

One of the Commission's first major accomplishments came in 1975 when the Water Commission finished installing a new water main to expand service to North Willow Springs. Just over a decade later in 1986 the Water Commission faced its first major crisis when the Des Plaines River flooded. The flood displaced thousands and caused an estimated \$35 million in damage to the surrounding community. The Water Commission responded by working around the clock to pump water from the streets and get life back to normal in the western suburbs.

Since the flood, the Water Commission has committed itself to upgrading and improving the infrastructure of the rapidly growing area. For example, The Commission added a new computerized monitoring system increased the efficiency of the newly renamed Water Commission. This year the Water Commission was renamed the West Suburban water Commission to signify the expanding scope of the commission and usher in the next chapter of its history.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the great service that the West Suburban Water Commission has provided to the citizens of Justice and Willow Springs. May their selfless dedication to their community serve as example to us all.

39TH ANNUAL LABOR AND  
COMMUNITY AWARDS RECEPTION

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 28, 2014*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate several of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens. The Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor, American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations, recognized several individuals for their dedication and service during the 39th Annual Labor and Community Awards Reception, which was held at Wicker Park in Highland, Indiana, on Thursday, April 24, 2014. These individuals, in addition to all Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor members who have served Northwest Indiana so diligently for such a long period of time, are the epitome of the ideal American worker: loyal, dedicated, and hardworking.

At this year's event, several individuals and organizations received special recognition. The Joseph A. Beirne Community Service Award is presented each year to local and national labor leaders for their volunteer service to United Way. This year, Jim Stemmler, retired Business Manager for Ironworkers Local 395, was the recipient of this prestigious honor for his outstanding dedication and noteworthy service to the United Way movement.

Dave Fagan, Financial Secretary, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150, is this year's recipient of the President's Award. Mr. Fagan was honored for enhancing the well-being of workers throughout Northwest Indiana through countless contributions to further the philosophy of the Labor Movement.

The Union Label Award was presented to Lake County Sheriff John Buncich for his unselfish devotion to the Labor Movement through its promotion in all areas of endeavor: social, civic, educational, and political.

Larry Regan, Vice President, Teamsters Local 142, was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his many years of Labor activism and his commitment to his community. For the exceptional service he has provided to the people of Northwest Indiana, he is worthy of our admiration and respect.

Dr. Debra Dudek, Director of Title and Special Student Services for the Portage School District, was honored with the Community Services Award for her exemplary service to her community and to the enhancement of the quality of life for the people of Northwest Indiana.

The Industrial Sector Award was presented to Dave McCall, Director, District 1, United Steelworkers, for his leadership and support of working families throughout Northwest Indiana.

David Tharp, Midwest District Vice President, Carpenters Local 1005, was the recipient of the Building Trades Sector Award, which was bestowed upon him for his many years of service to the Labor Movement and his outstanding dedication to his fellow union members.

Tim Murray, of the Ceramic Tile, Terrazzo and Granite Cutters Union Local 21, and Michael Larson, of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 697, received the George Meany Award for their significant contributions to the youth of their communities through their involvement with the Boy Scouts of America.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in its craftsmanship and loyalty by its tradesmen. These honorees are all outstanding examples of these qualities. They have demonstrated their loyalty to their unions and the Northwest Indiana community through their hard work and tireless service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these dedicated, honorable, and exemplary citizens, as well as all of the hardworking union men and women throughout America. They have shown commitment and courage toward their pursuits, and I am proud to represent them in Washington, DC.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF G. RICARDO SALAS

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 28, 2014*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of former Guam Senator G. Ricardo Salas, a dedicated public servant and successful businessman on Guam. Senator Salas passed away on April 4, 2014, at the age of 90.

Affectionately known as Rick, G. Ricardo Salas was born in Guam's capital city of Hagåtña on November 14, 1923, to Jose and Coltilde Santos Salas. When he was just eight years old, Rick began helping with his family's business; he would assist his father and brother in their architecture and land-surveying professions and walk through the streets of Hagåtña selling baked goods.

As a young man on Guam after World War II, Rick decided to move to the U.S. mainland to pursue higher education. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business from Doane College in Crete, Nebraska, in 1949.

Mr. Salas married Rosa Teresita Perez on November 26, 1951. Together they had eight children: Richard Conrad, Sr.; Melissa; Ronald John; Kathleen Angelica; Lucina Elaine; Teresita Marie; Vicente Ramon and Solange Mirim. They also raised their first grandchild, Richard "Ricky Boy" Conrad, Jr., and were blessed with 19 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Rick began his career of public service with the Government of Guam, working at the Department of Land Management and later at the Department of Revenue and Taxation. He was an active member of the Republican Party of Guam, and in 1972, he represented Guam as a delegate to the Republican National Convention. In 19XX, he was elected a Senator to the 12th Guam Legislature. He went on to serve an additional term in the 13th Guam Legislature before returning to the private sector.

As a businessman, Senator Salas played an integral role in diversifying business on Guam. He used his background in real-estate to successfully attract international clientele from Asia to invest in Guam. He also managed his family businesses, the Salas Agency Corporation, Salas Services, and Salas Equipment Co. until his retirement in 2005. However, despite retiring many continued to rely on his advice and expertise of real estate on Guam.

Senator Salas will always be remembered for his years of public service and many contributions to the people of Guam. I am deeply saddened by his passing, and I join the people of Guam in mourning a great businessman and statesman. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. His legacy will live on in the memories of the people of Guam.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ART OF  
MAGIC

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 28, 2014*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of one of my constituents, Dal Sanders, National President of The Society of American Magicians, to recognize magic as an art.

The art of magic has been around for centuries and is intended to entertain audiences with the staging of tricks and creating seemingly impossible illusions. Throughout its history, magic has grown to show innovative and creative ways to delight and engage audiences worldwide. It takes a great deal of dedication and a strong work ethic to devote the practice time necessary to master this art.

I would specifically like to take this opportunity to recognize the world's oldest magic organization, The Society of American Magicians, SAM. Since its founding in 1902, The SAM has attempted to elevate and advance the art of magic by promoting an environment for magicians worldwide to come together and share their passion. The SAM members follow in the footsteps of renowned magicians Harry Houdini and Howard Thurston, who each served as national president of The SAM, and Harry Blackstone, Jr., and David Copperfield, who both have served as The SAM ambassadors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in recognizing the art of magic.