

husband to Margaret, who was also active in the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department, until her recent death.

Thanks to the tireless and dedicated efforts of Robert P. Lynch, our community is a safer place to live and work. Mr. Lynch is an extraordinary and unselfish American and an inspiration to us all.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Mr. Lynch for his outstanding contributions to the people of the State of Maryland.

HONORING THE 2007 NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS: THE SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY OWLS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with the pride and excitement that I rise today to join our community and the State of Connecticut in congratulating this year's NCAA Division II Women's National Basketball Champions, the Southern Connecticut State University Owls. Led by coach Joe Frager and the tournament's Most Outstanding Player, Kate Lynch, the Owls earned the national title after a 61-45 win over previously undefeated Florida Gulf Coast—making the victory that much more thrilling.

Unlike the Division I tournament, where teams are seen from coast to coast throughout the season and information on the strengths and challenges of each team are well documented, the Owls of Southern Connecticut State University began their journey with little knowledge about any of the opposing teams. They did not waiver from the teamwork that brought them to the tournament. Navigating this uncharted territory with the trust they built throughout the season and an indomitable spirit, the Owls steadily moved through the tournament. With four teammates posting double figures in the final game against Florida Gulf Coast, the Owls cruised to a blow-out victory and proudly brought the championship trophy home, where they were greeted with a confetti-strewn welcome.

The people of Connecticut are tremendously proud of the Owls, who have set an example for us all with their teamwork and standard for perfection. This victory was a team effort—because of their hard work, absolute determination and a commitment to teamwork on and off the court, these talented young women have earned the title champions. Their outstanding success and unbridled enthusiasm for the game will certainly be remembered, serving as an inspiration for future players.

It is with my heartfelt congratulations that I stand today to honor the women of the Southern Connecticut State University basketball team on this outstanding victory. They played hard, they played smart, and they have made us all proud. Go Owls!

HONORING DANIEL HAHN

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mr. Daniel Hahn, in celebration of his over fifty years of federal service.

Daniel Hahn, a Tool Room Mechanic at the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore, Maryland, often tells people he feels like he's been at the Coast Guard Yard his whole life. Except for a few years while he served in the United States Marine Corps, he has spent his whole life at the Yard. In 1933, Daniel Hahn was born in a brown shingle house just outside the Coast Guard Yard's main entrance. His father, Louis, a 30-year Coast Guard Yard veteran, met his mother Elizabeth through a co-worker at the shipyard. Five of his uncles in the Hahn family also devoted their federal careers to the Coast Guard Yard. When Daniel was 3 years old, he and his family attended the Yard's Christmas Party, held in the on-base movie theater. That memorable afternoon, Daniel won a hand-made wooden rocking horse—a now cherished possession that he keeps to this day. Not only did Daniel enjoy the rocking horse he won at the Coast Guard Yard, but his 3 children, 13 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren have also enjoyed many hours of play on the Coast Guard Yard holiday prize from 1936.

While attending Glen Burnie High School, Daniel worked the summer of 1951 at the Coast Guard Yard. He graduated the following year and joined the United States Marine Corps. However, within 3 years he returned to the Coast Guard Yard at Curtis Bay and after a brief period of outside employment, has worked at the Coast Guard Yard ever since.

Most of Daniel Hahn's federal career at the Curtis Bay shipyard was as an electrician in the Electric Shop. Since 1990, he has worked in the Yard's Central Tool Room as a Tool Room Mechanic. On April 5, 2007, the United States Coast Guard will extend honors to Mr. Hahn in recognition of his 50 years of dedicated service. He is 1 of only 4 current Coast Guard civilian employees who have attained their Golden Anniversary with the federal government. Mr. Hahn plans to continue his work at the Coast Guard Yard beyond his 50th anniversary. Four months after this unique career achievement, Daniel Hahn will celebrate another milestone in life. He and his wife, Thelma, will celebrate their 52nd wedding anniversary on August 30, 2007.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mr. Daniel Hahn. He is an outstanding and dedicated employee at the Coast Guard's Curtis Bay Shipyard. Through his tireless efforts in over 50 years of public service, he has shown a unique and committed work ethic that few can emulate. He has gone above and beyond the call of duty in his devotion to the United States Coast Guard and the United States of America.

A TRIBUTE TO LT. COLONEL JOHN MULZAC

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, constituent and all around great guy, Lt. Colonel John Mulzac. Colonel Mulzac, or Daddy John as he is affectionately called, is an original Tuskegee Airman. He is an original member of the very first group of African-American World War II fighter pilots of the "99th Pursuit Squadron," later incorporated into the "332nd Fighter Group" and finally the "477th Bomber Group."

After fighting in World War II, Daddy John went on to fly in the Korean War and later the Vietnam War. He was then a member of the Air Force Reserve and then the New York State Air National Guard. Overall, Daddy John has logged more than 15,000 flying hours for the United States Air Force serving from 1942 to 1983. In addition to his service with the U.S. Air Force, Daddy John worked for 20 years as a New York City firefighter. His son Robert Mulzac is continuing the family legacy and is currently a Lieutenant in New York City's Fire Department.

In 1970, Daddy John left the New York City Fire Department and became a member of the First Group of U.S. Sky Marshals Flying World with several airlines including TWA. He continued his career as a Sky Marshal through 1972 training other Sky Marshals in Washington, DC.

Following 21 years of service as a United States Customs Inspector for New York Kennedy Airport's Area Inspection and Control Division, Daddy John retired.

Born on October 11, 1923 in Baltimore, Maryland, Daddy John spent his childhood in Bedford-Stuyvesant, where he now resides with his wife of 61 years, Beatrice. They have been blessed with 8 children, 24 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. It was his wife Beatrice who pinned on Daddy John's pilots wings upon his graduation from Tuskegee Institute in 1944.

Daddy John now spends most of his time in real estate and on the computer emailing his 6 grandchildren, who are enrolled in colleges throughout the country.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Lt. Colonel John Mulzac for his years of service and his invaluable contributions to our country. He is a true leader among men.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a remarkable man, Lt. Colonel John Mulzac.

COMMENDING CAROLINE HAMILTON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Caroline Hamilton of Lewisville High School for her recognition as a 2007 Presidential Scholar.

The Presidential Scholar Commission honors up to 121 graduating seniors each year for

outstanding academic achievement. This prestigious award is one of our nation's highest for high school students. Caroline is being honored as a Presidential Scholar for exceptional performance on the SAT. She earned a perfect score of 2400.

At Lewisville High School, Caroline is 2nd in her class and a leader in the band, as well as a member of National Honors Society and various other organizations. Outside of school, she is a member of our Congressional Youth Advisory Council and has received many well deserved accolades in Lewisville and Denton County.

Caroline is a notable example of how the education system in Texas is committed to fostering growth in students and giving them the skills they need to achieve. Congratulations to Caroline, her family, and Lewisville High School for this outstanding achievement.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATRICIA CICHOWICZ

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor of Patricia Cichowicz for her unflagging dedication to serving Northeast Ohio veterans.

Born to Emmett and Ann Holleran, Patricia excelled at school and developed a deep consideration for the most vulnerable in our midst. During her undergraduate and graduate studies, Patricia taught elementary school at St. Stanislaus and St. Vincent de Paul. After graduation, her devotion to our community's children continued as she taught special education at St. Thomas More.

Eager to spread her generosity to other members of the community, Patricia sought opportunities to serve other vulnerable populations. Her search brought her to cross paths with Martin Virsis and Joe Paul, two men on similar journeys to serve the community. They began Mobil Martin, an amulette business that transports disabled veterans around the community. Since 1996, when Mobil Martin comprised three vans and a dining room office, they have been a vital resource for Cleveland's veteran community.

Despite the sacrifices that veterans make in service to their country, once they leave active duty their efforts can go unrecognized. Patricia and everyone at Mobil Martin recognized the injustice inherent in the treatment of veterans, and set to ensure they have the resources to meet their needs. Since Mobil Martin's inception, Patricia's dedication has been evident in everything she has done, from helping the organization in its infancy, to ensuring all the veterans had shoes or lap blankets.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Patricia Cichowicz for all her contributions to the Cleveland community. May her commitment to veterans serve as an example for us all, that we may repay their service with our own compassion.

IN HONOR OF THE BIRTHDAY OF CÉSAR CHÁVEZ

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of César Chávez, not only because he was one of the great leaders of our country, but also because he was my friend. César was a man of courage, faith, and love who shared his strength with thousands and inspired millions of Americans.

To know César was to stand in awe of the enormous task he set for himself and the great moral leadership he gave to the campaign to challenge injustice and achieve peaceful change. His life, his cause, and his commitment have been and remain an inspiration to me.

His struggle for oppressed farmworkers fired our conscience. He insisted that this Nation acknowledge that every human being, regardless of origin, is of worth and is entitled to reach for a better tomorrow.

What made César Chávez stand out was that he lived the principles he preached: truth and courage. He knew what it was like to be treated without respect, and to work all day, everyday, with little to show for it. A lesser man may have burned up with anger, but Chávez burned with a love of justice and hope for a brighter future.

César's struggle for justice is far from over and we must continue to help others help themselves.

In Congress, we hold the power to create change. The Agricultural Jobs, Opportunities, Benefits, and Security Act of 2007 would bring major improvements to the lives of farmworkers in America. This bill would create a path for eligible undocumented farmworkers to apply for temporary immigration status or permanent residency based on their work experience. It would also preserve and enhance key labor protections for guestworkers.

Like Chávez, I believe there's nothing more wasteful than leaving a child with no good choices after graduation, and nothing more un-American than charging children with the offenses of their parents. With César in mind, I introduced the Dream Act, a bill that helps undocumented students realize their dream of going to college and becoming permanent legal members of the communities they've always called home.

César helped us see through the eyes of farmworkers—and what they saw was a dark and hopeless world. But under his leadership, they saw a new world, one of strength and hope, united against poverty and exploitation. Under UFW contracts, they won higher pay and for the first time—health coverage and pension benefits.

We will remember César's fight and never forget what he taught us—that we will succeed—that we will protect the gains that were so hard to win—that we will never give up.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Ms. CARSON. Madam Speaker, I was unable to record my rollcall votes Nos. 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on: roll No. 190, roll No. 191, roll No. 192, roll No. 193, roll No. 194, roll No. 195, roll No. 198, roll No. 199, and roll No. 201.

Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on: roll No. 196, roll No. 197, and roll No. 200.

HONORING DR. CHRISTOPHER COPPOLA AS HE IS HONORED WITH THE SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER AWARD

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor Dr. Christopher Coppola as he is honored by his alma mater, Xavier High School, with their distinguished Saint Francis Xavier Award. This prestigious award recognizes those who have demonstrated outstanding character and leadership—qualities which are at the core of an Xavier education.

Chris has achieved many great accomplishments throughout his life. He is a loving husband and father, dedicated pediatric surgeon, and proud member of the United States Air Force. It was just last year that Chris, a member of the 859th Surgical Operations Squadron, was deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his 4 month tour, Chris fought to save the lives of hundreds—American and Iraqi alike. It was from his experiences there that he recently published the book, "Made a Difference for That One: A Surgeon's Letters Home From Iraq."

As a doctor and surgeon, Chris has witnessed a myriad of incidents and battled to save the lives of countless patients. Even with all of his experience, Chris was unsure of what he might find waiting for him in Iraq. He began writing to his wife, Meredith, and family as a way to purge the horrific scenes he saw day in and day out. Chris wrote about every aspect of the war—from what he was eating to descriptions of the patients he was treating. One of the most telling letters described his experience with two young girls whose home had been fire bombed. Both burned badly, Chris and the surgical team fought to save them—unfortunately they lost one. In a twist of fate, Chris also saved the life of a man whom he later discovered was responsible for the bombing of the girls' home.

Meredith saved all of Chris's letters, often sharing them with their three sons and other family members. Chris is one of my cousins and I received a package from his parents containing some of his letters. I was touched, not only by his description of his experience, but by the dedication and commitment he showed to his own mission. I was proud to