garrison Command Sergeant Major.

Highly respected within the Army leadership, CSM Cheney has been awarded the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal. CSM Cheney has also received the Drill Sergeant Badge, the Jungle Expert Badge, the Army Staff Badge, and the Presidential Service Badge. The aforementioned awards and decorations are just a few of the many that CSM Cheney has been given.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to pay tribute to Command Sergeant Major James H. Cheney. I know my colleagues join me in

thanking him for his service to his country and in wishing him well as he concludes his tour of duty with the United States Army.

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE SOUTH-  
AMPTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2006*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to rise in honor of a proud and long-serving institution of my district—on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of Southampton Fire Department's creation last Saturday, September 9th. I was honored to participate in this celebration, which included a parade of fire trucks and culminated with the anniversary gala at the Hampton Road Firehouse.

I am privileged to represent the Village of Southampton, New York. A common thread runs through the town's rich history—an all volunteer force that has served and responded bravely since the first firefighters in Southampton consisted of bucket brigades whose fire alarms were sounded by the village blacksmith banging on his rim.

The first company that constitutes today's fire department was the Agawam Engine Company. Founded in 1881, it was widely known for the 415-pound bell used to alert the firefighters and the handpumping hose cart they used to extinguished fires. Like many Long Island families who can proudly claim that generations served as the department, one of my ancestors, James H. Bishop, was a founding member of Agawam Company, and my great grandfather, Benjamin Bishop, later served as its chief between 1893 and 1897.

Since that time, more dangerous fires started by complex fuels and as a result of eastern Long Island's booming population have intensified the demands on the 143 current members of the Agawam Engine, Agawam Hose, Southampton Hook and Ladder, Southampton Fire Patrol, and Southampton Hose Companies. Still, they remain an all-volunteer and highly skilled force whose frequent feats of heroism and selfless dedication remind us of the firefighters who gave their lives at the World Trade Center as we observed the solemn occasion of the fifth anniversary of the September 11th attacks.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in thanking those firefighters who continue to protect our families and communities, and extend our deepest gratitude to volunteers, like those intrepid men and women of the Southampton Fire Department, who risk their lives each day to keep us safe.

HONORING GUNNERY SGT.  
HAWLEY WALDRON

**HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2006*

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor one of our Nation's true heroes, Gunnery Sgt. Hawley

Waldron. A decorated and distinguished serviceman, Gunnery Sergeant Hawley Waldron was an inspiration to the men he fought with in the First World War, though not even those closest to him truly understood the extent of his valor. He was a resident of Saratoga County, and I am honored to represent members of the Waldron family who take great pride in Hawley's accomplishments.

Hawley led a selfless life, never speaking of the numerous accolades he received during the war, leaving his family to discover these achievements only after his passing in 1961. Gunnery Sgt. Waldron received several awards and medals during his service including the silver star along with two gold stars signifying three separate awards for valor. He also received two Croix de Guerre decorations given by the government of France for his service. He was decorated following the battle of Belleau Wood, in which he helped the Allied forces turn back the German army advancing on Paris and in doing so paved the way for Germany's ultimate defeat.

America's armed service men and women are held in the highest regard in this Nation and Hawley Waldron was one of our greatest. It is with great joy and respect that I commend the late Gunnery Sgt. Waldron for his accomplishments and the many distinguished honors he received over his 2 years of service in World War I. Our country is truly safer and honored to have had someone of the character, caliber, and courage of Gunnery Sgt. Hawley Waldron. I would like to offer the deepest gratitude on behalf of myself, the United States House of Representatives and all Americans for his dedication to our country.

HONORING DR. OLEH SHAMSHUR,  
UKRAINE'S AMBASSADOR TO  
THE UNITED STATES AND THE  
FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF  
UKRAINE'S PROCLAMATION OF  
INDEPENDENCE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Honorable Dr. Oleh Shamshur, Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States and extend a warm welcome to him as he visits Cleveland, Ohio to celebrate the Fifteenth Anniversary of Ukraine's Proclamation of Independence with leaders and members of our Ukrainian-American community.

For nearly 80 years, the United Ukrainian Organizations of Greater Cleveland have served as a vital coalition of historical and cultural significance, aimed at preserving and promoting all aspects of Ukrainian culture. These guardians of history have succeeded in keeping alive the rich traditions of their beloved homeland—from Ukraine's religious and social customs, to the artistic, history and world contributions that have left an indelible mark across the globe.

Following the fall of the Soviet Union and the rebirth of Ukrainian statehood, the United Ukrainian Organizations of Greater Cleveland bolstered fundraising and outreach efforts that extended from the shores of Lake Erie to the sands of the Black Sea. Additionally, this organization was instrumental in the creation of the