

HONORING PRO PHARMACY IN
SOUTH SAINT PAUL

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the owner of PRO Pharmacy in South Saint Paul, Minnesota, Greg Schouweiler, along with his staff and customers, as this independent local business closes after decades of serving residents in my hometown and the surrounding community.

In 1923, Gericke's Pharmacy was established, providing health care to local residents. In November 1975, Greg Schouweiler purchased this neighborhood drugstore at Marie and Fifth Avenue and continued to meet health care needs for families in South St. Paul for generations.

Under Greg's ownership, for nearly 40 years, PRO Pharmacy truly grew into an important community resource, providing high-quality patient care and exceptional, friendly and dependable customer service to individuals and families. For the past five years, PRO Pharmacy was the only pharmacy in South Saint Paul, the sole independent pharmacy in the nearby area, and the sole pharmacy delivering prescriptions to patients in South Saint Paul, West Saint Paul, and Inver Grove Heights. PRO Pharmacy delivered between 400–500 prescriptions per day to Minnesota seniors and people with disabilities free of charge. This was an invaluable service for these customers and ensured that they received their prescriptions in a timely manner. During the past several years, it was an honor to work with PRO Pharmacy on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries to help them to continue to be able to get their prescriptions filled from their trusted neighborhood drugstore—PRO Pharmacy.

On June 15, 2015, PRO Pharmacy closed for the last time. The courteous, high quality service they have provided for many years will be missed. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise to honor PRO Pharmacy in South Saint Paul, Minnesota after nearly four decades of putting customers first and serving the community.

IN MEMORY OF MARY LOU DEVIVO

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with deep sadness to remember my friend and a pillar of the Windham region, Mary Lou DeVivo, who passed away last week. Mary Lou was an incredible woman, abound with endless energy and optimism and an unwavering commitment to the Windham community.

Mary Lou was the owner and President of the Willimantic Waste Paper Company, a local business her late beloved husband James ran with her for many years. After James's death in 1996, Mary Lou took the helm and grew the company further into a regional cornerstone, providing employment to many local residents and needed services to area businesses and households.

Mary Lou worked for many years as a preschool and kindergarten teacher and believed fervently in the power of education to combat poverty. She graduated in 1960 from Willimantic State Teachers College with a degree in Education, and she later earned a degree in Religion from Holy Apostles College in Cromwell. Among her many accomplishments, Mary Lou will be remembered for launching the Windham Reads Program and serving as an unrelenting advocate for improving Windham Schools.

She was well known for her deep and wide commitment to local community organizations, including the Covenant Soup Kitchen, the Windham Library Board, Willimantic Co-Op, Willimantic Irish Club, Connecticut Eastern Railroad Museum, the Victorian Neighborhood Association, Windham Garden Club, and the Board for Saint Mary Saint Joseph School, among others. She was uniquely attuned to the needs of her community, and she never hesitated to get involved when her contributions would make a difference.

She was a woman of deep faith, and was heavily involved in St. Joseph's Parish in Windham, where she once served as Director of Religious Studies. She was a generous patron of that church, as well as St. Mary's and Sagrado Corazon De Jesus. Above all, Mary Lou will be remembered as an outgoing, friendly, feisty and strong-willed member of our community, and I will deeply miss her friendship. Windham will feel this loss greatly.

My heart goes out to her family and friends, especially her children Tom, Tim, Bridget, John, and Gina and her 14 grandchildren. I ask that my colleagues please rise to remember Mary Lou, a remarkable woman who will be missed profoundly by all who knew her.

TRIBUTE TO CORUM'S FLOWERS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Corum's Flowers of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for over 100 years in business. Corum's Flowers has been "making special moments since 1910," a slogan written on a chalkboard in the storefront. Pam and Wayne Cyboron are the owners of Corum's Flowers. Pam is a second-generation florist, and her family business traces its roots back more than a century in Council Bluffs.

Pam remembers driving a delivery van for her parents when she was a student in high school. Today Pam and Wayne enjoy the support of over 15,000 customers, and the business has a reputation of great service. Pam said, "word-of-mouth is a big thing in this town." Corum's Flowers serves second and third generations of Council Bluffs families, the support of the community and their customer loyalty a testament to the great service they provide.

I commend Corum's Flowers and their staff for over 100 years of dedicated service to Council Bluffs and southwest Iowa. I urge my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Corum's Flowers for this extraordinary occasion. I wish them and all of their employees best wishes moving forward.

IN RECOGNITION OF JIM HARDY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker and members, I rise today to honor the departing City Manager of Foster City, Jim Hardy. He's had an extraordinary 34 years with the city, the last 21 years as City Manager. Jim leaves a legacy that is profound having joined the city just 10 years after it was incorporated. He is only the second City Manager ever hired by Foster City, following in the footsteps of his esteemed predecessor, Rick Wykoff.

It is not quite fair to say that Foster City sits on San Francisco Bay. It's more correct to say that our beautiful bay envelops Foster City, and offers its residents a lifestyle that is, as Jim Hardy says, paradise. Boating, fishing, parks second-to-none, and excellent schools that compare to any in this nation—this is Foster City. Jim Hardy's role in stabilizing and growing this community was pivotal.

The finances of the city and its predecessor agency were shaky for many years. Jim joined the city's staff as stability arrived, but the city and its councils have always made a strong balance sheet a top priority. As Jim has often noted, the city has wonderful public improvements but they are also on the bay, and they deteriorate rapidly. The roads need more care than most and the extensive pumping systems that fill and moderate Foster City's lagoons are expensive to maintain. The community rightfully deserves a first class police department, and all of these expenses have to be managed aggressively. Jim is the classic "man with the green eyeshade" who realizes that a community of sustained good living cannot exist unless the city's finances remain strong. As a consequence of his financial and community leadership, transformative public and private improvements have been accomplished during his years as City Manager.

The Vintage Park Overcrossing was completed in 1992. A corporation yard project was finished in 1993. A lift station for water control purposes was finished in 1996. Upon entering Foster City, one is struck by its beautiful new library and civic center complex, completed in 1999 and 2003, respectively. The Leo J. Ryan Amphitheater was completed in 2004, a water main extension in 2006, a teen center in 2010, and the widening of two major roads in 2013. The Foster Square development was finished this year. These are just a few of the many physical manifestations of Jim's leadership.

However, the most important and enduring legacy of Jim is the way in which he created a cohesive team amongst city staff. Employees are encouraged to accept responsibility but to work as a team to meet the public's needs. As we know, public service can sometimes entail resolving contentious issues. Jim's decent, non-controversial approach to problem solving was a steady voice during many staff and council meetings.

Jim is not the only leader in the Hardy family. His wife, Luisa, is also retiring from her career and the two of them will be able to spend more time with their four adult children, all employed in challenging positions, and with the Hardy-family grandchildren. The airlines are going to be seeing a lot of Jim and Luisa as they make their way back and forth between