

Men and Women's Olympic Swimming and Diving Team. Swimmer Cecily Cuhna highlighted the day with setting a world record. If a swimmer or diver participated in the 1928, 1932 or 1936 Olympics those athletes competed, trained or exhibited at the Norconian Resort.

Many more memorable events and activities occurred in the coming years and in the most unlikely of places: the poultry town of Norco. On December 8, 1941, the depression-weary resort became one of the preeminent naval hospitals in the Nation and at its peak in 1945 serviced 5,000 wounded, sick and battle-weary sailors and marines. The first patients were casualties of the infamous Pearl Harbor attack and recuperated in the exquisite hotel rooms. The Naval Hospital quickly set the standard in a number of areas which included the treatment of polio, use of penicillin to conquer malaria and tuberculosis, and the development of prosthetics and occupational therapy.

Norco was also the birthplace of wheelchair basketball on the wheels of the fabulous "Rolling Devils." The stars, who once were guests of the former Norconian Resort, turned out "for the boys"; Gary Cooper, Abbott and Costello, The Three Stooges, Marlene Dietrich, Jack Benny, Bob Hope and dozens of other stars entertained wounded heroes from battles in the Pacific. Eleanor Roosevelt was also a visitor, as was Helen Keller, and ball club owner Bill Veeck, a wounded marine, guided his Cleveland Indians to a World Series Championship from a hospital bed in Norco.

Norco citizens rallied behind the war effort with record bond sales and patriotism on many occasions raising thousands of dollars more than cities ten times larger in size and population. After World War II and Korea, Norco once again became an agricultural powerhouse, but, with the closing of the Naval Hospital in 1957, the entire area went into an economic tailspin. However, in 1963 a long forgotten real estate agent scrawled the words "Horse Property for Sale" on a piece of white butcher paper and very quickly Norco became the home to horse lovers. Incorporated in December of 1964 to protect its "rural lifestyle," Norco is home to a community fiercely devoted to the equestrian lifestyle with large properties, extensive open space and a horse trail on every street—120 miles of horse trails to be exact.

Over the weekend of May 9, 10, and 11, 2008, Norconians will remember their past and celebrate a truly unique Southern California Equestrian lifestyle. It is an honor to represent the town of Norco in Congress and I congratulate the town and residents on 85 years of service to their country and community.

LTG MICHAEL HAMEL: HONORING  
A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 8, 2008*

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, the Space and Missile System Center, SMC, at L.A. Air Force Base plays the critical role in the design, production, and launch of our country's most sophisticated military satellites. Located

in El Segundo, CA, in the center of my congressional district, SMC has enjoyed 58 consecutive successful launches. Employing 6,500 military and civilian personnel nationally, with a whopping \$10 billion annual budget—SMC is a major economic driver in southern California.

The importance of SMC to our national security cannot be overstated either. In my many terms in Congress, I've always worked closely with the SMC commander, who is much more than a mission manager. LTG Mike Hamel, the present commander, retires in July, and I rise to honor his extraordinary service.

Mike and I have often talked about America's strategy for space. Framing a new, nationally integrated space policy—one bringing together the civil, military, and commercial sectors—is a common goal of ours. I applaud him for his visionary leadership on this issue—and look forward to more conversations about getting it right.

Mike Hamel has served his country with distinction for 36 years, since receiving his commission as second lieutenant from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1972. In the course of 16 assignments, he rose to the rank of lieutenant general, which he attained on June 1, 2005.

The change of command ceremony occurs May 15, a date Congress is in session. Though I will miss the transfer of command to the very able GEN John Sheridan, I look forward to partnering with him and to welcoming a tanned and relaxed Mike Hamel to Washington after he and his wife, Linda, complete their drive across the country.

Thanks, Mike, on behalf of a grateful Nation.

#### NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

SPEECH OF

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of H. Res. 1086, a resolution in recognition of National Nurses Week, which will be celebrated May 6 through May 12, 2008. As a proud member of the Congressional Nursing Caucus, I added my name as cosponsor to this worthy resolution.

Nurses Week has been celebrated every year since 2003 and coincides with the May 12th birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. We recognize this week, as we should all 52 weeks of the year, the critical role nurses play in providing safe, high-quality, and preventative health care.

Providing this type of adequate health care is essential, not only across the Nation, but especially in rural America. As a longtime friend of hard-working West Virginians, I believe all Americans deserve to have access to quality, affordable health care. Throughout my tenure, I have continued to support programs that will improve this access, and I believe that providing quality nurses is part of this goal. This is why I support increased funding for Nursing Workforce Development Programs so that those who answer the call to serve others through nursing have the support and funding they need to achieve that goal.

Nursing care is an essential and necessary aspect of our health care infrastructure, and it is therefore important that we continue to pro-

vide every opportunity to recruit and maintain more nurses, particularly in rural areas like southern West Virginia. Nursing programs in my district such as those at St. Mary's Hospital, Marshall University, and Mountain State University, along with countless others around the State, help to provide a vital service to their fellow citizens.

I encourage the people of West Virginia, and the entire Nation, to observe National Nurses Week with appropriate recognition, ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate the importance of nurses to the everyday lives of patients. They make significant contributions to the lives of so many every day without once asking for the recognition they clearly deserve.

#### TRIBUTE TO WAVERLY-SHELL ROCK WRESTLING TEAM

**HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 8, 2008*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding results achieved by the Waverly-Shell Rock wrestling team at the Iowa State Wrestling Tournament in Des Moines this past winter.

Waverly-Shell Rock took all the drama out of the Class 3A team finals by winning the State title a day early. Needing just one win to wrap up the title, Waverly-Shell Rock's 112-pound freshman, Cody Caldwell, pinned his opponent in 4 minutes and 45 seconds. The Go-Hawks went on to win three more. Waverly-Shell Rock wrapped up the State Tournament by breaking the State record for team points in a State Tournament dating back to 2001 and became the first team to break the 200-point mark in a State meet.

I congratulate Waverly-Shell Rock for winning the Iowa Class 3A State championship. Waverly-Shell Rock's last title came in 2005.

Madam Speaker, I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Waverly-Shell Rock wrestling team, both on and off the mat, and I am proud to serve them in Congress.

#### CONGRATULATING MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE, CUNY

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 8, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York on its' newly announced initiative to implement two new bachelor degree programs.

Medgar Evers College has long possessed an unparalleled reputation in the field of adult education. The college provides its students with a unique experience, which combines academic excellence in nearly 100 areas of study with real-world experience. This unique combination has led to the continued success of its students. As a result, the State Board of Regents and the City University of New York accreditation committee approved the allocation of money to fund two new bachelor degree programs: the Bachelor of Arts in