

was guilty. Throw away the key. No need for lawyers. No need for judges. No need for anything except, of course, the word of the authorities. In recent months, a more assertive Congress and the courts have unaccountably challenged this view, and the Bush administration has beaten a tactical retreat on unchecked eavesdropping and the legality of trying alleged terrorists before military commissions. Still, we all know where its heart is on these matters. Justice is what the administration says it is.

By now, any other administration would have fired Stimson, apology or not. His words show that he is unfit for government service, not to mention membership in the bar. Fortunately for him, if and when someone does drop the ax, some misguided lawyer, infused with the spirit of John Adams, will defend him. I hope Stimson will forgive him.

LANE EVANS POST OFFICE
BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 521, which will designate a "Lane Evans Post Office Building" in Rock Island, Illinois.

For more than 20 years, Lane was a champion of veterans and Parkinson's issues on Capitol Hill and a great friend to both communities. We worked together as co-chairs of the Congressional Working Group on Parkinson's Disease, and I came to truly admire his dedication, kindness, and courage.

Last year Lane helped to pass into law a program that he conceived and created, Parkinson's Disease Research, Education and Clinical Centers, PADRECCs. These centers will provide valuable assistance to American veterans battling Parkinson's disease.

As a former Marine, Ranking Member on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, and person battling Parkinson's Disease, Lane Evans knows better than most the challenges facing both constituencies. While his presence in this chamber is sorely missed, I hope to continue his legacy while working with the newly renamed Bicameral Congressional Caucus on Parkinson's Disease to find a cure for this terrible disease.

I am truly proud to have served with my dear friend Lane and to support this fitting tribute to him.

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON: AN
AMERICA'S PROMISE "100 BEST
COMMUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE"

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Spokane, Washington, and the efforts of the Spokane Regional Youth Department for being named an America's Promise "100 Best Communities for Young People."

Spokane is committed to youth service and leadership opportunities. When nominating Spokane for the America's Promise award, Matthew Rivera, a 17-year-old student leader, said, "Spokane provides us with the tools and inspiration to pursue our goals."

Spokane is a city of promise because of people like Matthew, who are partnering with caring adults to serve our community. He, along with many other youth in the area, impact Spokane's future on a daily basis through their participation in organizations such as the Spokane Regional Youth Department, Chase Youth Commission and the Teen Advisory Council.

Devon Clark, another local high school student, says that "Spokane is fortunate to have such a great network of youth, but it is also important to see that the network of adults who support our youth is just as much an integral part of the team." That network has contributed to a low high school drop-out rate in Spokane County and a commitment to mentoring underserved populations.

Finally, Katherine Merck, a participant in Youth Leadership Spokane, said "Spokane deserves the honor of being named one of our national 100 Best Communities for Young People, because our community focuses on youth, is a safe place, has outstanding schools, and offers many opportunities for young people to become involved in the community."

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the City of Spokane for their work to develop civic participation in our young people, to provide them with an outlet to express their views, and to give the youth of Spokane the opportunity to serve their community through partnering with adult leaders in the city. I invite my colleagues to join me in celebration of Spokane, Washington, an America's Promise "100 Best Communities for Young People."

HONORING MRS. FISHER'S ON THE
OCCASION OF ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, the congressional district I represent is home to two of the finest home style, thick-sliced potato chips manufacturers in the country, Mrs. Fisher's and Ole Salty's. I am pleased today to honor Mrs. Fisher's on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

Mrs. Fisher's was founded in Rockford, Illinois in 1932 by Mrs. Ethel Fisher. Eugene and Ethel Fisher began cooking potato chips in their basement on a two burner wash stove in order to make extra income during the Depression. From this humble beginning, Mrs. Fisher's now ships its product throughout the entire United States and is one of oldest chip manufacturers in the Midwest.

Mrs. Fisher's is currently owned and operated by the DiVenti family, who were employees of Mrs. Fisher's at the time they purchased the company. Under the ownership of the DiVenti family, Mrs. Fisher's now employs 13 full time workers and has three shipping routes that make daily deliveries to Dixon, Rochelle, Freeport, Crystal Lake, and Janesville, Wisconsin.

Generations of individuals in northern Illinois have grown up with Mrs. Fisher's, and I commend the DiVenti family for carrying on the great Fisher's tradition.

INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS
REASSIGNMENT PROTECTION ACT

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

Ms. HERSETH. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Veterans Reassignment Protection Act of 2007. This bill would ensure the application of veterans' preference protections to Federal and postal employees who are the unfortunate victims of downsizing actions that threaten to unfairly and involuntarily reassign them to locations far from their homes.

I have drafted this legislation to directly address the actions of some Federal agencies that are attempting to circumvent the application of certain employment preferences to military veterans in their ranks. These Federal entities in the course of downsizing actions, under the authority of so-called "repositioning rules," are seeking to deny the longstanding employment preference entitlements Congress has conferred upon eligible veterans in connection with reduction-in-force actions. If traditional veterans' preference rights were available, veterans would likely remain employed in comparable positions in the same geographic area when a downsizing action occurred.

Since the time of the Civil War, veterans of our Armed Forces have been given some degree of preference in hiring and other personnel actions by the Federal Government. Recognizing their sacrifice, Congress has enacted laws to prevent veterans from being penalized for their time in military service. Veterans' employment preferences recognize the economic loss and sacrifice suffered by citizens who have served their country in uniform, restore veterans to a favorable competitive position in Government employment, and acknowledge the larger obligation owed to disabled veterans.

The blatant actions of some Federal agencies to circumvent preference eligible protections in the course of downsizing actions must be ended, especially in light of legal challenges by involuntarily reassigned employees that have generally been resolved in favor of their employing agency because of a loophole in the law that requires preference eligible veterans to accept involuntary reassignment or be administratively discharged for the refusal. My legislation would close that loophole. The Veterans Reassignment Protection Act would ensure the application of veterans' preference rights to employees who are involuntarily reassigned in the course of reorganizations or transfers of function within their agency, regardless of the characterization of such personnel actions by their agency.

I introduced similar legislation late in the 109th Congress, which was endorsed by the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the National Association of Postal Supervisors, and the National Association of Postmasters of the United States. I appreciate the continued support of these groups and look forward to the added endorsements of additional veteran service organizations and others.