

1928, in Spokane Washington, the Honorable Bill Sheffield has been a leader in business, government, and public policy for many of the 55 years he has resided in Alaska. He served as governor from 1982 to 1986 following an impressive and prosperous business career in which he built a company that became one of the largest private employers in Alaska and the Yukon Territory.

Following a landslide victory in his 1982 election, Governor Sheffield focused his attention to curbing the runaway growth in state government, bettering the lives of rural Alaskans, and saving more of Alaska's energy revenues for future generations of Alaskans. As Governor he supported opening ANWR, a position I proudly share with him and one which we will continue to support until development begins.

Since leaving public office in 1986, Governor Sheffield hasn't slowed down at all! He is a trustee of Alaska Pacific University; a member of the Advisory Board of ENSTAR Natural Gas; a charter member of Commonwealth North, Alaska's leading public affairs forum; Past Chairman of the Federal Salary Council; former Alaska Chairman of the United Nations 50th year celebration; received the 2006 Lifetime Achievement Award in Business from Alaska Business Monthly; former President & CEO of the Alaska Railroad Corporation and now serves on its Board of Directors.

In addition to these many commitments, Governor Sheffield also serves as the Director of the Port of Anchorage. As Director, Sheffield has implemented a massive expansion that started in 2002 and will be completed in 2014. Governor Sheffield's vision for the much needed expansion of the State of Alaska's largest port will serve nearly the entire geographic area and population of our State as goods and materials are brought into Alaska. In addition, the Port will serve National Defense Objectives by providing vital, modernized transportation support and access to four major military installations and personnel in Alaska, including the Stryker Brigade at Ft. Wainwright. Furthermore, the expanded port will play a major role in the ongoing efforts to bring even more of Alaska's vast and much needed energy resources to the rest of the Nation. I am proud to support Governor Sheffield, the expansion of the Port and the fantastic job he is doing for Alaska and the Nation. His tireless energy and enthusiasm continues to amaze me!

As a candidate for Governor in 1982, Bill's theme was "Bringing the State Together." I learned from him that when we all work together we can achieve great things and I hope that others continue to follow in his path of bipartisanship. Most importantly, Madam Speaker, against the backdrop of today's partisan fighting, I have always tried to reach out to the other side, to reach out to Democrats who are dedicated to getting things done. Governor Sheffield, a lifelong Democrat, is one of the best examples I know of someone who is willing to work with anyone, regardless of political affiliation, who is also devoted to achieving important goals for the greater good.

I like to remember great leaders by what they were able to accomplish while they served others. The legacy that Bill will leave behind someday is the vision he has had for the future of Alaska. I share his vision in investing now to prepare for the future. Sometimes this goes against the grain of popular

opinion but a great leader is unafraid of rocking the boat of populism. I celebrate Bill's willingness to do this and wish more public servants were willing to stand up for what is right and not just popular.

I would be remiss were I not to mention that while Bill works hard, he also knows how to enjoy all that life has to offer. He is an excellent duck hunter, fisherman, golfer and an avid outdoorsman and his friends and family mean the world to him. He and I have shared countless hours together over the years and I truly value his unwavering friendship. Madam Speaker, I am honored to call Bill Sheffield my friend and I hope the entire Congress will join me and my wife Lu in wishing him well on this wonderful occasion. Happy birthday Bill! God bless you.

COMMEMORATING THE 58TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE START OF THE KOREAN WAR

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to honor the bravery and courage of American and Korean servicemen; and to celebrate the bonds of friendship between our two great countries. Fifty-eight years ago yesterday, forces from Communist North Korea launched an unprovoked invasion of their neighbors to the south, initiating what we now remember as the Korean War.

Over the course of the following three years, millions of people were killed, wounded or forced from their homes and many more captured by the enemy. American troops of all colors and backgrounds gave their lives for freedom alongside thousands of Koreans. But "The Forgotten War," as it is too often called because it was sandwiched between World War II and Vietnam, was necessary to stem the Communist tide in Asia and preserve the spirit of freedom for millions on the Korean Peninsula.

The battle for Korea likely spared Japan from the threat of Communist invasion and showed the Communist world that the United States and its allies were prepared to vigorously resist Communist aggression. America and South Korea paid a dear price in blood and treasure but those who fell contributed much to the better world the people of South Korea enjoy today.

Since the end of the War in 1953, South Korea has grown both economically and politically and has led as an example of democracy in East Asia, demonstrating our shared values of democratic governance, free enterprise and the rule of law. South Korea is a strong, unwavering ally in the U.S.-led Global War on Terror, having dispatched the third largest contingent of troops to Iraq, and to Afghanistan (where a South Korean soldier was killed during hostile action), and to Lebanon in support of peacekeeping operations there. In fact, South Korea has been one of only four partners and allies that stood with us through all four major conflicts since World War II. In addition, South Korea demonstrated her great friendship and generosity in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, pledging over \$30 million in aid for relief and recovery efforts—the fourth

largest amount donated by any foreign country.

In contrast, Communist North Korea is in dire straits, unable to even feed its people. Like the struggles we see today in the newly liberated countries of Iraq and Afghanistan, when people have the freedom and will to determine their own fate, they will embrace democracy and freedom and the right of self-determination.

I firmly believe that South Korea may be the premier success story of U.S. foreign policy in the post-World War II period. Having assisted South Korea in transforming itself from a war-torn, impoverished economy into a successful democracy with a free enterprise economy (the world's 11th largest), South Korea is now an indispensable partner with the United States in promoting democracy, a free market economy and respect for the rule of law around the world. Our economic relationship with South Korea is crucial as the seventh-largest trading partner with the United States. And almost sixty years later, the relationship between the United States and South Korea continues to be a very special one that builds upon a foundation of a friendship first laid in the 1882 Korean American Treaty of Peace, Amity, Commerce and Navigation.

Unfortunately Madam Speaker, there is a question mark hanging over our relationship with South Korea. Monday, June 30, 2008, will mark the one year anniversary since representatives from our two governments signed the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement here in Washington. If implemented, this agreement could potentially be the most commercially-significant free trade agreement signed by the United States in more than a decade. How we dispose of that Agreement will determine whether we are serious about enhancing the strong partnership between our two great democratic nations, and willing to open the door wider to the exchange of science and ideas that help us both to prosper.

South Korea is already the United States' seventh largest export market and sixth largest market for U.S. agricultural products. In fact, according to the latest statistics, our annual bilateral trade totals nearly \$80 billion. Koreans have invested nearly \$20 billion in the United States, and have created American jobs through companies like Hyundai Motors, Samsung Electronics, and Kia Motors.

As the largest investor in Korea, the United States already has a leading presence in that country. Any agreement that can open up more Korean markets to U.S. goods and services can only have a positive effect on the American economy by creating more and better jobs, enriching consumer choice, and boosting U.S. industry and manufacturing.

But this FTA is more than simply a debate over economics; it is also recognition of our special relationship with South Korea and a strong statement that we will continue to stand with our allies, especially as we face continued uncertainty in regards to the nuclear ambitions of North Korea.

No agreement or treaty is ever perfect, as it is always a product of compromise. And I agree that Congress has a legitimate right to debate the merits of the agreement; so let's have that debate; let's take this agreement out of legislative limbo, bring it to the House Floor, have an honest up or down vote, and let the chips fall where they may, Madam Speaker. I think we owe our South Korean friends that much respect.

On the occasion of these twin anniversaries—the somber but proud commemoration of the beginning of the Korean War, and the forward-looking commemoration of the signing of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement—I ask my colleagues to join with me to salute our veterans and to celebrate the strong and enduring friendship and alliance between the good people of the Republic of Korea and the United States.

IN HONOR OF THE ST. JOHN'S
COUNCIL NO. 1345 KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS OF DUMONT-BERGEN-
FIELD CENTENNIAL

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the Knights of Columbus of Dumont-Bergenfield St. John's Council, No. 1345 on their Centennial Rededication. St. John's Council No. 1345 is the fourth largest council out of 300 councils in my home State of New Jersey.

Chartered on June 28, 1908, this council has been serving our community while faithfully upholding the Knights' founding principles of charity, unity, and fraternity. As a fraternal and charitable organization, part of the world's largest lay Catholic organization, the St. John's Council No. 1345 has given over \$1.2 million dollars and has provided over five hundred thousand hours in service to those in need. This group is to be commended for providing 100 years of funding and manpower not just locally in northern New Jersey, but also in service to charitable activities nationally and globally.

As the St. John's Council No. 1345 gathers to mark their centennial year, I rise in tribute and to say thank you for their contribution to making north Jersey such a fine place to live, work, and raise a family.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROPERTY
MITIGATION ASSISTANCE ACT
OF 2008

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I would like to introduce legislation to help minimize the hardship of home and business owners who are most at-risk prepare for the next, inevitable natural disaster. As people from the gulf coast and those States bordering the Atlantic Ocean are only too well aware, this year's hurricane season officially began in recent days. Once again this year, weather experts are predicting several severe storms. While the reasons for the increased number of storms remains a subject of much argument and debate, their disastrous results lie beyond dispute.

A better way exists, however, and that way is prevention. "Prevention," when it comes to storm damage, takes many forms. At-risk home and business owners can take preventive measures by "hardening" their homes and

other structures against preventable storm damage. They can strengthen their roofs, install storm shutters, elevate their electrical systems and even construct "safe rooms" within their homes.

The "Property Mitigation Assistance Act of 2008," would establish a homeowner mitigation loan program within the Federal Emergency Management Agency to promote pre-disaster property mitigation measures. The bill would provide for grants of at least \$500,000 to States based on the State's risk of natural disaster, and would authorize \$200 million for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 for the homeowner mitigation loan program.

Although, the challenge to rebuild in the aftermath of a natural disaster remains, there must be legislation in place to assist homeowners and businesses that are located in areas that are at risk and subject to repeated hazards or natural disasters. I urge my colleagues to carefully consider The Property Mitigation Assistance Act of 2008 and enact this legislation into law.

IN TRIBUTE TO J.D. POWER III

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. GALLEGLY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to J.D. "Dave" Power III, who is retiring from the day-to-day operations of the company he founded 40 years ago, a company that revolutionized market research.

Dave Power's plunge into entrepreneurship was sparked by dissatisfaction with the way businesses then conducted market research. Armed with an MBA from Pennsylvania University's Wharton School of Business, Power went to work with big-name automotive and advertising agencies as a financial analyst and market researcher. Over the years, he became disillusioned with the quality of work he was asked to provide, likening it to "torturing the data until it confessed" instead of delving into customers' real opinions.

In 1968, Dave Power launched his company with his wife, Julie, in a rented apartment in Los Angeles. It began to take off when Power talked himself into an impromptu meeting with a visiting Japanese executive. That meeting led to a collaboration with Toyota that continues unabated today. Using research focused on how potential customers perceived Toyota, Power and Toyota built a business model that changed that perception for Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A.

As Toyota began hiring internal marketers, Power began conducting smaller, independent and self-funded studies on individual products. By that time, Dave, Julie and their family were operating out of their family home in Calabasas, California. Julie's role was to tabulate data from the surveys. One survey had gone out to owners of Mazda's new Wankel rotary engine. Those owner surveys showed a problem with the engine's O-ring, which was causing the engines to self-destruct after 30,000 miles. Julie showed the findings to Dave, Dave shared it with the 14 auto manufacturers who subscribed to his surveys, and one subscriber leaked it to the Wall Street Journal.

J.D. Power was on his way to becoming a household name, and Mazda joined the growing legions of industries as a subscriber. Today, nearly every major global manufacturer is a J.D. Power and Associates client and the company provides research, analysis and consulting for a wide range of global industries with offices throughout the world.

Madam Speaker, J.D. Power and Associates has made the "voice of the customer" a force to be listened to within industries around the world, providing benefits for consumers and businesses alike. While Dave has stepped away from the day-to-day operations of the firm, he will continue to be the face of J.D. Power and Associates. I know my colleagues will join me in wishing Dave and Julie well in their semi-retirement and thank Dave for building better relationships between customers and companies, resulting in positive results for both.

TRIBUTE TO JAY LINDAHL AND
MARTHA SPARKS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize volunteer firefighter Jay Lindahl of Ogden, Iowa and Martha Sparks of Boone, Iowa for their swift and heroic actions that saved a fellow Iowan's life.

While eating lunch at a restaurant in Ames, Iowa, a fellow patron began choking on her food. Martha quickly approached the distressed patron and administered the Heimlich maneuver. When it appeared as if the Heimlich wasn't working, Jay came over to the scene. He noticed the patron's color leaving her face and lack of pulse. Jay then began administering oxygen while Martha administered chest compressions. Within moments, the woman was breathing on her own and regained consciousness.

Without Martha and Jay's alertness and quick actions, this woman would possibly not be with us today. It is heroic acts like this that make this nation and its people second to none.

Martha and Jay's unselfish actions go above and beyond what we are asked of in our everyday lives, and I commend Jay Lindahl and Martha Sparks for their noble deed. I am honored to represent them both in the United States Congress, and I know my colleagues join me in recognizing their heroic actions and wishing them health and happiness in the future.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF CHARLES
SEBES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance and honor of Charles Sebes, a beloved figure in Cleveland area politics and a loving husband, father, and grandfather. This past June we gathered to celebrate Chuck's retirement as Parma Democratic City Ward Leader.