

and 1940s. Additionally, in 2005, Mr. Gallodoro received an Honorary Doctoral Degree from Hartwick College, which recognized a lifetime of extraordinary achievement in music performance and teaching.

After moving to Oneonta in 1981, he has become an active entertainer in our community. Mr. Gallodoro performs each month at Oneonta's very own live music venue, the Segó Café. He is notably one of only thirteen artists who began recording before 1940 that is actively recording today.

Mr. Gallodoro has undoubtedly made an unforgettable impact on the music community and will always be remembered for his invaluable contributions to the field of music. I do not doubt that his 94th birthday celebration at the Segó Café in Oneonta will be one to remember.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pride today that I celebrate the incredible accomplishments of Mr. Gallodoro and wish him a wonderful 94th birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT R. RICE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 17, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert R. Rice, for his lifelong commitment to educating our youth and for sharing his many talents with our community.

Since his days with the United States Armed Service Forces Band, Robert has been graciously sharing his musical talent. In the Band, he played trumpet and sang lead vocals. After leaving the service, Robert dedicated himself to educating children and introducing them to the wonders of music. As a result of his commitment, thousands of children have cultivated an appreciation for music. Harding School has been the fortunate benefactor of Robert's musical talents for 25 years, culminating in his composition of "The Harding March."

Hardly one to hold back his love of music, Robert has also volunteered thousands of hours with community organizations and numerous churches.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Robert R. Rice for a life spent bringing the gift of music to the youth of Northeast Ohio. May all his students who have cultivated a love of music pass it along to future generations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ALBIO SIRE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 17, 2007*

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, on May 16, 2007, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 350, 351, 352. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 350, "yea" on rollcall 351, "yea" on rollcall 352, "no" on rollcall 353, "present" on rollcall 354, and "no" on rollcall 355.

IN PRAISE OF ARMY PFC DANIEL COURNEYA

**HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 17, 2007*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and praise Army PFC Daniel Courneya, a constituent of mine who died while serving his country in Iraq; PFC Courneya's convoy was ambushed in Iraq on May 12, 2007.

PFC Courneya of Vermontville was 19 years old. He grew up dreaming of serving in the military. Daniel grew up wishing to carry on the legacy of service to our great Nation which has run through his family. He grew up with the heart of a hero. Enlisting in the United States Army at 17 years old during his senior year of high school, his mother had to sign a waiver to allow her son to enlist.

As a student at Maple Valley High School, Daniel was well known and well respected. Daniel ran track at Maple Valley, played on the soccer team and played the clarinet in the school band.

In Vermontville, the members of the community hold parades to welcome home returning members of the military and have done so to honor PFC Courneya. What impresses me the most is the way the community has rallied around Daniel's family and provided caring support during this time of grieving.

My thoughts and prayers are with Daniel's family. I thank them for their beloved sons' dedicated service to the United States. May God be with them.

HONORING THE SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE OF MAYORS ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 17, 2007*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Southwest Conference of Mayors, SCM, on its 25th anniversary. Through dedicated and distinguished leadership, the Mayors' Conference continues to foster the improvement of local government, provide services to citizens, and enhance the overall quality of life for residents in southwest Cook County.

Since its inception in 1982, the Southwest Conference of Mayors has served as the regional council of governments, COG, in southwest Cook County. Currently, the Mayors' Conference has five standing committees, which focus on the areas of economic development, legislative advocacy, public works, transportation, and utilities. The committees strive to lower the costs of government, promote managerial expertise, coordinate experience and find solutions to problems of mutual concern, and develop a common voice on municipal concerns.

Today, the Southwest Conference of Mayors encompasses 21 municipalities that include: the village of Alsip; the village of Bed-

ford Park; the city of Blue Island; the village of Bridgeview; the city of Burbank; the village of Chicago Ridge; the village of Crestwood; the village of Evergreen Park; the city of Hickory Hills; the city of Hometown; the village of Justice; the village of Lemont; the village of Merrionette Park; the village of Oak Lawn; the village of Orland Hills; the village of Orland Park; the city of Palos Heights; the city of Palos Hills; the village of Palos Park; the village of Willow Springs; and the village of Worth.

Given the outstanding service and direction of the Southwest Conference of Mayors, I am especially privileged to acknowledge the founding and current SCM President, Mayor Jerry Bennett of Palos Hills; SCM vice president, Mayor Gene Siegel of Chicago Ridge; SCM vice president, Mayor Jim Sexton of Evergreen Park; and SCM treasurer, Mayor Bob Straz of Palos Heights. The hard work, insight, and leadership of these mayors ensure the future success of the Mayors' Conference and its positive impact on southwest Cook County.

The contributions made by the Southwest Conference of Mayors to the citizens of southwest Cook County are extraordinary. Today, I am pleased to recognize the organization's current and past leadership, member villages and cities, staff members, and all those who make the activities of the Mayors' Conference possible. As we celebrate this 25-year milestone, I look forward to continuing to work with SCM leaders to serve our communities and improve the lives of all area residents.

IN SUPPORT OF ONCOLOGY NURSES

**HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 17, 2007*

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the important and essential role that oncology nurses play in providing quality cancer care and to recognize May as Oncology Nursing Month.

Oncology nurses are the health professionals involved in the administration and monitoring of chemotherapy and managing the associated side-effects patients may experience. Every day oncology nurses see the pain and suffering caused by cancer and understand the physical, emotional and financial challenges that people with cancer face throughout their diagnosis and treatment.

Since 1975, the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) has been dedicated to excellence in patient care, teaching, research, administration and education in the field of oncology. The Society's mission is to promote excellence in oncology nursing and quality cancer care. I am pleased that ONS has 13 chapters throughout New York State which support oncology nurses in their efforts to provide high quality cancer care to patients and their families.

I urge my colleagues to support ONS in its important endeavors and to recognize the oncology nurses in their communities for all they do for people with cancer.