these efforts, to rapid response teams for fuel spills, to responses to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) inquiries, NAS Oceana has been praised on all fronts.

Captain Benson is an active member of the Hampton Roads Rotary and the City of Virginia Beach Neptune Festival Committee, further enhancing the cooperation and community leadership between the base and the public at large.

A totally dedicated professional, Captain Benson has set a superior personal example of all military leaders to emulate. His many contributions will continue to be felt for many years to come in the Hampton Roads area. Because of his outstanding and distinguished record of accomplishments, his tenacious efforts to keep the local community informed and his outgoing personality, Captain Benson is truly worthy of recognition. We will surely miss him at Oceana Naval Air Station.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF TAIWANESE PRESIDENT LEE IN OFFICE

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 1999

Mr. GILMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, permit me to take this opportunity to convey to Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui, on the eve of his third anniversary in office, our best wishes and congratulations. Taiwan is very fortunate to have Dr. Lee as its President.

A man of vision, President Lee supports the reunion of Taiwan and mainland China according to the principles of democracy, freedom, and the equitable distribution of wealth. During his tenure in office, he has made every effort to resume the cross Strait dialogue and to maintain peace and security in the Taiwan Strait. Accordingly, I invite my colleagues to join in extending congratulations and best wishes to President Lee and we look forward to his continuing accomplishments in the coming years.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH POSEDEL

HON. MIKE THOMPSON
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to recognize Joseph F. Posedel who is retiring as Business Manager of Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 343 under the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry.

In his 36 years with the union, Mr. Posedel has worked to create a solid foundation for Local 343.

He joined the union in 1963 as a building trades apprentice. He became a trustee for the Trust Fund in 1970. Subsequently, he served as Vice President, President, Business Agent and Apprenticeship Coordinator for the union. In January 1996 he assumed the important leadership position of Business Manager.

As Business Manager, Mr. Posedel successfully negotiated an improved wage package, including health, welfare, and pension benefits, for union members.

Mr. Posedel is a native of the San Francisco Bay area. He grew up in Rodeo and attended St. Mary’s High School, graduating in 1955. He also attended St. Mary’s College in the same community.

He and his wife, Patricia, have been married for 39 years. They have three children and six grandchildren.

Following his retirement, Mr. Posedel will continue to serve Local 343 as a Trustee of the Trust Fund.

Mr. Speaker, because of Joseph F. Posedel’s long and devoted service to Local 343 of the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union, it is fitting and proper to honor him today for his accomplishments, and to wish him well in his retirement.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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