

Memorial Wall at the Asan Bay Overlook. Inscribed on the Memorial Wall are the names of the thousands of individuals, liberators who died in the battle for Guam, and the liberated who died or suffered injury, forced labor, forced march and internment during the occupation of Guam. Through this restoration project, the National Park Service has ensured that our island will have this lasting monument to honor and remember Guam's greatest generation.

We commend the National Park Service on the reopening of the T. Stell Newman Visitors Center. In 2002, the Visitors Center, formerly located in Piti, was destroyed by Super-typhoon Pongsona, but has since been restored for the public at its new location in Sumay. This restoration was made possible through a successful partnership between the National Park Service and the U.S. Navy.

The War in the Pacific National Historical Park is an extraordinary way for the people of Guam and our fellow Americans to recognize the history of Guam and the battles in the Pacific Theater. On behalf of the people of Guam, I congratulate the War in the Pacific National Historical Park for a successful 30 years of service to our island and our Nation and I wish them continued success in the decades to come.

HONORING BENNY FRIEDMAN OF
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Rep. LYNN WOOLSEY to honor a local hero from Santa Rosa, CA. Benny Friedman, a beloved philanthropist and the founder of Friedman's Home Improvement, passed away on July 9, 2008, at the age of 90, after a life that touched and inspired many.

"If we don't have it, you don't need it," the famous Friedman's slogan, is typical of Benny's way of doing business—with both humor and the needs of his customers in mind. And profits from the business were used to enhance the community through promotion and support of local organizations.

Born in 1918 to a Russian Jewish family that had fled the pogroms, Benny worked hard throughout his youth. After his father's death, he left high school to support the family, learning about the hardware business by working in Mike Cohen's store. In 1940, he married Rosemary Zittin, a Russian immigrant, and shortly thereafter enlisted with his brother Joe to fight in World War II.

After the war, the brothers purchased a junkyard in Petaluma and were later joined by their younger brother Harry. Over the decades, the business grew, thanks to the brothers' philosophy of working hard and treating everyone, customers and employees, with fairness and respect. During this time, their children and grandchildren joined the business, and today there are stores in Santa Rosa, Sonoma, and Ukiah.

Benny retired 20 years ago but continued to delight family, friends, and community with his warmth, humor, and good spirits. His wife Rosemary died in 2001, and in 2006, he mar-

ried Irene, whom he had met at the senior lodge where they both lived.

In Santa Rosa, Benny will be remembered as the co-founder of the Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, now one of Sonoma's County major venues. With his wife Rosemary and brother Joe, he built the Friedman Center, a community hall at Congregation Beth Ami. He donated generously to other local causes, giving back to the community which had enabled an impoverished immigrant to achieve success for himself and his family.

Benny is survived by his wife Irene, his brother Harry, his children Bill Friedman and Debbie Chapman, four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, Benny Friedman's life is an example for all of us that hard work, honesty, and caring for others lead to success. But Benny went far beyond that in giving back to this community and to all who knew him. I will miss Benny, but I am thankful to have had the opportunity to be one who knew him.

HONORING JUDGE DERRELL HALL

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am privileged today to express my deep admiration for former Fannin County Judge Derrell Hall, who provided outstanding leadership for his community for over 23 years as Judge, Commissioner and Probation Officer.

Judge Hall's experience and excellence as County Commissioner and Chief of Juvenile Probation led to his appointment as Fannin County Judge in 1997 after a previous Judge's mid-term resignation. Derrell's character and strong sense of responsibility were evident to his community, and he was continually re-elected to lead his county and community.

Born in Bonham, Texas, on March 4, 1953, Derrell Hall is a lifelong resident of Fannin County and currently lives as the fourth generation on his family farm that his great-grandfather settled in 1908 in the tiny Mulberry community on the Red River. He and his wife, Judy Patterson Hall, are members of Mulberry Methodist Church, and are parents to five daughters and two sons. Their growing family includes four grandsons and three granddaughters.

Derrell worked for a number of years as a farmer and rancher in his home community. After receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from East Texas State University in 1983, Derrell served as County Commissioner of Precinct One in Fannin County and became certified by the state of Texas as a Juvenile Probation Officer. From 1993 through 1996, he served as Chief of Juvenile Probation until his appointment as Fannin County Judge.

Throughout his public life, Derrell always sought to foster a better community for all of the families in Fannin County. He served as Chairman of the Fannin County Juvenile Board and a member of Fannin County's Fair Board, Appraisal District, 4-H and Youth Advisory Board, and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Fannin County—a program that recruits, screens, trains and supervises volunteers to advocate for abused and ne-

glected children involved in the court system. In addition, he served on the Northeast Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, as President of both the Texoma Council of Governments and the Rural Rail Transportation District, and served 15 years on the administrative board for Cooke-Fannin-Grayson Juvenile Detention Facility and Boot Camp.

Derrell Hall is a man who understands that for a small community to thrive, it needs strong leaders who are willing to serve in many diverse capacities. As Derrell pursues new career interests, I join his many friends and supporters who look forward to seeing the new achievements Derrell is sure to accomplish. Madam Speaker, as we adjourn today, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute and expressing our gratitude to this outstanding public servant in Fannin County—Derrell Hall.

HONORING BENNY FRIEDMAN OF
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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JOE POWELL: LABOR LEADER OF
THE YEAR

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a longtime leader in the labor movement, Joe Powell. Joe is the business manager/financial secretary of the Sheet Metal Workers' Local 206 representing approximately 1,300 members. As business manager, Joe serves as the chairman of the committee which negotiates wages, hours, and conditions of employment.

As financial secretary, Joe assumes full responsibility and liability to the local union and the Sheet Metal Workers' International Association for all monies received and recorded. Additionally, Joe serves in numerous capacities with other Local 206 affiliates such as the trustee for the Sheet Metal Workers' Trust Fund, chairman of the San Diego Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee, JATC, executive board member for the AFL-CIO Labor Council, co-chairman for the Local 206 401(a) plan and executive board member of the San Diego Building and Construction Trades Council.

Joe showed his desire to participate in the advancement of his union's labor movement in 1994 when he was elected conductor for Sheet Metal Workers' Local 206. He served in this position until 1997 when he ran for and was elected as a trustee of the Sheet Metal Workers' Local 206. Joe served as a trustee until 2000 and in July 2000, he was elected as business representative of his local. From 2000 to 2004, Joe was responsible for the dispatching and drug testing of members and handling any grievances that may arise. From 2004 to the present, Joe Powell has served as business manager and financial secretary-treasurer of Local 206.

Advancement in education has also been a priority to Joe as he has completed numerous courses and training that has greatly aided his career development. In addition to completing his 4-year apprenticeship training and becoming a certified instructor in CPR and first-aid training, he attended the National Labor College at the George Meaney Center where he received the bachelor's degree in labor studies.

Joe has been a resident of Alpine, California, his entire life along with his wife and daughter. His wife and family have been very supportive of his career choices.

I am very proud to join with the San Diego labor community in honoring Joe Powell as the 2008 Labor Leader of the Year.

TRIBUTE TO BRIDGET McCUE OF
CAPE CORAL, FL

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding young hero from my district, Bridget McCue of Cape Coral, Florida, for her extraordinary bravery during a fire.

On July 31, 2008, a small fire broke out in the computer room at the McCue home. Thanks to 13-year-old Bridget's quick thinking, she was able to get her younger brother and sister out of the house and to safety. She then called 911 from a neighbor's house and called her parents, who were returning home from an errand.

Bridget's parents, Randy and Barbara, credit Bridget's training through a Red Cross baby-sitting class for her quick thinking and bravery. She is a role model for other teenagers across southwest Florida and is very deserving of the Lee County Red Cross' Certificate of Recognition for Extraordinary Personal Action. The people of southwest Florida and I are very proud of Bridget and her accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to represent such a courageous young lady as Bridget McCue in Congress. I wish Bridget and her family all the best and congratulate her on a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize the National Association of Postal Supervisors on their 100th anniversary. This organization, which started in my hometown a hundred years ago, has become an international leader in the fight for workers' rights.

In 1908, 50 individuals gathered at the Seelbach Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky, to fight for the working conditions of their fellow employees. These individuals were tired of endless hours without break, deplorable working conditions, low and inequitable pay, and stringent penalties for speaking out. This meeting marked the beginning of a powerful voice in Washington that now represents 34,000 active and retired employees. NAPS has fought hard to provide hard-working people with a decent salary, proper benefits, and the opportunity to work with dignity. And today, on their 100th anniversary, it is safe to say they succeeded.

Generations of postal supervisors have come and gone since that day in 1908, and each has built upon the accomplishments of their predecessors. NAPS continues to fight for reform, taking a stand for full pension and health care benefits, working to bring postal leadership into line with the 21st century, and increasing the revenue for the United States Postal Service. The organization is also leading the call for a vote by mail system so every individual has the opportunity to participate in

our democracy regardless of the barriers they face on election day.

With NAPS' long history of success, I feel confident the organization will continue to deliver victories for the next generation of postal supervisors. As the congressional Representative for Branch 1, the first of what will grow into scores NAPS' branches in all 50 States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam, I offer my sincere thanks for years of hard work and wish you a happy centennial celebration.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GLEN A.
SMITH, SR.

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and accomplishments of a man who dedicated his life to service and seizing the day, Glen A. Smith of Rockwall.

Smith was born on May 24, 1939, in Normal, Illinois to Myers and Marybelle (Miller) Smith. He married Peggy (Pannell) Smith, and they were fortunate to have five wonderful children, Kimberli Geissler Smith of Fort Worth, Glen Allen Smith, Jr. of Dallas and Katy Chesshir of Sachse, and stepchildren Christina Hoff of Forney and Joel Rhorer of Prairie Home, Missouri.

Smith was the owner of Curry Auto Leasing in Dallas for many years until his retirement in September of 2005. In March 2007, he opened Smitty's Roadhouse Bar & Grill in Rockwall, which he owned and operated until his death. Glen enjoyed living life to the fullest, and was a race car driver all of his life, racing in the 24 hours of LeMans in France and receiving the 1986 Formula Atlantic Indy Car Rookie of the Year Award.

Glen was also involved with his community and in civic affairs. He was a member of the Rockwall Breakfast Rotary Club and was also a City of Rockwall Planning & Zoning Commissioner. He also believed in sharing his faith and was a member of the Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church in Dallas.

Madam Speaker, we are privileged to have known such a great public servant and genuine individual. Please join me today as we honor the memory and celebrate the life of Glen A. Smith, Sr.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND
VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6599) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes:

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would make it easier for veterans to find