

center will serve to provide solutions to plant conservation challenges through research and education.

To accomplish their goals, 200 plant scientists along with students and collaborators will aid the full time scientists and research assistants in the 38,000-square foot building. The space will also house a teaching facility and the country's first doctoral plant biology program.

Additionally the Center utilizes green building practices, including an innovative rainwater gully to collect and filter storm water runoff and a 16,000-square foot green roof. The visitor's gallery will also allow the public to witness the scientific work occurring and various exhibitions.

The Chicago Botanic Garden successfully opened the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Plant Conservation Science Center on September 29, 2009. I commend all the students, researchers and scientists who are committing their time and energy to this important project and wish them the best of luck.

TRIBUTE TO PEARL BEATTY ON
THE CELEBRATION OF HER 74TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to acknowledge the 74th birthday of my good friend, Ms. Pearl Beatty. Her family, friends and associates have gathered on October 8, 2009, to hold a party in her honor and to wish this incredibly talented woman best wishes. Pearl Beatty has always been passionate about her community and those closest to her want to be sure that she knows how much she is loved and appreciated.

Pearl Beatty never allowed her early fragile health to preclude her from involvement in the things that mattered most to her. Throughout her life, Pearl Beatty has been an active participant in the political process and community organizing. She was also gifted with a beautiful voice which she utilized at Arts High School and with the Sweethearts, a group that was fortunate enough to sing at a John F. Kennedy for President rally. In fact, Pearl Beatty was active in the New Jersey campaign for the election of President Kennedy. Always an advocate for fairness, Pearl Beatty joined me and my brother, Bill, in the picketing of a local Woolworth 5&10 forcing them to hire young African Americans to work at the lunch counter.

In addition to being active in the Urban League and the NAACP, Pearl Beatty assisted in organizing the New Jersey contingent for the 1963 March on Washington. She was also instrumental in the four successful campaigns of Newark mayor Kenneth Gibson, the first African American to be elected mayor of a major eastern city. She represented Governor Hughes at the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago and was the New Jersey campaign scheduler for President Jimmy Carter in 1976. In June 1978, Pearl Beatty was elected as a freeholder for Essex County and soon found herself as the first director of the newly elect-

ed Board of Chosen Freeholders under the new form of charter change government of Essex County. Ms. Beatty was the first African American appointed as president of the New Jersey Council of Counties and in 1987, she was appointed executive chairperson of the New Jersey State Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., commission.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues agree that Pearl Beatty deserves to be feted at this 74th Birthday celebration. I am pleased to congratulate her and thank her for the many lasting contributions she has made to the Greater Newark community.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF ELIZABETH "JACKIE" NOYES

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize Elizabeth "Jackie" Noyes on her retirement from more than 36 years of service as the Associate Executive Director with American Academy of Pediatrics. Throughout her career, Ms. Noyes has played a significant role in shaping health policy in the United States—especially as it affects children.

I've worked closely with the American Academy of Pediatrics to ensure that each and every child in America has quality, affordable coverage. They are a rare provider organization in Washington, DC. Their mission is much more about advancing better health care for their patients than it is about advancing pay increases for their member physicians. Jackie has been a key player in that mission for nearly four decades.

Ms. Noyes has a long, varied list of accomplishments, honors, and boards that she's participated in throughout her time with the American Academy of Pediatrics. Highlights include serving as Chair of the National Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines; on the board of the Children's Dental Project, Inc., Children's Hospice International, and the Coalition for Health Funding; and as a member of the Specialty Society Advisory Committee for the American Medical Association. She's also been published by well-respected organizations, including *Advances in Pediatrics*, *California Pediatrician*, and the *American Journal of Psychology*.

Throughout Ms. Noyes' career, she has been recognized for her dedication to children's health with several awards, including a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Contributions to the Health and Welfare of America's Children and Adolescents by the U.S. Surgeon General.

She has played a key role in creating and improving health care laws including vital programs like Vaccines for Children, Head Start, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission. She also played key roles in the passage and renewal of the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act of 1990, the Children and Pregnant Women Health Insurance Act of 1993, the State Children's Health Insurance Program, the Children's Health Insurance Accountability Act of 1996, and the Paul Wellstone and Pete

Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equality Act of 2008.

In honor of her retirement, the Friends of Children Advocacy Fund has been created to support the initiatives of the American Academy of Pediatrics and its advocacy for child health programs and public health. The Friends of Children Advocacy Fund will continue her work to improve the health of children.

She has been a valuable asset to the American Academy of Pediatrics and their mission to improve the health of America's children. I thank her for her dedication, wish her well in retirement, and fully expect to continue to hear her name in connection with initiatives to improve children's health.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES
PATRICK'S HEROISM

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroic deeds of one of my constituents, Mr. James Patrick of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Earlier this year, while Mr. Patrick, a letter carrier for the US Postal Service, was on his route, he saw flames and thick black smoke erupting out of the top of a church. He immediately found someone to call 911 before he selflessly entered the burning church to make sure that everyone was safe.

Even though the roof of the church and the adjacent rectory were rapidly becoming engulfed in flames, Pastor Robert Hall and the church's secretary were unaware of the fire. Patrick informed the two of the fire, but Pastor Hall wanted to put the fire out himself. However, Patrick insisted that everyone leave. He is quoted as saying, "Father, you have to get out—the whole roof is on fire."

Because of his courageous deeds, two people's lives were saved. Subsequently, Pastor Hall, in a letter to the Postal Service wrote, "In this day and age when people don't want to get involved, I want to say thank you to your employee for going the extra mile."

Patrick is a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers, Johnstown Branch 451. For his actions, he was recently recognized by the Association and was awarded the Eastern Region Hero Award.

Madam Speaker, I wish to close my remarks by commending Mr. James Patrick for his heroic actions. We are fortunate that we have people like Mr. Patrick who choose to go above and beyond what is expected so that lives may be saved.

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT JOSEPH
E. BARRON RETIRES AFTER 30
YEARS SERVICE WITH THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize CMSgt Joseph E. Barron on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force.