

In describing and praising his partner, Greg Gonzales, in 2008, Carrott told the local media that a good homicide detective must be intensely curious, care deeply about others and pay great attention to detail. Those certainly are qualities Carrott brought to the job.

Those qualities led to a nearly 90 percent case closure rate. But Carrott didn't just pursue criminals and bring them to justice. Along the way, he brought empathy to the victims and victims' families, as well.

When Detective Carrott was awarded the Investigative Excellence Award for Cumulative Investigative Excellence in 2009 from the California Commission on Police Officers Standards and Training's Robert Presley Institute of Criminal Investigation, officials said in a statement: "He believes an investigator's job is not only to seek out the truth, but also to ensure that families touched by violence have a voice."

Jay's dedication to the truth and the law are legendary. When a local community service organization refused to rescind the rental of its facility to the Hells Angels motorcycle gang, Jay quit the organization, saying his police badge meant more to him than membership in the club.

But perhaps the best praise to Jay's dedication comes from his daughter, Erin, who wrote this in 2007 as part of a school assignment after Detective Carrott was awarded the City of Simi Valley's Meritorious Service Award:

"Weeks with no sleep, calls in the middle of the night, having to travel to places to search for things you aren't even sure exist, and criminals who get away with it this is what my father faces on a daily basis."

Jay was also a member of the Department's SWAT Team, a Range Master, and a member of the SES—Special Enforcement Section. Among the other awards he earned was SVPD Officer of the Year in 1991 and the SVPD Chiefs Award in 1998. Jay also taught at Moorpark College, where he earned an associate's degree before earning a bachelor's in business from University of Redlands.

Aside from Erin, Jay and his wife, Amy, raised two sons, Joshua and Joseph, and have a grandson, Taylor.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in thanking Detective Jay Carrott for his service to his community and country, and for his dedication to and passion for enforcing our laws, and wish him and Amy a long and happy retirement.

SALUTING SERVICE ACADEMY
STUDENTS—AMANDA RIGSBY

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary group of young men and women who have been chosen as future leaders in our armed forces by the prestigious United States service academies. It is a privilege to send such a fine group from the Third District of Texas to pursue a world-class education and serve our Nation.

As we keep them and their families in our prayers, may we never forget the sacrifices they are preparing to make while defending

our freedoms all across the globe. I am so proud of each one. God bless them and God bless America.

Today I salute Amanda Rigsby, a United States Merchant Marine Academy Appointee. Amanda is a graduate of Plano East Senior High School in 2010 where she was active in varsity and select soccer. Amanda was involved in Plano Youth Ambassadors as a co-leader, Spanish Club, and Mock Trial as a witness roll, where she earned an award for best witness. She excelled academically in the International Baccalaureate Program and a member of the National Honor Society. She spent the last year at Southern Methodist University on a full scholarship and decided to change courses and apply to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. Amanda is a well rounded young woman who has dreams to pursue an international career, to help people, and to make a difference. She recently stated, "I appreciate my service obligations as opportunities as a Merchant Marine following graduation and embrace not only military service but also the maritime industry."

REMEMBERING AND HONORING
THE LIFE OF WILLIAM P. POWERS SR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing and honor the life of William P. Powers. Bill, a long-time resident of Niantic, Connecticut, passed away peacefully on May 29, 2011. Bill's desire to give back to his country and community was without bounds. We are fortunate that he chose to spend his life protecting our nation, teaching our young people, and working tirelessly to ensure a good life for the people around him.

Following the death of their father, Bill and his brother were raised in New Haven by their mother and her extended family. After graduating from high school, Bill went to work at High Standard Manufacturing Co., which made deep hole drills, and eventually .22 caliber pistols and repeating rifles, during World War II.

Bill's impressive work ethic, revealed at a young age, afforded him a life full of rich and diverse experiences. In New Haven, he bused tables of Yale's famous Berkely College dining hall, delivered telegraphs for Western Union on his bicycle, and even worked a maintenance job for the city's railroad. When war erupted and gripped the nation, Bill enlisted in the U.S. Navy. When his number was called up in October of 1942, he trained as a pilot, flying the well-known "Privateer" patrol bomber. He was stationed in Kearney, California.

When the war ended, Bill enrolled at Columbia University on the GI Bill. He kept himself busy as a student and worked as a waiter at the Drake Hotel, where he crossed paths with famous singers and songwriters like Frank Sinatra and Cole Porter.

Education was a lifelong passion and pursuit for Bill. After graduating from Columbia, he took a job back in Connecticut, this time in East Lyme's Niantic village where he would live for nearly 60 years. He served as principal of the Flanders, Niantic Center, and Great Neck schools in eastern Connecticut. He knew

not only the name of every student in his schools, but also an interesting fact about each one of them. While ensuring that his students had a safe and productive place to learn, Bill pursued more education of his own, earning a Master of Arts and Sixth Year degree from UConn. He also led a group of his colleagues as the President of Connecticut's Elementary and Middle School Principals' Association.

It is not surprising that when Bill's time as a professional educator came to a close, he put his signature passion and hard work into making his state and community a better place. For a period, he spent several years in Connecticut's General Assembly as legislative aide for his son, Senator Mark H. Powers, and also as a popular messenger in the senate. He even spent some time as an investigator in the New London Public Defender's office and was a respected and beloved Justice of the Peace. Bill was also an active member of American Legion Post 128.

Bill's contributions as a U.S. Navy veteran, an educator, and civic leader could easily fill three lifetimes, but he packed it all into one. I admire his desire to make education a lifelong experience and his commitment to preserve his deep Connecticut roots. He will be dearly missed by his state, his community and most of all by his loving wife, Jane, and five boys, William Jr., Mark, Joseph, Richard, and Thomas. I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning the loss and celebrating the life of William P. Powers.

IN RECOGNITION OF AND APPRECIATION FOR ROBERT VAN CAMP

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Mr. Robert Van Camp as he retires from his 40-year career as a pioneer in education, valued mentor and dedicated global citizen.

Mr. Van Camp is, and always will be, an educator in the broadest sense of the word. Bob was raised with his brother John on a working farm in the iconic village of Romeo, Michigan. The 19th century farmhouse, in its rambling fields and rural setting, belied their exceptional upbringing. The farm was a frequent gathering place for progressive minds of the time, including the Reuther brothers, and nascent causes like the Macomb County Interracial Society. The family frequently housed exchange students from Africa and helped found the first integrated Cub Scout den in Macomb County. Their mother, Dorothy, was a graduate of Columbia Teacher College, one of just 13 women charter members of the Detroit Federation of Teachers and a fierce opponent of book censorship during her tenure on the Romeo Library Board of Directors.

Imbued with the values of equality and fairness, and inspired by his mother's devotion to education, Bob understood he was a citizen and student of the world. This understanding shaped the path of his life. More significantly, it shaped his life's work and touched thousands of young people who have been inspired to look beyond their home towns to build bridges to other lands and cultures in their own lives.

Bob began his formal career at American University in Cairo, Egypt, after graduating from Central Michigan University. Three years later, he returned home and settled his career in the fast-growing Utica Community School (UCS) district. Much of his career at Utica was spent as the venerated, respected, and highly successful debate and communications coach at Henry Ford II High School. He coached numerous teams and individuals to debate and forensics state championships and was inducted into the Michigan Speech Coaches Hall of Fame in 1983. His debate colleagues knew him as a fierce competitor and a voracious researcher with a nearly photographic memory. But above all, he was ethical, principled and always put first the education and care of the young people in his charge.

In 1984, Bob and his wife, Dr. Donna McMinn, embarked on a new chapter in their lives by moving to Japan where Bob became an English and communications instructor.

Inspired by the experience and potential to enrich the lives of young people back home, they returned to Michigan and Bob established the pioneering East Asian Institute at UCS. For nearly 10 years, countless students from Michigan and Japan spent time in one another's homes and schools as exchange students, building cultural bridges and relationships that endure today.

In 1994, the broader educational community took note of Bob's exceptional dedication and innovative work. He was honored as a Michigan Teacher of the Year by the state, Macomb County Teacher of the Year by WDIV-Newsweek and Teacher of the Year by the Michigan Council for Social Studies.

For the next 15 years, Bob served as a UCS administrator in a variety of roles and shaped curricula for all Utica Schools' students. Among the most innovative programs he spearheaded was the Utica Academy for International Studies, an IB Diploma Programme, and the Utica Center for Science and Industry. Additionally, Bob was the initial project director of a Department of Defense grant to establish a Chinese immersion program for UCS students starting in kindergarten. Thanks to Bob's vision, dedication and tireless advocacy, the Utica Schools remain on the cutting edge of cultural exchange and language programs in the State of Michigan. This "renaissance man" of education will truly be missed by his many colleagues and admirers in UCS and beyond.

Throughout his rich and varied career, Bob has helped shape the development and lives of thousands of young people whose own careers have taken them across the globe. At his retirement party tomorrow evening, many of his former students and debaters will gather from around the country to express their appreciation for his inimitable guidance and friendship.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me as I salute Robert Van Camp, a shining example of the most dedicated of teachers, mentors and visionaries for education in Michigan, and indeed, around the globe. Although Bob will undoubtedly enjoy his retirement with Donna and their menagerie of animals on Stonecroft Farm, I hope in the next chapter of his life, he continues his work of building bridges to other cultures and countries and enriching the lives of young people everywhere.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2112) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. KIND. Madam Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012. This bill cuts the Woman, Infant, and Children (WIC) Program by more than \$650 million. With the country in the midst of a fragile recovery, my Republican colleagues have decided to prevent up to 350,000 women and children from receiving benefits from this highly successful program. In Wisconsin alone, up to 4,800 women and children would not be able to enroll. For years, WIC has provided mothers and children with healthy foods, counseling on breast feeding, nutrition guidance, and health care referrals. At a time of economic uncertainty, particularly for lower and middle income individuals, these cuts don't make sense. These cuts are especially alarming because they break a 15 year commitment by members of both parties to allow anyone that qualifies to receive WIC benefits.

Not only would the majority cut funding for WIC, they would also seek to underfund programs tailored to provide American children with nutrition education and more nutritious school lunches. Currently, one in three American children is considered overweight or obese. The number of children who are considered severely obese has more than tripled over a 25 year period. Providing America's children with healthy alternatives like fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and school lunches is a small price to pay to help alleviate this epidemic. In fact, it will provide more long term deficit reduction and put us on a better fiscal path than anything the majority has proposed. The long term medical, financial, and societal costs posed by childhood obesity are a far greater threat to our fiscal stability than healthy foods in schools.

Instead of putting deficit reduction on the backs of the country's most vulnerable citizens, I believe we should target true waste and fraud. For this appropriations bill, the country's outdated agriculture subsidy program is a good place to start.

DEMOCRACY RESTORATION ACT OF 2011

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Democracy Restoration Act of

2011. This legislation will serve to clarify and expand voting rights, as well as assist former felons with their reintegration into our democracy.

The Sentencing Project reports that, since 1997, 19 states have amended felony disenfranchisement policies in an effort to reduce their restrictiveness and expand voter eligibility. These reforms have resulted in more than 760,000 citizens regaining their voting rights. Yet, despite these reforms, an estimated 5 million people continue to be ineligible to vote in Federal elections, including nearly 4 million who reside in the 35 states that still prohibit some combination of persons on probation, parole, and/or people who have completed their sentence from voting.

I believe that there are three grave discrepancies in State laws regarding felony convictions that lead to unfairness in Federal elections. First, there is no uniform standard for voting in Federal elections, which leads to an egregious disparity and unequal participation in Federal elections based solely on where a person lives. Second, laws governing the restoration of voting rights after a felony conviction are unequal throughout the country and persons in some States can easily regain their voting rights while in other States persons effectively lose their right to vote permanently. Third, State disenfranchisement laws disproportionately impact ethnic minorities, thus adversely infringing upon citizens of these communities constitutional right to vote.

These concerns about ex-offender disenfranchisement are not rhetorical. In the past two election cycles, flawed voter purges have deprived thousands of legitimate voters of their rights. For example, an erroneous interpretation of state law by the Ohio Secretary of State deprived thousands of ex-felons in that state of even the right to register. Only Federal law can conclusively resolve the ambiguities in this area plaguing our voting system.

Like the States, Congress has recognized the need to address the barriers to full citizenship faced by ex-offenders. This voting legislation is the next step in restoring the ex-felon community to full citizenship. Denying voting rights to ex-offenders robs them of the opportunity to fully participate and contribute to their society. Disenfranchisement laws isolate and alienate ex-offenders, and have been shown to serve as one more obstacle in their attempt to successfully reintegrate into society. Moreover, these obstacles adversely impact the voting participation of their families, further undermining the effectiveness of our voting system.

This legislation is a narrowly crafted effort to expand voting rights for ex-felons, while protecting State prerogatives to generally establish voting qualifications. This legislation would only apply to persons who have been released from prison, and it would only apply to federal elections. Consequently, the bill is fully consistent with constitutional requirements established by the Supreme Court in a series of decisions upholding Federal voting rights laws.

In past Congresses, voting restoration legislation has been supported by a broad coalition of groups interested in voting and civil rights, including the NAACP, ACLU, the National Council of Churches (National and Washington Office), the National Urban League, the Human Rights Watch and the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, among many others.

The practice of many states denying voting rights to former felons represents a vestige