

HONORING ALEXANDER MALLONEE OF SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alexander Mallonee on the occasion of his retirement as Secretary-Treasurer of the North Bay Labor Council, AFL-CIO, President of the National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 183, and letter carrier for the United States Postal Service. Alex has honorably served his community for 30 years.

Mr. Mallonee's career in public service began in 1977 when he became a letter carrier and was immediately active in the union. He ascended to the presidency of Branch 183 in 1980 and became known as a highly approachable, dedicated, and principled leader. In a position that can often lend itself to conflict and acrimony, Alex firmly stood up for the rights of his members while maintaining a strong, civil dialogue with management. According to his colleagues, Alex even educated management on many social justice issues.

Mr. Mallonee's stellar work with the Letter Carriers earned him the position of Secretary-Treasurer of the North Bay Labor Council, AFL-CIO, representing member unions in Sonoma, Lake, Marin, and Mendocino counties. Under Alex's leadership, the Council's membership has grown to over 50 unions representing 30,000 working men and women in the North Bay.

Mr. Mallonee's coalition-building skills were essential in his role as a founding member of the Coalition for a Better Sonoma County, an endeavor that sought to unify progressive environmental, labor, and community groups under the shared principles of smart growth, environmental protection, social justice, and affordable housing. Alex's gift for bringing people together has resulted in a vibrant progressive movement in Sonoma County.

Mr. Mallonee's legacy will be felt long after his retirement. He is a one of a kind leader who is well-respected by the business community as well as the progressive community. He is leaving the labor movement markedly better than he found it, which is a testament to his strength of convictions and quality of character.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Alexander Mallonee for his many years of public service to the Northern Bay area of California, and to thank him for his many contributions on behalf of working men and women everywhere. We wish him the best as he enters this new phase of his life.

TRIBUTE TO ASTRONAUT
BARBARA MORGAN

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, with great appreciation I rise today to honor an inspiring educator turned astronaut, Barbara Morgan, who has spent her distinguished ca-

reer ensuring our children have the knowledge and experience to fulfill their dreams. I also rise today, Madam Speaker, to thank Barbara for visiting my district to share her inspiring story and experience with local students.

This past August, Astronaut Barbara Morgan became the first teacher to complete a mission in space. While Barbara had to wait 21 years for her trip on the *Endeavour*, she completed the legacy of teacher Christa McAuliffe, who was tragically killed in the 1986 explosion of shuttle *Challenger*, by holding education sessions in orbit for students.

As Christa McAuliffe's backup for the NASA Teacher in Space Program, Barbara witnessed firsthand the tragic *Challenger* explosion. After the explosion, Barbara returned to teaching in Idaho, but in 1998 was drawn back to NASA and trained to become an astronaut and an integral part of shuttle missions. She has logged over 305 hours in space and completed her first space flight in August 2007 as a mission specialist on the crew of *Endeavour*.

Holding the first in-orbit classroom for students aboard *Endeavour*, Barbara said her 2 careers were very similar, saying in both roles, you "explore, discover and share." In these roles, Barbara has not only made a significant impact on space exploration, but she also serves as a positive role model for students. Growing up in Fresno, California, Barbara graduated with distinction from Stanford University and started teaching on the Flathead Indian reservation at Arlee Elementary School in Arlee, Montana. Most recently, Barbara taught second, third, and fourth grades at McCall-Donnelly Elementary School in Idaho.

Throughout Barbara's life, she has set an example for others to follow. Her courage and dedication to education serves as an example for us all, especially our students. It is because of teachers like Barbara that our students have the inspiration to follow their dreams.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of her tremendous service to our children and our Nation as an educator and astronaut, I ask that this honorable body join me in honoring Barbara Morgan.

TRIBUTE TO SISTER FRANCESCA
ONLEY

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an exceptional educator and leader in the Northeast Philadelphia community. Sister Francesca Onley has been the guiding hand at Holy Family University, a fully accredited Catholic University in Northeast Philadelphia, for 25 years. Holy Family University celebrated Sister Francesca's year tenure on Thursday, November 29, 2007, at a Silver Anniversary event, with the proceeds designated to establish an endowed scholarship in her honor.

Under Sister Francesca's leadership, Holy Family attained university status, created an endowment where there was none, added 2 additional campuses, and substantially increased the number of full-time students. More recently, under Sister Francesca's direction, the University completed an education tech-

nology building, housing some of the latest technologies for preparing future teachers, including adaptive technology to help integrate disabled students into the regular classroom.

Sister Francesca recently accepted the invitation of the University's Board of Directors to continue as President through 2011. She attributes her success to the fact that she relies upon simple rules of leadership about economy, timely goals and delivering what you say you will deliver, on time! As a Sister of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Sister Francesca does not receive a salary for her work as university president.

Sister Francesca Onley grew up in the Mayfair section of Philadelphia, not far from the Holy Family campus. She graduated from Nazareth Academy High School, later becoming its principal. She earned her bachelor's degree in education and business, as well as a doctorate in higher education administration from Holy Family.

Sister Francesca serves as chairperson of the International Association of University Professors—UN Commission on Disarmament Education, Conflict Resolution and Peace. That organization's mission is to institutionalize peace education in universities around the world.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sister Francesca Onley for her years of service to Holy Family University, her devotion to education and innovation, and her efforts to promote peace.

IN HONOR OF CONGRESSMAN JACK
BRINKLEY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor former Congressman Jack Brinkley, who was recently honored by the Muscogee County Democratic party with the creation of the Jack T. Brinkley Service Award.

From his humble beginnings in the community of Faceville, GA, where he and his three sisters were raised by a single mother, Pauline Brinkley, who worked as a lunchroom supervisor in Decatur County schools, Jack Brinkley went on to become a distinguished attorney, State Representative, and U.S. Representative for the third district of Georgia. Jack was quoted recently saying "Our mother always held her head up high and worked hard." Jack also learned to work hard and developed a work ethic that has followed him throughout his life.

After high school, Jack went from southwest to north Georgia where he attended Young Harris College with two other future luminaries of public service: Former Congressman Ed Jenkins and former Lt. Governor, Governor, and Senator Zell Miller. There must have been something in the water at Young Harris, because it truly nourished the seed of service in its students.

Graduating from Young Harris, Jack became a teacher for 2 years, joined the Air Force as a pilot during the Korean Conflict, and returned to receive his law degree at the University of Georgia under the GI Bill. During the same year, he met and married the former

Lois Kite of Phenix City, AL, and eventually moved to Columbus in 1964 to start his law practice.

Shortly thereafter, he was elected to the Georgia House, and 2 years later he was elected to Congress from the third district, eventually serving the second longest term of any third-district Congressman since the Civil War. When he retired, he was the senior member of the Georgia House Delegation and a prominent member of the Armed Services and Veteran Affairs Committees, providing much-needed support to Fort Benning, the Robins Air Force Base, and the thousands of veterans in the area. His constituent services were without equal.

When Jack campaigned, he promised to "remember who I am; where I'm from, and who sent me." He believed in the Christian principles of friendship, made it a point to remember names, heal misunderstandings, and never miss opportunities to express congratulations or sympathy. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to know the Honorable Jack Brinkley, and I commend and thank him for his many years of public service.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CATHEDRAL
SQUARE HOMELESS PROGRAM

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the staff and volunteers of the Cathedral Square Homeless Program and the services they provide in Sacramento. Two years ago representatives of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Cathedral St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Downtown Partnership, the California State Association of Counties, and the Pyramid Alehouse created this innovative program to help find housing for those in need. Their spirit and dedication is evident in every life they touch. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring some of Sacramento's finest citizens and this wonderful program.

In 2005, local residents, churchgoers and business leaders saw that homeless men and women were sleeping on the steps of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in downtown Sacramento. They then counted that over 60 homeless people were sleeping on the downtown streets each night and decided to take action.

To help the less fortunate, the Cathedral Square Homeless program was created. Administered by the Cathedral St. Vincent de Paul Society and partnered by the Sisters of Mercy, the California State Association of Counties, the Downtown Partnership and the Pyramid Alehouse, the program began providing homeless individuals with a bed in a warm house, clothing, bus passes, food, and necessary tools to achieve a self-sufficient life. This program is designed to allow individuals to become self-sufficient in 3 months.

The efforts of the volunteers who make this program work are truly admirable, and they have had some remarkable success stories. A particular gentleman entered into the program right after its inception in December of 2005. He had been homeless for 7 long and trying years. With the help of the Cathedral Square

Homeless Program he was able to have a steady place to live. He was given clean clothes and help with his transportation needs. That allowed him to have the stability to apply and interview for a variety of jobs. Within 3 months, he had secured a job and has been working ever since.

The Cathedral Square Homeless Program receives a great deal of support from the Sacramento community. The Sacramento Festival of Trees is a non-profit, interfaith, community-based volunteer organization that supports this program. This year, with the help of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, East Lawn Funeral Homes and Cemeteries, Sisters of Mercy, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, the Downtown Partnership, the Interfaith Services Bureau, Westfield Downtown Plaza, and Westminster Presbyterian Church, they are hosting the first Festival of Trees and Lights. Community organizations have decorated and donated artificial holiday trees, which will be displayed during the festival. Members of the community will be invited to participate in a silent auction to purchase a tree for their home, office, or as a gift. All donations and proceeds will benefit the Cathedral Square Homeless Program.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the Cathedral Square Homeless Program's unwavering commitment to the well-being of Sacramento's homeless. Over the past 2-years, their success stories have been truly inspiring. As members of the Sacramento community gather at the Festival of Trees and Lights fundraiser, I ask my colleagues to come together and honor the tireless dedication shown by the Cathedral Square Homeless Program's staff and volunteers in providing aid for those less fortunate.

TRIBUTE TO MAUREEN FESTI

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Maureen Festi of West Hartford, CT, for her outstanding achievement in the field of education. After 29 years of educating youth, Ms. Festi was honored with the 2007 Preserve America National History Teacher of the Year Award on November 16, 2007.

For the past 15 years, Ms. Festi has dedicated her life to teaching the children of Earl M. Witt Intermediate School in Stafford Springs, CT. Her dedication to her field and her passion for her students are apparent in her creative and imaginative approach to the American history curriculum. Ms. Festi has devoted her life to ensuring that her pupils do not simply memorize history, but also identify its relevance in their lives today. By extending her lessons beyond the four walls of the classroom, Ms. Festi adds contemporary meaning to a study that is focused on the past. A leader and an innovator in her field, Ms. Festi is truly deserving of this national recognition.

I ask all my colleagues to join with me and the people of Connecticut in congratulating Ms. Festi for this honor and thanking her for her continued commitment to the education of the children of Connecticut.

TRIBUTE TO MUNIR MALIK

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my former law school classmate Munir Malik, who has been detained by the Pakistani government for his support for the rule of law. I have contacted the State Department and the Embassy of Pakistan urging his immediate release and an end to martial law in Pakistan.

His brother, Saeed Malik, lives in San Jose, my home town. With unanimous consent, I'd like to submit into the record his Thursday op-ed in the San Jose Mercury News about his brother, Munir Malik, and the crisis in Pakistan.

TRIBUTE TO GLENN "TEX"
BREWER

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my personal heroes: a constituent in Fayetteville, GA, who has lived a life of exciting adventures, public service and family values.

Glenn "Tex" Brewer will retire from the Fayetteville City Council at the end of this year after serving for 16 years, many of those years as mayor pro tem.

But Brewer's civic duty in his hometown ranks as merely one of a long list of public services and great deeds. He spent most of his life serving our Nation as a career officer in the U.S. Navy, retiring as a captain.

The man's career reflected the boy's dream. A 10-year-old Brewer saw a news reel about Navy deep sea divers while he was at the local theater to see "Flash Gordon" in 1938.

When Brewer joined the Navy, however, he already had a pilot's license, so he was placed on the aviation track, where he received training in aerial and ground photography. This skill would come in handy after he graduated from the Naval Academy and switched from flight training to submarines. He soon became a highly skilled deep sea diver and an innovator in underwater photography.

In fact, Brewer was the first man to dive beneath the North Pole and to take pictures of the underside of the ice block. This was part of the USS *Seadragon's* historic trip, the first to traverse the Arctic Ocean from Atlantic to the Pacific. The submarine traveled the Northwest Passage beneath the ice of the North Pole. The largest iceberg the crew encountered measured 1,500 feet long, 100 feet wide and 300 feet deep. Brewer's photos of the iceberg ran in Life Magazine, the New York Times and the Washington Post. The crew surfaced on the geographic North Pole and played a game of softball. A hit ball would travel through today, yesterday, and tomorrow in one play, Brewer said, adding that every view from home plate pointed south.

It wasn't all good times on the North Pole, however. On another occasion, Brewer and two crew mates were accidentally stranded for