

hours a day, 6 days a week. Last year, she became postmaster. Bonnie's families picked their mail up at the post office in front of her house in an old-fashioned way. Instead of using the modern-day post office boxes, the mail was sorted into old-fashioned sacks Bonnie handmade herself and then hung onto pegs. Families would then pick up their mail while the traditions of past generations stayed intact.

For the 30 years prior to her appointment as postmaster, Bonnie's mother-in-law held the position. Her daughter also continues the family tradition for she was named postmaster for 2004 in Alamo, NV. Bonnie also has served the National Association of Postmasters of the U.S., NAPUS, as state president, on its state council, and representing Nevada in Washington, DC.

On December 1, 2006, Bonnie retired from her position as postmaster and, with her, lay to rest the traditions of Hiko's community. What she will miss the most is the customer interaction and personalized service. Now that she is retired, she plans on nurturing her garden and traveling with her husband of 49 years. Bonnie also plans on spending more time with her 4 children, 18 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the gracious efforts of Mrs. Bonnie Schofield. Her diligence and dedication are to be admired. I wish her luck with all her future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ERSILIA
CRUZ

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a woman who made a difference to so many people in the community of Pueblo, CO.

Ersilia Cruz left her community a better place.

Ersilia Cruz, who was a driving force for Hyde Park and "remodeling the West Side," as she put it, died of a stroke Friday. She was 75.

She helped bring the Cesar Chavez Academy and, most recently, the Dolores Huerta Preparatory High School to Hyde Park. She was director for many programs at the Hyde Park Community Center, was active at church and, her family said, had strong interests in the community and children.

Her son Steve said that Ersilia decided to stay alive long past when she was supposed to because "she wanted to talk to everyone before she left. She wasn't going until everyone in the family talked to her, and the whole week was like that. She was all family. That's what she stood for, and it was a neat experience for our family."

The recipient of several local, State and national awards, Cruz's most distinguished was probably the Dorothy Richardson Award in 2003, for which she was flown to Washington.

That same year she also had a street in Hyde Park named after her, called Cruz Court.

In the 1970s, Cruz operated G&E Grocery Store and later worked for Kwik Way and PDQ convenience stores, from which she retired while a manager.

Cruz is survived by her husband of 59 years, George. The two met and wed in Mora, NM.

Mrs. Cruz also is survived by 20 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and a great-great-granddaughter.

The entire community of Pueblo, CO, will miss Ersilia Cruz.

TRIBUTE TO FRED J. SHALTZ

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant and a close friend, Fred J. Shaltz. Fred recently retired as a Genesee County Michigan Commissioner after serving seven consecutive terms in office.

Fred's career in public service started long before he was elected to office. After attending the University of Michigan, Fred passed the State of Michigan examination and was licensed as a land surveyor in 1963. Two years later he founded Delta Land Surveying and Engineering, Inc. and Delta Aerial Photography. At the same time his career in community service began.

He has served as either a current or former board member of the following organizations: Flint Jaycees, Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan, Rubicon-Odyssey House, Eastern Michigan Mortgage Banker's Association, Builder's Association of Metropolitan Flint, Fenton City Local Development Finance Authority, Fenton Chamber of Commerce, Mott College Foundation Board, Valley School Trustee, and served as the vice president of the Flint Area Chamber of Commerce.

During his tenure as a Genesee County Commissioner, Fred carried out his duties by serving in the following capacities: member of the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission, as chair of the Public Works Committee, member of the Lobdell Lake Board, chair of the Courthouse Square Committee, member of the 911 Consortium, the Valley Area Agency of Aging, the Genesee County Mental Health Board, Genesee County Recycling Coalition, chair of the Finance Committee, a member of the Leadership Committee, member of the Genesee County Mass Transit Authority, Greater Health Coalition, Genesee County Retirement Board, New Paths, County Park and Recreation, Chair of the Community Economic Development Committee, the Genesee County Board of Review, and the Flint City Planning Commission. Fred also served as the vice chair of the board of commissioners from 1995–1996 and 2000–2004. He was the chairman of the board during 1997 and 1998.

Recognized by his peers, Fred has received the following awards: Young Democrat-of-the-Year Award, Knight of the Month K of C Council 695 Flint, the 1966 Speak-Up and Spoke Award Flint Jaycees, Michigan's Community Leader, Flint Beautification Commendation, Women's Council of Flint Board of Realtor's Award, Feat Foundation Award, American Congress on Surveying and Mapping Fellow, Michigan American Legion Appreciation Award, Outstanding Service Award Greater Flint Area Chamber of Commerce, Community

Mental Service Award, Flint City Council Appreciation, City of Fenton Community Service Award, Life-Member Award from Michigan Association of Realtors, Key to City of Flint, 2000 Dare Program, Burton Health Center Leadership Recognition, 1986 Associate of the Year from Home Builder's Association of Metropolitan Flint, Appreciation Award from Bureau of Business Practice, Patriotic Citizen Award from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Dedicated Service Award from Genesee County Park and Recreation, Appreciation Award from the County Board of Health, Award from Valley Area Agency of Aging.

Between the years 1968 to 1992 Fred was appointed by different mayors to serve on 11 city boards. He was also appointed by three different Michigan Governors to the board of licensing for architects, land surveyors, and Michigan's Small Business Council. He was the second vice president of the Home Builder's Association in 1985, and repeatedly recognized by the National Engineering Society on Education, Qualifications and Examiners. Fred was a founding member of the Fenton Rotary Club and a founding member of the Fenton Township Service Club. His article on excellent business practices appeared in a 1988 issue of Inc. Magazine and he was a contributor to the magazine's book "301 Great Management Ideas" published in 1991. He contributed an article to a University of Michigan textbook on business, management, and leadership. In 2004 he was inducted into the Builder's Association of Metropolitan Flint Wall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be able to congratulate my friend, Fred Shaltz, as he retires undefeated in office after 7 terms with the Genesee County Board of Commissioners and 43 years of public service. I wish him the best as he embarks on this new phase of his life.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2006 KENWOOD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ROBOTIACS TEAM

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and enthusiasm that I take this time to recognize the 2006 Kenwood Elementary School Robotiacs. The team, which competes as part of the FIRST LEGO League (FLL), recently finished in first place for robot design and second place overall at the local competition held in Hammond, Indiana on November 11, 2006. With their success, the Robotiacs have advanced to the State competition, which will be held at Indiana University—Purdue University in Fort Wayne, IN on December 9, 2006.

The FLL is the result of an alliance between For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, FIRST, and the LEGO Company. The purpose of the FLL is to allow students to be creative and, with the assistance of mentors, solve real-world engineering challenges, develop important life skills, and learn to make positive contributions to society.

Kenwood Elementary School has been no stranger to success in this competition. This is the 4th consecutive year they have won first place awards at the regional level, which includes awards for research and robot design,