

at the top of his class. He went on to earn his medical degree at the University of Chicago. While training in Chicago, he became an expert in gastroenterology and helped to make the University of Chicago the premier center for research and therapy of inflammatory bowel disease. His leadership and research led to unprecedented medical advances in the field of gastroenterology, enhancing the lives of people across the world.

Despite his devotion to his research, Kirsner was compelled to join the Armed Forces in World War II, earning a third battle star in the battle of the Philippines before serving under General Douglas MacArthur in Japan. Following the war, Kirsner became a full professor of medicine at the University of Chicago. During his time as a professor, he published over 700 papers and 15 books, and gave over 25 named lectureships. He has served as a leader on a number of boards and foundations, such as the National Institutes of Health, the American Gastroenterological Association and the Chicago Medical Society. Despite all of his world-renowned successes, he continues to provide personal care to patients from across the country.

Dr. Kirsner, a World War II veteran and devoted civil servant to the field of medicine, has lived his life in service to others, deserving of national recognition for his honorable contribution to our country.

#### A TRIBUTE TO SUSAN PRATHER

### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 10, 2008*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congresswoman ELLEN O. TAUSCHER, to commemorate and celebrate the life and accomplishments of life-long Contra Costa County resident and untiring social service advocate, Ms. Susan Prather. For over 30 years, Susan Prather successfully battled the establishment at all levels of government on behalf of our most vulnerable citizens—our homeless. Sadly, on July 29th, she lost her own battle with cancer, and we all lost a true treasure in our community.

Susan's commitment to the needs of the homeless began in 1976, when she was working at a senior meals program and was confronted with the struggles of the homeless and poor of Contra Costa County. Using her own financial resources, she began by single-handedly providing what help she could. She held down multiple jobs to support herself during the day; after hours she traveled the streets of Richmond, Concord, and Berkeley helping the homeless one client at a time. Her commitment to her clients of all ages often took her to their encampments with city and county officials and even Members of Congress in tow. She is well known for the tremendous pressure she put on public officials to make the concerns of the poor and homeless a top priority and increase both funding and services nationwide. She wanted to make sure that those in positions of power could put a face to the problem of homelessness.

In 1999, the City of Walnut Creek hired Susan to initiate the outreach program now known as Fresh Start. Under Susan's direction

the program proved highly successful. When the funding ran out a short 2 years later, Susan transitioned Fresh Start into a private non-profit organization and it flourished under her leadership. In her role as Founder and Executive Director of Fresh Start, Susan provided her clients with clothing, meals, showers, counseling and other critical social services. She has helped countless residents find jobs and establish homes for themselves and their families.

Over her years of service, Susan Prather has been recognized by a long list of government agencies and private organizations for her outstanding community work. In 1994, the California State Assembly recognized her efforts in a formal resolution. In 2002 she received the "Women Working for Justice" award from the Contra Costa County Commission for Women. In 2004, she was Honorably Mentioned at the Contra Costa County Humanitarian of the Year Awards Ceremony. Also in 2004, the Walnut Creek Journal named Ms. Prather one of the "Six People Who Made Our Lives Better in 2003". Susan certainly made life better for the countless poor and homeless residents of Contra Costa County and in doing so, she raised the quality of life for us all.

To Susan's family and friends, we extend our heartfelt condolences. Your loss is shared not only by those who knew Susan personally, but also by all who have been touched by the work she has done. We will be forever grateful for the courage, compassion, integrity, and tenacity with which she sought to make our community a better place for everyone. Susan Prather will be deeply missed and in her memory, we must vow to continue the work she started.

#### HONORING STATE SENATOR LEWIS H. ENTZ

### HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 10, 2008*

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Coloradan and a great American former State Senator Lewis H. Entz.

Senator Entz is a native of Colorado's San Luis Valley and has been a tireless champion for rural veterans in Colorado. A potato farmer from Hooper, he served our Nation as a United States Marine during the Korean war.

He served as a State representative from 1983 to 1998, and then was appointed in 2001 to serve as State senator. In 2006, Senator Entz returned to private life.

During his tenure at the State level, Senator Entz routinely showed his commitment to Colorado's rural veterans. He carried the legislation which created the Homelake Veterans Nursing Home in Homelake, Colorado. He consistently fought for State capital dollars to ensure Homelake's ongoing service to Colorado's elderly veterans.

Today, he serves on the Colorado Board of Commissioners of State and Veterans Nursing Homes. He is also an active member of the Homelake Foundation Board where he continues to work tirelessly to preserve and rehabilitate one of Colorado's most prized and historic veteran's care facilities.

Most recently, Senator Entz completed a 6-year process of acquiring and installing an

A7-D Corsair to be displayed at Homelake in honor of our Air Force's contributions to tactical, close air ground support for our troops during the Vietnam war.

A life long member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion, Senator Entz remains one of the strongest advocates for rural veterans in Colorado.

Senator Entz is also a brave survivor of colon and prostate cancer.

A twin and 1 of 11 children, Senator Entz his wife, Lorie, have four children: Cindy, Mike, Sandy, and Cathy.

His efforts to improve the quality of life of elderly veterans at Homelake makes him one of my heroes.

CONGRATULATING DR. RENU KHATOR AS THE NEW PRESIDENT AND CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM

### HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 10, 2008*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Renu Khator as the new President and Chancellor of the University of Houston System.

Dr. Renu Khator has been a long-time advocate of higher education. She dedicated 22 years of her career to the University of South Florida and, at the helm of it, was awarded the position of provost and senior vice president. Her tenure at South Florida is highlighted by leading the expansion of its sponsored research and overseeing an annual \$1.6 billion budget for the university.

Her accomplishments lend experience that will positively shape the future of the University of Houston System. She has already shown exceptional enthusiasm and dedication toward students enrolled in the System. Within the first 100 days of her appointment, she gained feedback from over 12,000 students on issues that most concern them. Based on this feedback, it has become one of her top priorities to build a reputation for the University of Houston as a nationally recognized research institution. I have complete confidence that Dr. Khator, the UH faculty, staff and students will achieve this goal and as an institution and community continue to serve as an example of excellence to public universities throughout our country.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize and congratulate Dr. Renu Khator as the new president and chancellor of my alma mater, the University of Houston.

#### IN HONOR OF STORK MEDICAL

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 10, 2008*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Stork Medical, a company that fulfills a great need in the medical community.

Hope is a powerful emotion. It can turn despair into jubilation; futility into purpose, fear