

President of the Offshore Mariners Association.

During his career, he owned and operated several scallopers along the eastern seaboard, the last being the F/V Mary Anne, which he designed, built, and operated with great pride. He served as the director of the City of New Bedford Harbor Development Commission, and later served as manager of the Popes Island Marina until his retirement in 2007. The building of that marina was one of his life's accomplishments.

He served as a member of the New Bedford Redevelopment Authority and the Economic Development Commission.

HOWARD W. NICKERSON

The late Howard Nickerson watched over the New Bedford waterfront for 65 years. He began his career as a young man, tub trawling in a sailing vessel, moving to commercial fishing on George's Bank as vessel engineer. Through the decades, Mr. Nickerson participated in the industry from every angle, as a fisherman, representing fishermen, seafood dealers, seafood workers, boat owners and directing state and municipal agencies, always fighting for fairer regulations.

He served as head of the Harbor Development Commission, the State Pier, the Seafood Dealers Association, the Seafood Workers Health-Pension Fund, the New England Fisheries Steering Committee and the Offshore Mariners Association.

A strong advocate of seafood marketing, Mr. Nickerson was involved in organizing the New Bedford Seafood Council and the New Bedford Scallop Festival in the 1950s and '60s, which helped build the market demand that allowed the scallop to become the port's cash leader.

RECOGNITION OF KATHLEEN T. ELLIS AND ROBERT SICKLES

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kathleen T. Ellis and Robert Sickles for the laudable achievements that make them the well-deserved recipients of the YMCA's 2010 Champions for Children Distinguished Citizen Service Award. Both are successful local business leaders and committed community activists.

Ms. Ellis is the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of New Jersey Natural Gas, the principal subsidiary of New Jersey Resources. NJ Natural Gas provides energy to almost 500,000 residential and business customers in the heart of NJ's vacation spots. She has also led a robust career prior to joining NJR in 2004; Ms. Ellis served as the Director of Communications to former Governor James McGreevey from 2002–2004, and as Manager of Communications and Director of State Governmental Affairs for the NJ-based energy company PSE&G from 1998–2002. In addition to all of her commendable business successes, Ms. Ellis has been an incredibly active member of her community, serving the interests of women and children at no compensation for her efforts. She is on the Board of Trustees for the private, nonprofit organization, 180 Turning Lives Around, which has focused on ending domestic abuse and violence in Monmouth County for 30 years. She is also on the board of New Jersey's PAM's List, which is active in raising money for pro-

choice women to run for public office, as well as the New Jersey League of Municipalities Educational Foundation and New Jersey Future.

Mr. Sickles, better known as Bob, is the owner-operator of the local Sickles Market in Little Silver, NJ, which has remained in business through three generations of Sickles. Although the Market itself was established in 1908 as a seasonal farmer's market, the Sickles' family history extends all the way to a King's Land Grant in 1663. Sickles Market is now a year-round, fresh foods market with 4 production greenhouses and over 10 acres of working farm production, as well as a garden center, all a result of Bob's transformative re-vamping in 1998 to keep the store open through the winter in competition with big grocery stores without losing its unique local flavor. It is thus unsurprising that Mr. Sickles has been the recipient of many awards in recognition of the Market's distinctive success, including the 2004 Innovator of the Year Award from Garden Center Management & Merchandising Magazine and "Random Acts of Beauty 2008" by the Little Silver Garden Club, to name only a few. Mr. Sickles is also heavily involved in his community, hosting Back to Garden and Kids Day events at the Market in order to educate children about healthy living and environmental awareness. In 2008, Sickles Market raised over \$300,000 over 5 years for the Holiday Express annual fundraiser, a local charity for the disadvantaged.

Madam Speaker, I would once more like to thank Kathleen Ellis and Robert Sickles for their contributions to their businesses and to their communities, and congratulate them again on their 2010 Distinguished Citizen Services awards from the YMCA, which they both highly deserve.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,078,420,280,010.67.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,404,722,523,042.60 so far this Congress. The debt has increased \$35,272,010,674.80 since just yesterday.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

175TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHATHAM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the 175th anniversary of the Chatham Presbyterian Church in Chatham, Illinois.

The Chatham Presbyterian Church was founded in 1835 by some of Chatham's found-

ing citizens, the Reverend Dewey Whitney, T.A. Spilman and William Thornton. The first service was held in Mr. Thornton's home and was attended by about 15 families, some of whom had come by wagon from New York to settle Sangamon County.

From that humble beginning, Chatham Presbyterian has expanded to more than 400 members, and several new buildings. Just after celebrating their sesquicentennial in 1985, Chatham Presbyterian moved into its current building on Walnut Street in Chatham. Over the years, Chatham Presbyterian has been an important part of the Chatham and Springfield communities, as well as carrying on mission work across the country and around the world. In addition, Chatham Presbyterian is active in our local community, hosting group work camps in Springfield's historic Enos Park neighborhood.

I want to congratulate Dr. Joe Eby, Pastor of Chatham Presbyterian, and the entire church family on celebrating this important milestone. I join with the other members of this House in wishing Chatham Presbyterian another 175 years of success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, June 15, 2010, I was not present for two recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way: Roll No. 363—"nay"; Roll No. 364—"yea."

A TRIBUTE TO MANUEL SEMAN AND LUISE PANGELINAN VILLAGOMEZ

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, 86-year-old Manuel Seman Villagomez's kempt silver hair, easy smile and gregarious personality belie his years of hard work and difficult childhood. He came from a large family with meager possessions, but over time, intense work and unwavering devotion to his faith and family have made him a contented man.

Manuel, or Manny, Villagomez was born on January 24, 1924 on Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands during the Japanese occupation. He is the youngest of ten children. His Chamorro father was born on Guam, but, at the age of 18, he moved to Saipan with his siblings. Manny's mother, half Chamorro and half Carolinian, was from Saipan.

Manny received a sixth grade level education, the maximum allowable for Chamorro children under Japanese law at the time. After he graduated from school, he worked at the family farm and sold produce to the Japanese stores to support the large family. He fished with his father to supplement the family income. His father's love of fishing for kichu, or sergeant fish, was the reason for his family being affectionately called "Kiyu."