

Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal.

A veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, Lt. Logan was born in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. He received a B.A. in Theology from the Antillean Adventist University in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico in 1992. He was licensed by the North Caribbean Conference of Seventh Day Adventists and began pastoral duties on St. Croix and St. Maarten.

Lt. Logan graduated with his Master of Divinity Degree on August 8, 1998 from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Two years later, he received a Masters in Social Work from the University of Michigan, with a clinical emphasis in children and Youth in Marriage and Family in Society. He subsequently served as a youth pastor, mental health therapist and marriage and family therapist in Michigan.

As a soldier, Lt. Logan served as Flotilla Chaplain of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary before coming on active duty in 2001, serving aboard the USS *Belleau* and deploying on WESTPAC 2002 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In January 2004, he was assigned as Squadron Chaplain to Marine Aircraft Group 16 and was later deployed to Al Asad, Iraq with MAG-16 Headquarters in support of Iraqi Freedom in May 2007. Earlier this year, he graduated from the U.S. Naval War College, Fleet Seminar Program, receiving a diploma from the College of Naval Command and Staff.

Madam Speaker, Lt. Logan, soon to become a Lt. Commander in the Navy has combined his call to serve others with distinguished service as a soldier, a counselor and a minister. He is one of our best, as he provides counsel to his fellows in the armed services and to civilians in need of his help. We are proud of his accomplishments and on behalf of my family, staff, and the people of the Virgin Islands I wish him well as he continues to serve his country and his community with distinction.

HONORING PORTRAIT OF
MAQUOKETA

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rose Frantzen, her husband Charles Morris, the Frantzen family, and the entire Maquoketa, Iowa community on the premier of Ms. Frantzen's Portrait of Maquoketa at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery. This work will be on display from November 2009 to July 2010.

Portrait of Maquoketa is a compilation of 180 individual oil portraits of Maquoketa residents painted between July 2005 and July 2006. Ms. Frantzen's exceptional skill is evident in each portrait, but the paintings are more striking when displayed together.

Ms. Frantzen describes Portrait of Maquoketa as "an unfiltered representation of this small Iowa community at this time in history." Unlike many portraits that are commissioned or collected by people with a distinct interest in art, Ms. Frantzen took a democratic approach to her work and opened her store

front studio to any Maquoketa who wished to pose for her. She painted children, adults, seniors and adolescents. During the sittings she conducted informal interviews and later made audio recordings of her neighbors' stories, ideas, and beliefs. Many of these recordings are part of the installation at the Portrait Gallery.

The individuals in Portrait of Maquoketa don't look distinctly Iowan. There are no clues in the paintings indicating they have any relationship to each other. Together, though, we recognize these individuals are also a community with a shared identity and future. In each portrait Ms. Frantzen expresses the dignity and beauty in her neighbors, and together her paintings proclaim the dignity and beauty of Maquoketa.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to visit the National Portrait Gallery to see Portrait of Maquoketa. It is an inspiring interpretation of American life.

BRUCE VENTO PUBLIC SERVICE
AWARD

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Park Trust Bruce Vento Public Service Award. This award was established in 2001 by the National Park Trust to honor the memory and legacy of Congressman Bruce Vento.

Congressman Vento was a relentless advocate for America's national parks and conservation heritage and my predecessor in representing the citizens of Minnesota's 4th Congressional District in the U.S. House. As Chair of the Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks, Forest, and Public Lands, Mr. Vento passed more park legislation than any previous chairman.

The National Park Trust is a public-private partnership dedicated to the protection of America's parklands. This year, the National Park Trust presented the award to California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger for his leadership in the protection of public lands in California and for his commitment to connecting children to the outdoors. I congratulate the Governor and commend the National Park Trust for its work in honoring the legacy of Congressman Vento.

HONORING THE REV. LLOYD
SAATJIAN

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the Reverend LLOYD Saatjian, who passed away on July 28, 2009. Reverend Saatjian was a beloved pastor, humanitarian, social justice advocate, and so much more. His genuine warmth was felt by all who met him, and had unique ability to connect with people.

Reverend Saatjian was appointed to lead the First United Methodist Church of Santa

Barbara in 1989 where he served as Pastor until his retirement several years ago. During his time as Pastor, he was an active member of the Greater Santa Barbara Area Clergy Association where he worked closely with leaders from other local faith communities on a wide range of projects and initiatives, including an annual interfaith Thanksgiving service. Hosted at First United Methodist Church, this wonderful event brought together community members from every faith to find common ground and give thanks. This event held special significance in 2001 when it helped facilitate an open dialogue between the local Muslim community during a time of such great unrest and misunderstanding.

He also forged a unique and inspirational partnership with the local Jewish community to help rebuild African American churches in the American South that had fallen victim to arson. Beginning 11 years ago, this partnership has sent hundreds of my constituents to small rural towns across the South to help those in need. These trips have not only built places of worship, but also lasting friendships with church and community members from all walks of life. This ongoing partnership is a shining testament to Reverend Saatjian's lifelong commitment to social justice and interfaith collaboration.

Reverend Saatjian was a cherished and valued member of the Santa Barbara community, and he will be truly missed.

HONORING GERALD RICHARDSON,
OGEMAW COUNTY VETERAN OF
THE YEAR

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a constituent who has distinguished himself both in service to his country and to his community. Mr. Gerald Richardson has been named "Ogemaw County Veteran of the Year" by the Ogemaw County Veterans Alliance. It is an honor befitting the dedication and patriotism Mr. Richardson has demonstrated both in the U.S. Navy and in civilian life.

Mr. Richardson was born January 4, 1930 in Centerline, Michigan to Carl and Pauline Richardson. Upon graduation from Hazel Park High School, Mr. Richardson went to work for Chrysler Corporation as an automatic screw machinist operator.

In January of 1951 Mr. Richardson went to serve his country, enlisting in the U.S. Navy. He attended basic training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Illinois and was assigned to Little Creek Naval Air Station in Virginia. After one month in Virginia, Mr. Richardson received his assignment to the USS *Casa Grande* LSD where he performed duties as a machinist mate, second class.

While onboard the USS *Casa Grande* LSD Mr. Richardson served in many missions and exercises, including supply missions to Newfoundland and Greenland. He and his crewmates also performed amphibious training in various locations. In December 1954 Mr. Richardson received an honorable discharge and returned to Michigan.

Upon discharge from the U.S. Navy, Mr. Richardson went back to working for Chrysler,

where he remained employed until 1979 when he retired. After retiring, he moved to West Branch, Michigan where he resides today.

Mr. Richardson has continued to be involved in numerous civic activities of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3775, and previously served as the post's commander. It is for his involvement in the community that Mr. Richardson has been bestowed with this award—the highest honor the Ogemaw County Veterans Alliance can bestow upon a fellow veteran.

Gerald Richardson is a man who understands commitment and exemplifies the values of service and responsibility toward others. He stands as an example of what it means to be a true American hero, embodying traits of honor, courage and humility.

Madam Speaker, Gerald Richardson has served his country with bravery and dignity, and has continued to draw on these traits in service to Ogemaw County. He is an individual who has been recognized by his community and his fellow veterans as a leader and a model citizen. With that in mind Madam Speaker, I ask that you, and all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives, join me in saluting Gerald Richardson for his lifetime of service and in congratulating him on being awarded Ogemaw County Veteran of the Year.

CELEBRATE THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF HISPANIC AMERICANS TO
THE UNITED STATES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 783, "Recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month," and celebrating the vast contributions of Hispanic-Americans to the strength and culture of the United States.

Through the centuries, millions of Hispanic men and women have traveled to the United States looking for the American dream and a better future for their families. They are today spread far and wide across the 50 States. Their arrival resulted in a remarkable mixture of Hispanic culture, traditions, music, food, and language with the American way of life. The Census Bureau reports that Hispanic Americans are the largest ethnic minority in our Nation today, representing 15 percent of the total population.

Hispanic Americans have created their own companies and businesses and are an integral part of the American workforce that keeps our economy moving forward. There are Hispanic Americans serving in the Senate and House of Representatives, but we must do more to increase these numbers and diversify Capitol Hill offices with better Hispanic representation. This year, Sonia Sotomayor, a Bronx native of Puerto Rican descent, became the first Latina to sit on the Supreme Court after being nominated by President Obama. Finally, we must pay respects to the over one million Hispanic veterans who have fought valiantly to defend this nation.

On both big and small scales, Hispanic Americans have left their mark, their heritage, and their contributions on this great country. Their music is heard through voices like Celia

Cruz, Marc Anthony, and Tito Puente. Their food is widely available in menus across the country. Their Spanish language we have grown accustomed to hearing, understanding, and loving.

Hispanic American heritage is culture, life and beauty. I urge all my colleagues to extend their support to celebrate a cultural heritage and contribution that makes us the country we are.

NATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS
MEMORIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 729, a resolution honoring and celebrating this nation's firefighters with a "National Firefighters' Memorial Day." In today's economic climate, we cannot forget the irreplaceable services that firefighters and first responders perform in our communities, often receiving as compensation only the personal fulfillment of making a difference.

Take, for example, the volunteer fire department of Portland, Connecticut, a small town in the southern part of my district. The fire department in Portland was established in 1884 when a group of twenty-five members of the community recognized that a bucket brigade was insufficient to fight the blazes that were devastating their downtown. They decided they could not stand by idly while friends and neighbors lost their homes and businesses. Today, the Portland volunteer fire department boasts sixty members, and the original firehouse still stands on Portland's Main Street, a symbol of the central role that our first responders play in our communities.

The technology of firefighting has evolved significantly since the early days of the Portland volunteer fire department. I am proud to say that the fire department in Hartford is one of less than fifty departments, out of over 33,000 across the country, to earn the highest possible ranking for fire protection. This honor is no doubt a result of Hartford's position on the cutting edge of first responder technology. Hartford's fire department has been a trailblazer in using GIS mapping and GPS technology to make every first responder aware of hydrant locations, water main diameters, engine locations, and building footprints across the city, all to better serve Connecticut's capital city.

Firefighters in Connecticut's First District also serve the thousands of people who use Bradley Airport each day. The Connecticut Commission on Fire Prevention and Control, established in 1975, is located in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, near the airport. Its facilities, with classrooms, a dive rescue training pool, burn structures, a training yard, and airplane and tanker props for passenger extrication drills, provide a state-of-the-art campus to train and coordinate first responder efforts across the state. It is because of Connecticut's dedication to providing resources and support to its firefighters that we boast some of the best in the nation.

Connecticut's first district hosts thirty-seven fire houses, including Hartford's. Twenty-seven

of these, including Portland's, are completely volunteer operations. Even when the men and women who make up these fire houses aren't selflessly protecting the lives of their friends and neighbors, you can see them out in their communities. They are working day jobs, teaching young people and engendering their passion for fire safety through school visits and Explorer programs, and participating in carnivals, spaghetti suppers, and fundraisers to pay for the equipment and training they need to stay at the top of their profession. The services that firefighters and first responders provide are priceless. The very least we can do is honor our first responders with a "National Firefighters' Memorial Day," and recognize the crucial role they play in promoting our safety, security, and well-being.

HEALTH CARE

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, as Members of Congress, it is our duty to pass real health care reform this year.

Perhaps no state is in greater need of this reform than my home state of California.

Two hundred seventeen thousand people in my Congressional District go everyday without reform.

And for California as a whole—we have 13 million uninsured residents!

The people of California, and people across the United States need health care reform that:

Ends discrimination based on pre-existing conditions!

Ends dropped healthcare coverage because you get sick!

Ends co-pays for preventative care!

And ends skyrocketing costs for individuals and families!

The Republican alternative does none of these things!

It simply keeps the status quo! It costs more! And does nothing!

The 217,000 people living in my District without insurance cannot afford inaction any longer!

The 13 million people in California without insurance cannot live with the status quo!

The 15 hundred families in my District who went bankrupt because of health costs cannot afford the status quo!

Now is our opportunity to make history—and to move America forward!

We must not be short-sighted and focus only on politics and polls.

As we work for health care reform, I also urge my colleagues to pass a bill that does not include costly and discriminatory verification requirements like the SAVE requirements.

Our Nation cannot afford either the humanitarian or the fiscal costs of a health care immigration verification process.

As a Christian—my faith teaches me that we must love our fellow man, and care for them as if they were our brother or sister.

If a sick person is at the doctor's or the hospital—they need help!

They do not have time to wait for a lengthy background check to determine their citizenship status.