

stucco factory worker, and his mother took care of George along with his 2 brothers and 1 sister. To help support the family, George and his brothers and sister took odd jobs, such as picking fruit, and loading and unloading produce.

Mr. Rios graduated from high school in 1969, and then went to college at San Jose State University and graduated in 1974. He graduated from University of California's Davis King Hall School of Law in 1977.

After completing his legal studies, George worked at San Jose Legal Aid helping indigent clients with civil legal issues. After two and a half years at Legal Aid, George was hired at the Office of the San Jose City Attorney. He began work in January of 1980 under then-City Attorney Bob Logan. After only five years, he was promoted to the position of Assistant City Attorney. George has handled complex lawsuits for the City including arguing numerous cases in State and Federal courts. He has argued 2 cases before the California Supreme Court and assisted in arguing one case before the United States Supreme Court.

George has served on the Mayors' Gang Prevention Task Force and the Task Force to implement Fast Track rules in Superior Court. He has been active in the Bar, served as a pro tem judge, a trustee for the Santa Clara County Bar Association, and as a member of the La Raza Lawyers Association. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Almaden Valley Counseling Center, and as a member of the California Council for Criminal Justice and the Legal Advocacy Committee of the League of California Cities.

George is a tremendous role model and is a valued member of the San Jose community. I wish him, his wife and three sons the very best as he enjoys his retirement.

H.R. 4264 THE EQUALITY FOR  
WOMEN FARMERS ACT

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 25, 2010*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of and very proud to cosponsor the Equality for Women Farmers Act, introduced by Congresswoman DELAURO.

I thank Congresswoman DELAURO for her leadership on behalf of women farmers. After being presented with the facts about the U.S. Department of Agriculture's history of discrimination toward women farmers, Congresswoman DELAURO became their champion and crafted H.R. 4264, the Equality for Women Farmers Act.

Like Congresswoman DELAURO, I'm proud of the important role women farmers have played in the development of our nation's food system, but I was shocked to learn about the discrimination that many women farmers have been subjected to by the USDA.

In December, Congresswoman DELAURO and I listened to six extraordinary women farmers who shared their stories about discrimination from the USDA. This discrimination has come in many forms including denied access to even an application form.

More than 1,900 women farmers across the U.S. have detailed the discrimination they suffered in seeking farm loans and assistance

from the USDA and how such actions have seriously disadvantaged them.

The discrimination cost some of the women farmers their livelihoods and discouraged future generations of women farmers from considering this an honorable profession.

I applaud the USDA and the Obama administration for reaching an agreement with black farmers over racial discrimination, however, we can not forget about the other groups that have faced discrimination at the USDA, including women farmers.

The Equality for Women Farmers Act changes USDA policy to provide a procedure for compensating women farmers who have suffered years of gender discrimination from the USDA. This legislation will establish a compensation fund for women farmers and set up a process to review and adjudicate their claims.

I support the Equality for Women Farmers Act because I believe strongly that all farmers, regardless of gender, should be given the opportunity to succeed. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF LANCE CORPORAL JOSHUA H.  
BIRCHFIELD

**HON. JOE DONNELLY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 25, 2010*

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to solemnly honor Lance Corporal Joshua Birchfield for his dedication and service to the United States of America. LCpl Birchfield, a 24-year-old member of the Marine Corps, was killed on February 19, 2010 by small arms fire while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province during his first tour of duty to Afghanistan. Joshua risked everything to serve his country, and for that we are eternally grateful.

Joshua graduated from Westville High School in 2004 and enlisted in the Marine Corps on April 18, 2008. He joined the Marines after seeing a TV news segment focused on the hardships military families endure when they are separated, especially during the holidays. He was deeply inspired by those who dedicated their lives in the service of others, and he wanted to share the burden they were carrying on behalf of our nation. LCpl Birchfield was stationed in Helmand Province as a rifleman with the 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1 Marine Expeditionary Force based in Twentynine Palms, California. For his service and support in Operation Enduring Freedom, he has been awarded multiple military awards including the Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon and the NATO Medal.

A baseball enthusiast, Joshua was a hero to many in the Westville community and will be remembered as the selfless and compassionate human being he was. Joshua is survived by both his parents and sisters, extended family and many friends.

It is my solemn duty, and humble privilege, to honor and remember Lance Cpl. Joshua H. Birchfield and a life cut tragically short. Joshua stands as a testament to the great honor pos-

essed, and sacrifices made, by our men and women in the armed forces, and their families. We were all blessed by his presence and we are all diminished by his passing. I, and the grateful citizens of Indiana's Second District are deeply saddened by his loss, especially for his family, our community and our country. We mourn his passing and offer solemn gratitude for his service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FARM-  
INGTON/FARMINGTON HILLS  
FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH AND  
FAMILIES ON CELEBRATING ITS  
15TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GARY C. PETERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 3, 2010*

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 15th anniversary of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth and Families. As a Member of Congress, it is both my honor and privilege to recognize this important milestone and pay tribute to this outstanding organization.

The Foundation was created in 1995 with the focus of assisting youth through supporting after-school programs. Over the Foundation's 15 years it has awarded almost \$500,000 to 37 different non-profit groups. The Foundation has since grown and expanded its focus to support a wide-range of community based programs which work to enrich the lives of Farmington and Farmington Hills residents. Each year the Foundation holds an annual gala to highlight the work of programs it has supported, as well as raise support and awareness for future projects. At its 2009 gala, the Foundation introduced its "Bountiful Backpack" program, which arose out of the need to ensure that the substantial number of children who are on free and reduced lunch in our schools continue to have those same healthy nutritional options outside of school.

This year the Foundation honors George and Delores Riley, whose philanthropic work has left a profound positive impact on the communities and citizens of Farmington and Farmington Hills. After nearly 30 years of running a highly successful communications business, in 1998 George Riley sold his company and started the Riley Foundation. According to Mr. Riley, he started the foundation to "really help children." Mr. Riley's vision and commitment continues today with the Rileys' children.

The Riley Foundation's latest major project created a park in downtown Farmington which has been a haven for children and their families in the Farmington area. Beyond local projects, the Riley Foundation has done extraordinary work for the less fortunate worldwide and has recently partnered with public television to develop a new broadcast center for the Metro-Detroit market.

Madam Speaker, I am honored today to recognize the Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth and Families on the occasion of its 15th anniversary and wish them many more years of continued success in creating a stronger Farmington/Farmington Hills community through its support of projects which enrich the lives of area residents.