

achievement that drives him. No matter the source of his inspiration, I know the numerous organizations that have benefited from his service are extremely grateful.

Also, as someone who admires Dr. Wright greatly, I feel blessed to have known him. I am honored to call Dr. Wright a constituent, and friend. May our community and our country continue to benefit from his tremendous legacy of service.

TRIBUTE TO THE WASHINGTON
FIRE COMPANY

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Washington Fire Company No. 1 on the dedication of its firehouse and the housing of its equipment.

The station will be home to the fire company's new 2007 E-One Rescue Pumper as well as its 1999 E-One Ladder truck and its 1990 E-One Rescue Pumper. It will also house the pride and joy of the company, a beautiful, fully restored 1924 American LaFrance Pumper.

This new station is twice the size of the previous station, and will allow the members of the Company to more effectively protect the Borough of Conshohocken, which they have proudly served since 1874. From a small hose house 128 years ago to a new modern facility with a banquet hall, the Washington Fire Company has remained a staple of the Borough of Conshohocken.

The fire company's mission has expanded over time to include not only protecting the community, but also educating it. The company hosts an annual "Fire Prevention Show" that teaches the community about fire prevention and what to do in the case of a fire emergency.

The members of Washington Fire Company No. 1 selflessly serve the community while balancing their full-time careers and families. Through the years, their names and faces have changed, but the commitment and pride with which they serve the community has persevered. I ask everyone to join me in commending the members of the Washington Fire Company, past and present, and to congratulate them on the dedication of their new firehouse.

TRIBUTE TO SHERRY L. CART

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sherry L. Cart, a dedicated woman with a long history of service to our country. Mrs. Cart, a resident of Brandenburg, Kentucky, is retiring on September 28, 2007 after thirty-three years of active federal service.

Sherry Cart began her civilian service career on January 2, 1974. She is retiring, as Deputy Protocol Officer, United States Army Armor Center, Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Mrs. Cart's hard work has not gone unnoticed during her time at Fort Knox. She was the recipient of the Commander's Award for Civilian Service along with numerous performance awards and service awards.

It is my privilege to honor Sherry L. Cart today, before the entire United States House of Representatives, for her service to the soldiers of Fort Knox, the United States Army, and this Nation. I wish Sherry, her husband Steve, and the rest of their family a safe and happy retirement.

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, last month this House approved landmark legislation to put our nation on the path toward energy independence. Among other provisions, this bill would provide incentives to encourage the production and use of renewable energy, and calls for greater energy efficiency in both public and private sectors.

When it comes to energy usage, my home town of Las Vegas has received more than its share of scrutiny. But I would like to share with my colleagues an example of how Las Vegas is leading the nation in the effort to become more energy efficient. The following is a response from MGM MIRAGE, the largest employer in my district and a good corporate citizen, to an accusation that the casinos of Las Vegas use too much energy. I would suggest to my colleagues that if more businesses would follow the lead of MGM MIRAGE, the impact on our nation's energy consumption would be substantial.

SEPTEMBER 17, 2007.

Hon. CANDICE MILLER,
228 Cannon House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE MILLER: We recently read reports of your comments regarding energy consumption by the Las Vegas gaming and tourism industry. We would like to share with you some of the initiatives that we are taking at MGM MIRAGE to reduce our energy impact in our state.

Currently, we are in the process of building the largest privately funded construction project in the history of our country. CityCenter, a 76 acre, mixed-use urban development in the heart of the Las Vegas Strip, will include 2,700 residences and a 4,000 room resort and casino. In keeping with our commitment of green building design and construction, CityCenter is being built according to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification standards. Once complete, it will be the largest green campus in the history of the United States.

The following is a list of some of the energy efficiency features being incorporated into CityCenter: CityCenter will have a highly efficient state of the art central plant with combined heat and power capability. This combined heat and power plant will utilize excess heat, reusing it for heating domestic water; Facades will have higher glazing to reduce air conditioning costs; "Air-brows" or "shades" on the façade will help to prevent overheating of units from direct sun; A docking station for the room key is being considered for some hotel rooms; when the key is removed most of the lights will

shut down and thus conserve energy; The design maximizes the use of natural light in residential units, thus helping to reduce energy consumption; Most structures will have a reflective roof, also helping to reduce air-conditioning and therefore energy consumption.

In addition to these energy efficient features, we have taken many steps to also improve the efficiency of our existing buildings.

MGM MIRAGE recently implemented improvements in lighting technologies and mechanical equipment that will conserve 23 million kilo-watt hours annually; this is the equivalent of removing over 1,700 homes from the Las Vegas power grid.

The impact on air emissions by not having to produce this energy is equivalent to a reduction of approximately 17,000 tons of greenhouse gas per year; it would take about 500,000 trees to offset that amount of greenhouse gasses each year.

We are also working with the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), a not-for-profit think tank that assists companies in identifying and using energy and resources efficiently. The RMI will aid MGM MIRAGE in the development of a corporate strategy for alternative and renewable energy.

We also strive to work in a partnership with our local government in Nevada. Recently, our Senior Vice President of the Energy and Environmental Services Division, Cindy Ortega, was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Nevada's Climate Change Advisory Committee. In addition, we have recently been joined by Gary Mayo as our Vice President of Energy and Environmental Services Division. You might remember Gary in his former capacity as Director of Government Affairs and Corporate Responsibility for Visteon Corporation in Van Buren Township, Michigan.

MGM MIRAGE is committed to continue to demonstrate leadership in the areas of energy and water conservation. If you have any questions or would like additional information about CityCenter, or our efforts with regard to energy and natural resource conservation, please contact Robert Elliott, Vice President of Government Affairs.

Sincerely,

ROBERT ELLIOTT,
Vice President of Government Affairs,
MGM MIRAGE.

SONIA GANDHI SHOULD NOT
SPEAK ON NONVIOLENCE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I was distressed to learn that the United Nations invited Sonia Gandhi to speak on nonviolence next month. She is the leader of the Congress Party, which has presided over massive atrocities against Christians, Sikhs, Muslims, and other minorities.

Mrs. Gandhi is Catholic. How can she speak on nonviolence when her party presides over a country in which nuns have been raped and forced to drink their own urine, priests have been murdered, Christian schools have been burned to the ground, and prayer halls have been vandalized?

It was Mrs. Gandhi's party that carried out the Golden Temple massacre that killed so many thousands of innocent Sikhs, including young boys ages 8 to 13. Her party presided