Nob did it keep him from competing in the Trans-Pacific Yacht Race from Los Angeles to Honolulu three times.

But it’s on Ventura County’s land that Jack’s impact will be felt for generations to come. Rancho Guadalacasa, the Mexican land grant Jack’s family purchased in 1880, sits adjacent to what is now the California State University Channel Islands. A private man, Jack tried to make a $5 million anonymous donation to establish a library at the university in 1999—one of the largest in Ventura County history. He was persuaded to go public only after trustees argued that his donation would spur others. It did. The university named the library after him.

Jack also was an original initiator and supporter of Casa Pacifica, a home for neglected, abused and emotionally disturbed children; founder of the Conejo Savings and Loan Association; chairman of the Ventura County Harbor Commission; chairman of the Camarillo State Hospital Board of Trustees (where the university is now sited); and member of the boards for Pepperdine University and the House Ear Institute in Los Angeles, among others.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join Janice and me in offering our condolences to Patricia, his wife of more than 60 years; to John Jr., Elizabeth and Ann; and all who knew their children, John Jr., Elizabeth and Ann; and all who knew him, called him a friend and benefited from his spirit and generosity.

Godspeed, Jack.

BIPARTISAN IRAN DIPLOMATIC ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, the U.N. Security Council has voted five times highlighting the violations of Iran, a party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, for its uranium enrichment activities.

According to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), as of January 31, 2009, Iran has produced more than 1,000 kilograms of low-enriched uranium hexafluoride, which is 30 percent higher than previous IAEA estimates.

If we are serious about stopping the emergence of a nuclear Iran, our window for effective diplomacy is starting to close.

Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is a strong proponent of "enhanced diplomacy." History teaches that negotiations in the absence of effective sanctions are likely to fail. Negotiations following effective sanctions are likely to succeed.

When it comes to Iran, we already know the most effective sanction: a gasoline restriction.

A close look at Iran’s economy reveals a significant weakness. This top OPEC nation lacks the required refining capacity to meet domestic demand for fuel and must import some 40 percent of its gasoline.

That’s right: Iran depends on foreign gasoline.

Nearly all of Iran’s imported gasoline is provided by just five European companies—the Swiss firm Vitol, the Swiss/Dutch firm Trafifurga, the French firm Total, the Swiss firm Glencore, and British Petroleum. The majority of tankers carrying gasoline to Iran are insured by Lloyds of London. An interruption in the supply of gasoline to Iran would considerably impact the Iranian economy and significantly bolster diplomatic initiatives.

Just last year, then-Senator Obama suggested "banning the export of refined petroleum to Iran," which is called "starting changing their cost benefit analysis" and "starts putting the squeeze on them."

That is why I am joining with Congressman BRAD SHERMAN in introducing the bipartisan Iran Diplomatic Enhancement Act of 2009, which is called "starting putting the squeeze on any activity—including production, brokerage, insurance, and tanker delivery services—that contributes to Iran’s ability to import gasoline or refine petroleum domestically.

Only from a position of strength can we expect diplomacy to succeed. A restriction of gasoline deliveries to Iran offers the best chance to stop Iran’s uranium enrichment program using the soft power of the United States and our allies.

CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING OF THE ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTER

HON. JANICE D. SCHAJKOWSKY
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Ms. SCHAJKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, on Sunday, April 19th, over 10,000 people gathered in Skokie, Illinois, joining special guests President Bill Clinton, Elie Wiesel, and Governor Pat Quinn to celebrate the grand opening of the new Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center. President Obama personally offered his congratulations on a recorded video. I had the great opportunity to participate in the opening of this beautiful new museum, which will share the history of the Holocaust and teach the importance of combating hatred, indifference, and genocide to current and future generations across the Midwest.

Skokie, located in my district, is a community that knows the importance of preserving memories and teaching history. In the wake of World War II, the community offered an attractive haven to Jewish families, including Holocaust survivors searching for a new life in America. Between 1945 and 1955, an estimated 3,000 Jewish families came to Skokie, building a vibrant Jewish community.

Children who grew up in Skokie during this time recall daily life carrying an underpinning of trauma. They share stories of parents unable to sleep, panicking when their children returned home late, and refusing to take showers. However, while they describe seeing tattooed numbers on arms as commonplace, the Holocaust wasn’t something survivors wanted to talk about. Many Skokie Jews remember not knowing which of their friends had survived gas chambers.

That changed in the mid-1970s. In 1976, neo-Nazi Frank Collin threatened to march in the town, distributing fliers proclaiming "we are coming" and telling the Chicago Sun-Times, "I hope they’re scared. Just imagine what (the Nazis) did."

In 1983, a group of Jewish citizens—led by Sister Jane McTague, a former Catholic nun who had worked for decades to rebuild a sense of personal security, suddenly found themselves threatened once again.

The people of Skokie, led by the survivor community, fought back against Collin. The case ultimately went to court and, after uproar from around the world, the march was held elsewhere.

In the wake of those events, Chicago-area survivors founded the Holocaust Memorial Foundation of Illinois, a group dedicated to fighting hatred through education. The group has educated school and community groups since 1981, and the first museum was opened in 1985. In large part due to the organization and advocacy of the survivor community, in 1999 the Illinois became the first state where Holocaust education is mandatory.

Today, there are an estimated 7,000 Holocaust survivors still living in the Chicago area, and as many as 1,000–2,000 of them currently live in Skokie. Most are now in their 70s, 80s, or 90s. Like the town of Skokie itself, the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center would not have been possible without their active involvement and input. Its permanent exhibits show hundreds of artifacts, many which have been collected in recent years from local residents. The museum also presents thousands of video interviews with survivors, conducted and donated by Steven Spielberg and his Shoah Foundation.

Madam Speaker, the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center may be one of the few Holocaust museums to be built in collaboration with survivors. The new 65,000-square foot museum will have the capacity to serve over 250,000 annual visitors, and will teach countless people, young and old, the importance of actively fighting hatred and prejudice. In a world where genocide continues, despite decades of promising "never again," these are priceless lessons.

SCRAP IRON

HON. TED POE
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is that time of year again; ballparks and ballparks are back in swing. I remember when it only cost a few bucks to go to a ball game. Recent news reports show that it costs nearly $200 for a family of four to go to a major league baseball game these days—that is if you want to park your car, eat a hot dog, drink a Coke and maybe buy your kids a baseball cap.

I remember going to the Houston Buff’s games over on the Gulf Freeway, where Finger’s is now, and to Colt Stadium to watch the Colt 45s. When the wind blew, the wooden bleachers at Colt Stadium would sway. It was a big deal back then to go to a game. Most of the time, we listened to the broadcast on a transistor radio. (Are there any of those left?) Okay, now I am sounding really old, but there’s still nothing better than listening to a game on the radio.

I will never forget the first game in the Eighth Wonder of the World—the Astrodome. I was there, as a high school student, on April 9, 1965, to see the Houston’s beat the Yankees, 2-0. Unbelievably, Governor John Connally threw out the first pitch and President Lyndon B. Johnson and First Lady Lady Bird joined Astros President Roy Hofheinz in his suite.