

Washington State, taught physically and mentally challenged adults at the Christian Day Camp prior to joining the Department and also served as the civilian advisor for the Washington State Patrol's Explorer Program.

Mr. Whitfield was appointed as HHS Region X representative in July of 2005 and focused much of his time on Medicare prescription drug coverage, information technology issues and health disparities within the American Indian and Alaskan Native communities. Previously, he was the senior officer for community relations for the Washington Health Foundation in Seattle, a nonprofit dedicated to improving the health of Washington communities. Additionally, Mr. Whitfield is the President of CityClub—an organization committed to civil engagement and non-partisan civil discourse.

Mr. DeVaney joined USDA–RD as the director in Washington State in 2005. Mr. DeVaney was responsible for providing assistance and delivering over 40 loan and grant programs supporting the development of public utilities and infrastructure, affordable housing and job creation in rural areas. Before joining USDA, Mr. DeVaney served as an aide to my colleague from Washington, Congressman DOC HASTINGS and was also a Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs for the Northwest Horticultural Council.

Mr. Meyers joined HUD as the Region X Director in 2001 after a prolific career in State and Federal government and politics at all levels. He served during the Reagan administration at HUD, served as the executive director of both the California and Washington State Republican parties and worked alongside my predecessor, former Congresswoman Jennifer Dunn.

As the five dedicated individuals mentioned above transition out of the leadership positions they held at their respective federal agencies, I wish them all the best and offer one final 'thank you' for their exemplary service.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF POPE COUNTY SHERIFF JAY WINTERS

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the Pope County, Arkansas Sheriff Jay Winters for his dedication, commitment and selflessness he has shown on the job and in the community.

Sheriff Winters has served his community admirably, first for the U.S. Army then as a officer for the Russellville Police Department, then as the Deputy Sheriff of Pope County and for the last 18 years, as Sheriff.

His influence is felt throughout the community, volunteering with the Russellville Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, the Arkansas River Valley Boys and Girls Club and as an active member of the First Assembly of God Church in Russellville where he serves as a Deacon and a Sunday School teacher.

I have had the privilege to work with Jay on many different projects, most recently in an effort to help with recovery efforts from a tornado in Atkins.

Now after more than two and a half decades in law enforcement Jay is retiring. He'll

be able to spend his time focusing on his family, his wife Sheena, daughter Amber Morgan and her husband Ryan, son J.J. and the light of his eye, his granddaughter Kyleigh.

I appreciate his friendship and example. I am honored to have had the opportunity to have worked with such a great man, and thank him for his service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT OF 2009

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today, I am pleased to introduce the "James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2009," along with my good friends Mr. NADLER, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. MCMAHON and others who have worked so tirelessly in this effort. This legislation would provide medical care and compensation for those who are sick with World Trade Center (WTC) illnesses, including first responders who came to New York from every state and nearly all Congressional districts in the nation.

Specifically, the bill would establish a federal health and compensation program for WTC responders and community members. Building on the existing programs at WTC Centers of Excellence, the program would provide ongoing medical care for WTC-related health conditions to approximately 15,000 additional WTC responders and 15,000 additional WTC community members, for a total of 55,000 responders and 17,500 community members.

The bill would also reopen the Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) to provide compensation for those sickened by 9/11 exposure and to address the over 10,000 pending lawsuits brought by sick 9/11 responders. Additionally it would limit the liability in litigation for New York City and the WTC contractors to the amounts available under the Captive Insurance Fund and their existing liability limits and insurance.

Finally, the legislation would require a matching contribution from the City of New York for the health program.

More than seven years after the 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center, we must not forget the heroes who served the nation in our time of need. I encourage my colleagues to join me in support of the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act.

TRIBUTE TO CATHERINE OLSON

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the musical accomplishments of Catherine Olson, an eighth-grade student at the Christian Heritage School in Trumbull, Connecticut.

Each academic year, the National Music Certificate Program awards State Achievement Certificates to students with exemplary per-

formance records for music. Of this year's 100,000 participants, only 700 students earned this recognition.

Catherine Olson has been named a recipient of this award for the 2007–2008 academic year and will be playing at Carnegie Hall on February 8, 2009.

I applaud Catherine's efforts. Her accomplishments are a fine example to the young people of our nation to continue in their effort and determination to achieve success in their field. I wish her good luck in her performance on February 8th and congratulate her on her impressive achievements thus far.

HONORING H. THOMAS KORNEGAY FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, H. Thomas Kornegay's influence will be forever respected and admired as he retires as executive director from the Port of Houston Authority (PHA) after 37-years of service.

The Port of Houston is made up of the PHA and the numerous private industrial facilities that line the Houston Ship Channel. The Port ranks first in the U.S. in foreign waterborne tonnage and second in overall total tonnage. Along with the Houston Ship Channel, the PHA aids with navigational safety which has been influential in making Houston a center for international trade, moving over 200 million tons of cargo in 2006.

Kornegay played an essential role in developing both the Barbours Cut Terminal as well as the Bayport Terminal, each accredited in setting the path for continued economic development within the Houston-Metropolitan region. Along with the development of the two container terminals, Kornegay participated heavily in completing the deepening and widening of the Houston Ship Channel, a \$700 million project which benefited Houston and Texas' overall economy and environment. In the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, Kornegay also managed the PHA's operational recovery with minimal repercussions to PHA's assets. As a result of Kornegay's guidance, the PHA posted a ninth consecutive year of growth, a record year in the handling of cargo and containers, and all-time records in importing and exporting steel.

Kornegay's leadership roles have been astounding, including serving as chairman of the board of the American Association of Port Authorities and chairman of the U.S. Delegation of AAPA, an organization that represents more than 140 public port authorities in North America, Latin America, Canada, and the Caribbean. Kornegay was also president of the International Association of Ports and Harbors from 2005–2007, which has affiliated ports that handle more than 60 percent of the world's seaborne trade in metric tons.

Kornegay has been named "Maritime Person of the Year" by the Greater Houston Port Bureau, as well as "Engineer of the Year" by local Houston engineers. Kornegay has also received the Russell H. Pery Award by the Texas Department of Transportation.