

life in that crash to the services received at the check-up event.

Since that incident, Fitzgerald Auto Malls has hosted hundreds of check-up events. Working with Safe Kids Montgomery County, local government agencies, and police and fire departments, Fitzgerald Auto Malls has inspected more than 35,000 child safety seats. The dealership hosts monthly car seat inspections free of charge for anyone in the community. If the monthly events are not compatible with a family's schedule, that family is encouraged to call the dealership to schedule a private appointment. This service is only possible because Jack Fitzgerald has personally paid for his employees to become nationally certified car seat technicians. In fact, more than 80 Fitzgerald Auto Mall employees have been trained to check a child's car seat for misuse.

I am honored to commend Jack Fitzgerald and the entire Fitzgerald Auto Malls family for their outstanding contributions to and involvement in our community. I applaud them for being a role model for all public/private partnerships and for their steadfast commitment and determination to keeping kids safe on our Nation's roads. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jack Fitzgerald, a remarkable advocate for America's children.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, on January 29, 2008, I was unable to be present for the final rollcall votes.

If present, I would have voted accordingly on the following rollcall votes:

Roll No. 27—"aye."

Roll No. 28—"nay."

HONORING HARTFORD, KENTUCKY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of the city of Hartford, Kentucky, located in the First Congressional District of Kentucky. On February 3, 2008, Hartford will celebrate its bicentennial birthday. This community in western Kentucky is among the oldest towns in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the third largest city in western Kentucky. It probably has one of the most unique yet welcoming slogans, "Home of 2,000 Happy People and a Few Soreheads."

Hartford was settled before 1790 in an area that was often a scene of bloody strife between American Indians and 18th century pioneers. There is evidence that a settlement was made at the present site of Hartford in 1782 and this was the first fortified settlement in the lower Green River Valley of western Kentucky.

The source of the town's name is uncertain. There is one tradition that a man named Hart ran a ferry there, hence the name Hart's Ford, which later became Hartford. Another tradition found in reminiscences of early times is that

the town was so called because animals including deer, the male of which the English forebears called a "Hart" had a regular crossing or "Ford" at the location of Hartford on the banks of Rough Creek.

The town of Hartford was formally established as "400 acres of land heretofore designated and laid out for a town, in the county of Ohio, on Rough creek, on the land of the late Gabriel Madison, inclusive of the out and in lots by an Act of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, enacted February 3, 1808."

Madam Speaker, Hartford has a rich history from its pioneer founding to the battle of brother against brother during the Civil War. Some of Hartford's famous past residents include Virgil Earp, brother of Wyatt Earp of the OK Corral acclaim, and impressionist painter Charles Courtney Curran, whose works hang in the Smithsonian Museum of Modern Art.

Hartford, Kentucky, is a progressive community welcoming those from near and far to visit or make their home in this inviting community. Opportunities from tourism to high tech industry attract visitors and new residents in this community located in the heart of western Kentucky.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I bring to the attention of this House the historical significance and sense of community that the citizens of Hartford, Kentucky, have as they celebrate the 200th anniversary of a great American city.

HONORING CMW & ASSOCIATES

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the contribution of a small business in my district to granting foreign workers their certifications necessary to work in this country. CMW & Associates, a female owned and 8(a) company located in Springfield, Illinois, has assisted the Department of Labor in Chicago in assuring that per Secretary Chao's directive, there is no longer a labor certification backlog.

Recently, Secretary Chao commended her staff at the Office of Foreign Worker Certification. "Behind every application is a person or group of people, waiting to come to our country and work in jobs for which no qualified U.S. worker can be found. The Permanent Labor Certification program is really proud about people—their hopes and their dreams of greater opportunities, and reunification with their families." Secretary Chao presented a certificate of recognition to Bill Carlson, Administrator of the Office of Foreign Labor Certification for his leadership role.

I want to recognize the Department of Labor for its exemplary work in expediting the processing of granting foreign workers their certifications necessary to work in this country, both on a permanent and temporary basis. And I want to thank Charlene Turczyn, CEO of CMW & Associates for her role in making sure America is able to obtain the skilled workforce necessary to make U.S. employers successful. As is often the case, small businesses play an integral role in the success of our government's ability to achieve its goals.

RECOVERY REBATES AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, a lot of brilliant economists have spent a lot of time over the last few weeks telling the American people what we already know: our economy needs help. The debate goes on over whether today's economic conditions will become an official recession, but most people aren't interested in official definitions. We want help now.

Fortunately, members of the New Direction Congress, meeting on a bipartisan basis, have developed an economic stimulus package that will get America moving again.

There's a lot to like about the proposed stimulus package.

The package provides support immediately. American families will receive help by June, in time to stop America's economic slide before we find ourselves mired in recession. This timely action is the result of a feeling in Congress that getting things done for the American people is more important than scoring political points.

The package will put money in the hands of working families who need it most. By helping families too poor to pay income tax, this proposal shows both compassion and common sense. We know that poor families are more likely to spend their rebate checks immediately, and that means more money flowing into our economy more rapidly.

And, finally, the package will not purchase short term growth at the expense of long term prosperity. This legislation does what must be done, but, more importantly, it does no more than is necessary. It contains no giveaways to any interest group, no pork barrel spending and no rushed changes in our tax code. The bill provides targeted, temporary stimulus. As a result, it will secure our present without burdening our future with debt.

But the package that we pass today is not perfect.

We have helped millions of families, but too many seniors still need our support. We have provided relief to millions of workers, but those who have seen their jobs disappear still face an uncertain future they did nothing to earn and can do little to change. We have provided temporary relief to millions of taxpayers, but we must renew the clean energy tax credits that give us hope for a stronger national economy and a more sustainable world.

Our work is not over.

We should celebrate today's accomplishment, but we must recognize that it is a first step, not a final one. Let's take the bipartisan spirit that has been kindled in the House and use it to do the work that remains to be done.

HONORING JOAN MANN

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of a wonderful woman

and friend. Joan was a devoted wife to Earl Mann of 49 years and mother to two daughters, Paula and Laura. For 29 years, she worked for the Woodlake Elementary School as a teacher's aide and was active in the Parent-Teachers Association. She served on the Tulare County Grand Jury, was active in her church and served as the local representative of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. She loved to write poetry, sometimes about events or people in her life. The following poem is one of her family's favorites.

I'VE SAILED UPON LIFE'S SEAS

I've walked upon the shores of life
A-kicking up the sands
I've met each eye that chanced my way
And shook each friendly hand.
I've sailed upon the seas
To cross to other places
I've met each smile with smiles to spare
And cherished those dear faces.
The song I've sung along the way
'Tis joyous and carefree
It tells of life, of wondrous times
And speaks of days to be.
And when my days on earth are through
God grant me one last thought
I'd love to do it all again
Remembering what life's taught.

Joan Mann's life demonstrated her love of her family, her community and her country. Mrs. Joan Mann of Woodlake, California, passed away January 24th. She will be greatly missed.

IN HONOR OF DARRELL L. FANT,
DIRECTOR, HIGHLAND PARK DE-
PARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Darrell L. Fant, Director of the Highland Park Department of Public Safety (HPDPS).

After thirty-two years of dedicated service, Darrell will be retiring from HPDPS on February 29, 2008. The Town of Highland Park has been privileged to have such a devoted public servant working on their behalf to ensure Highland Park stays a safe and family friendly area in the heart of Dallas. He has served in various roles such as Public Safety Officer, Lieutenant, Assistant Shift Commander, and Captain before taking on the leadership role of Director. His colleagues affectionately refer to him as "Chief" as he has earned their respect and demonstrated exemplary performance. In addition, he has received numerous commendations, thank you letters, and awards such as the 1984 Firehouse magazine Heroism and Community Service Award.

I know his vision and leadership will be greatly missed and difficult to replace. The legacy he leaves speaks loudly of the impact he has had on Highland Park.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in expressing our heartfelt gratitude for his hard work and dedicated service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. J. RUSSELL COFFEY, A PUBLIC SERVANT AND WORLD WAR I VETERAN

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, Mr. J. Russell Coffey passed away on December 20, 2007, at the age of 109, and Mr. Coffey was 1 of 3 surviving veterans of World War I. Mr. Coffey was a student at Ohio State University when the United States joined the war in 1917 and Mr. Coffey enlisted in the Army at the age of 20 and was honorably discharged on December 12, 1918, a month after the signing of the armistice.

Mr. Coffey played baseball and was a track sprinter while in college and received both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Ohio State University, as well as a doctorate degree in education from New York University. Mr. Coffey continued his interest in sports and teaching by officiating high school sports for many years while he taught junior high and high school students in Phelps, Kentucky, at the former Glenwood Junior High School in Findlay and at the former Findlay College. Mr. Coffey served as an instructor at Bowling Green State University from 1948 through 1969, primarily teaching physical education but also teaching archery, psychology, swimming, and driver's education. Mr. Coffey was the director of the university's graduate studies in health and physical education from 1952 to 1968. Mr. Coffey was an active member of the Bowling Green Rotary Club for more than 50 years, and he was named the "oldest living Rotarian in the world" by the club in 2004, and in later years, Mr. Coffey credited physical activity and a healthy diet for his longevity.

The House of Representatives honors the life of Mr. J. Russell Coffey for his dedication to public service as a veteran, teacher, and member of the community.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF CARL A. DIPIETRO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of an outstanding Western New Yorker. On November 19, 2007 a beloved husband and loving father entered into rest. Carl DiPietro lived a very full life filled with love of family and friends. Carl leaves behind a long lasting legacy that stretches from his days in the Navy to the dedication and loyalty he demonstrated each and everyday with his family, at his business or throughout the community.

Mr. DiPietro was a proud business owner of Sparkle Cleaners, a dry cleaning business located in Amherst, NY. It was said that Mr. DiPietro treated patrons and employees alike as family. A hardworking man, Carl was skilled in his craft and was characterized by his children as an "All American Dad" whose love knew no end. A man who cultivated his many interests, Carl loved music and enjoyed play-

ing the guitar; he was an avid photographer and restored antiques. Amidst his varied interests and passion to explore them, his family remained the most important part of his life.

Carl DiPietro was a good and decent man and will always be remembered for his friendly demeanor, his terrific sense of humor and his care free spirit. His strength, courage, strong religious faith accompanied by a will to survive kept him going through the difficult times. When someone you love passes on, pain remains for those left behind. May Carl's wife Elaine, his daughters Linda, Judy, and Donna, his sons Carl and David, grandchildren, extended family and friends continue to live out Carl's memory with love, purpose and fulfillment in their own lives.

Madam Speaker, I am thankful that you have allowed me the opportunity to honor the life of Carl DiPietro and remember the many contributions he made throughout the Western New York community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and memory of Carl DiPietro here today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR. WILLIAM C. BLACK

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a great American, Mr. William C. Black, a loving husband, father and grandfather, successful entrepreneur, generous philanthropist, and courageous veteran. Mr. Black epitomized all that is good about our nation and indeed the world. On February 9th 2008, an exceptional group of family and friends with gather to remember and thank a man who dedicated his skills, energy, and love to others. In the course of a remarkable life that began in Bayonne, NJ on June 7th 1930 and continued for sixty-six years thereafter, Mr. Black's work ethic, intelligence, leadership, and basic decency made him a pillar of his community and a source of hope for multiple generations of patients and their families at Jersey Shore Medical Center.

Following graduation from Fordham University in 1952, Mr. Black immediately went to the defense of our nation in the United States Marine Corps. His seven years of service as an aviator in the USMC included duty in Korea and Japan, and a meteoric rise to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. From the Marine Corps, Mr. Black carried with him a fighting spirit and sense of purpose that helped him to become President of the New Jersey Zinc Company, our nation's pioneer zinc producer and originator of all zinc alloys that revolutionized the modern die-casting industry.

However, it was after retiring from New Jersey Zinc that Mr. Black's life reached its zenith. From his tireless work to improve the facilities of the Jersey Shore Medical Center, the "Mary V. Black Pavilion" was christened and thousands of trauma patients owe their health and lives to that state-of-the-art facility. This month at the 2008 Jersey Shore Sweetheart Cancer Ball, Mr. Black and his family will be recognized for their work to cure that devastating illness. I will never forget the moment my four year old daughter was diagnosed with