

global economy. It is estimated that road traffic crashes cost \$518 billion globally each year. In developing countries, road traffic crashes have a dramatic impact on their fragile economies, costing an estimated \$100 billion, often exceeding the total amount received by these countries in development assistance.

The real tragedy is that road traffic crashes are predictable and can be prevented. It is critical that America play an active role domestically and internationally to address traffic accidents. Many countries have achieved sharp reductions in the number of crashes and the frequency and severity of traffic-related injuries by addressing key issues, but this progress can be enhanced by encouraging governments to create lead road safety agencies in the image of our lead road safety agency, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Additionally, the Congressional Caucus on Global Road Safety, which I am privileged to co-chair with Congressman Chris Van Hollen of Maryland, is involved in efforts to encourage governments to improve reporting standards for deaths of their citizens abroad from road crashes so that more light can be shed light on the impact of this global epidemic.

As more Americans travel globally and more of our college students participate in study abroad programs in developing countries around the world, many of them will be at risk of injury or death due to hazardous traffic conditions. Now is the time to do whatever is possible to keep them safe, and it is essential as the international community stands together in remembrance of global road traffic victims that the United States join the United Nations, NGOs, and foreign governments in commemorating this important day and work swiftly to implement policies that will prevent further accidents and the needless loss of life.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. OVIDIO JOSEPH
FALCONE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Dr. Ovidio Joseph Falcone. Dr. Falcone, born in Salerno, Italy and raised in Yonkers, New York, displayed a passion for science, math, and sports from an early age, attending Manhattan College and obtaining his BS degree in Biology.

Dr. Falcone began his medical career in 1982, when he entered the New York College of Podiatric Medicine, obtaining his D.P.M. and beginning his residency at the Interfaith Medical Center in 1986, serving as its Chief Resident from 1987 to 1988 and later as its On-Site Director.

Dr. Falcone later became the Director of the Podiatric Surgical Division in 1998, developing one of the strongest Podiatric Surgical Residency Programs in the country as well as a dedicated, vibrant Podiatric Surgical Service at IMC.

Dr. Falcone is a member of the American Board of Podiatric Surgery, a Fellow of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, and is a member of the Council on Podiatric Medical Education. In addition to these responsibilities at Interfaith Medical Cen-

ter, Dr. Falcone has private practices in Queens and Brooklyn.

Dr. Falcone has a deep love for teaching the art of surgery, a strong commitment to family, and a passion for patient care. He is committed to serving the underprivileged and he believes that there is a sense of fulfillment in knowing you participated in helping those that are in need.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Dr. Ovidio Joseph Falcone for his extraordinary accomplishments at the Interfaith Medical Center.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Dr. Ovidio Joseph Falcone.

HONORING STEPHEN BAKER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with Congressman RADANOVICH to congratulate Stephen Baker upon his induction into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame. Mr. Baker will be honored at the 50th anniversary enshrinement dinner of the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame on Thursday, November 6, 2008.

A sportswriter once said that Stephen Baker, at 5-foot-8, 160 pounds, was built more for gymnastics than for football. But with his lightning quickness, sure hands and gritty toughness, the wide receiver earned one of the game's enduring nicknames—"the touch-down maker." He was given the catchy moniker at West Los Angeles College, where he scored 31 touchdowns in two seasons, before starring at California State University Fresno for two seasons and playing six seasons with the New York Giants (1987–1992). With the Bulldogs, he was a frequent target of NCAA record-setting quarterback Kevin Sweeney, burning opponents for sixty-two receptions, an amazing 26.3 yards per catch and sixteen touchdowns over two seasons. He closed his collegiate career by catching a thirty-six yard scoring pass that gave the West All-Stars a victory in the Japan Bowl.

Drafted in the third round by the New York Giants, Mr. Baker earned the respect of Coach Bill Parcells with his ability to elude defenders and hang onto the ball. Over the course of his NFL career, he lost just one fumble. He started fifty-three games for the Giants and finished his career with one hundred and forty-one receptions, an 18.3 yards-per-catch average and twenty-one touchdowns. His best season was 1988, when he hauled in forty passes and scored seven times. The highlight of Baker's NFL career came in Superbowl XXV, as the Giants defeated the Buffalo Bills 20–19. He caught two passes—one of them a fourteen yard touchdown pass from Jeff Hostetler with just twenty-five seconds left in the first half to cut the Giants' deficit to 12–10.

Madam Speaker, we rise today to commend and congratulate Stephen Baker upon his achievements and induction into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Baker congratulations on his many accomplishments.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE MENDOCINO
STUDY CLUB

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Mendocino Study Club for outstanding and distinguished service to citizens of the village and north coast of Mendocino, California, on the occasion of its centennial anniversary.

Since its founding by seven women on October 30, 1908, when Mendocino was still recovering from the California earthquake and fires of 1906, the Mendocino Study Club has been an intelligent and considerate force adapting to and addressing the issues of the times. The original members traveled by horse and buggy for the first decade in order to get together on the isolated and rugged Mendocino Coast.

In the early years Study Club members met to discuss reading assignments and international cultural and historical topics. It wasn't two years before they were also a contributing force to worthy causes. For many years the MSC was in charge of the local American Red Cross Drive. Active during the First World War, they gave to war related causes, and during the Depression focused on local needs. Health and dental care, education and safety became the stalwart causes for which the MSC has been particularly philanthropic.

In 1943, the MSC began its scholarship program with \$100 to study nursing. Since then, members have granted more than \$178,400 to high school graduates, as well as to recipients for reentry and job upgrade pursuits, and to economic enterprises. Their Country Christmas bazaar of handcrafted items supports the club programs including scholarships, and humanitarian and civic projects. The Mendocino Community Library is the longest running legacy, initiated by the Study Club in 1947 and incorporated in 1979. In 1988 the Mendocino Community Library moved into its own building which continues to be staffed and supported by the MSC.

Throughout the decades the MSC has been active in improving the quality of life for local residents through their support of such vital entities as the Mendocino Coast District Hospital, Mendocino Historical Research, Inc., Sherwood Oaks nursing home, Meals on Wheels, Hospitality House, a new firehouse, soup kitchens, the Senior Lunch Program and the Food Bank, to name a few. In addition to financial and volunteer support MSC has advocated on issues on behalf of school lunches to Congress, for highway safety to the state of California, and rural community libraries to the County of Mendocino.

Their 2008 centennial activities have included heritage rose plantings, a centennial quilt, and, in honor of the history of the unique village of Mendocino, the creation of walking tour brochures as a birthday gift to community.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Mendocino Study Club for 100 years of good deeds on the Mendocino coast. This exemplary organization lives up to its purpose to promote the highest spiritual, intellectual and cultural opportunities for its members, to provide for leadership of women