

curriculum, the introduction of the master's degree programs in occupational and physical therapy, and a unique partnership with Saint Louis University in South Kansas City at the Ignatius Center. In his own life, education played a significant part in shaping his role as a leader for our community and nation. Fr. Thom obtained an undergraduate degree in philosophy and sociology from Boston College, held a doctor of education and a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University, and a master's degree in city and regional planning from the University of California at Berkeley.

Instructed in the Jesuit tradition and officially ordained in 1979, Fr. Thom always aimed for high intellectual and ethical standards and moral responsibility. He was a trailblazer who celebrated diversity, respect and true justice. In each aspect of his life he sought to bring about goodness. Even with a full workload and schedule, he could be heard in a lively debate on Sunday mornings on the radio as one of the hosts of "Religion on the Line." His past roles in our community are evidence of his conscientious and generous intentions. As Co-Chairman of FOCUS Kansas City, Chairman of the Missouri Humanities Council, Vice President of the Kansas City Chapter of Phil Beta Kappa, Trustee of the Liberty Memorial Association, Member of the Menninger Clinic Board of Directors, the Kauffman Foundation Board of Trustees, the Midwest Research Institute Board of Trustees, the Preferred Health Professionals Board of Directors, and the Holocaust Memorial Advisory Board, Fr. Thom demonstrated his personal commitment to many worthy causes. He wrote for several publications and newspapers to share his views on board governance, trustees, Catholicism, and pedagogical issues.

Fr. Thom Savage is truly an inspiration for all who knew him and were touched by his innumerable acts of kindness. His sharp, honed wit and personable, outgoing nature were character trademarks and will be sorely missed. Along with many others from our region and across the nation, I mourn the death of this outstanding man. He will long be recognized as a hero, an agent of change, a champion for the underprivileged, a spiritual leader, and most importantly a friend to everyone in my community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending sympathy to his mother and the entire Savage family.

ORION INTERNATIONAL  
TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

**HON. ED PASTOR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Orion International Technologies, Inc., the 1999 recipient of the U.S. Small Business Administration's National Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year award.

Since its formation in 1985 by cofounders Dr. Miguel Rios, Jr., and his wife Maria Estela Rios, numerous Federal agencies, including the Department of Defense, Department of

Energy, Federal Aviation Administration, and the Department of Veterans Affairs, have come to rely on Orion's technical excellence and proven contract performance. In addition to the company's commitment to technical achievement, Orion's highly dedicated staff and allegiance to customer service and satisfaction are the foundation for this company's success.

Although headquartered in Albuquerque, NM, over the last 14 years, Orion has experienced controlled, continuous growth, which has resulted in the establishment of satellite offices in Puerto Rico, Massachusetts, Texas, and Virginia. This success and growth would not be possible without the outstanding leadership, vision, and talents of Dr. and Mrs. Rios and Mr. Felix Sanchez.

Under Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Miguel Rios, Jr., President and Chief Operating Officer Mr. Felix Sanchez, and Executive Vice President for Governmental Affairs Mrs. Maria Estela Rios, Orion has become one of the Southwest's premier providers of high-quality engineering products and services. Orion's success did not come overnight, but through hard work and perseverance this small business achieved the American dream.

I, for one, am inspired by this accomplishment.

A MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO JUNE  
WALLIN

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention today the fine work and outstanding public service of my very dear friend, June Wallin. June would have been recognized by a grateful community for her many years of volunteer service to the Chaffey Community Republican Women, Federated with a tribute in her honor on Friday, June 25. Sadly, she passed away Monday night.

June Wallin was active in local Republican Party politics for nearly 40 years. Over the years, she showed enormous dedication and gained the enduring respect of many people within the Republican Party. Many will feel the loss of her spirit and drive in our local party.

June began her service as member of the San Bernardino County Central Committee in 1963, and served five times as its chairman. She joined the California Central Committee in 1965 and was awarded the Gold Key for service in 1984 and 1986. She was a delegate to every Republican convention from 1976 to 1992, and served as a California delegate to the Electoral College in 1988. For many people, June Wallin is the heart and soul of the party in San Bernardino County.

June's work and commitment was particularly instrumental to the long-term success of the Federation of Republican Women, where she served as president at the local and state level, as well as on the national board of directors.

Over the years, June has been widely recognized for her contributions to our local com-

munity. She was a charter member of the San Bernardino County Adult Correctional Advisory Council, chairman of the county's Commission on the Status of Women, chairman of the Domestic Violence Task Force and chairman of the local board for the Selective Service System. She was a Grand Juror, an election board trainer and a tutor in the literacy program. She has been active with the Upland First United Methodist Church and the Assistance League of Upland.

Always remaining active, June strongly supported her husband, Ray Wallin, in his activities as a member of the Masons and Shrine. She put in more than 3,000 hours as a volunteer for the San Antonio Community Hospital Auxiliary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in recognizing the tremendous contributions of this remarkable woman. June Wallin made a difference in the lives of so many people in our local community and I am grateful beyond words for her long and dedicated service.

RECOGNITION OF HOPE ELIZABETH BROWN, LOYAL HIGHWAY CONTRACT LETTER CARRIER FOR THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

**HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 1999*

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hope Elizabeth Brown, a resident of Exeter, Rhode Island, who will retire on June 30, 1999, from carrying mail for the Exeter Post Office. Ms. Brown is particularly remarkable in her dedication and loyalty to the United States Postal Service and the state of Rhode Island because of the length of her service. This extraordinary woman—who, in the words of a coworker, is now "eighty-three years young"—has worked for the Postal Service for sixty years.

Except for two years during World War II when Ms. Brown acted as Postmaster in Exeter, all the years of her employment were spent delivering mail in Exeter and nearby Slocum. And, as we all know, our letter carriers work six days a week, fifty-two weeks a year, through rain, sleet, and snow. Ms. Brown certainly contributed to that reputation; in her sixty years of service, she missed work only because of family sorrows.

Ms. Brown's work ethic and dedication to the people she serves has been mirrored by the devotion shown her by her family, friends, and coworkers. Although she still insists on placing the mail in the boxes herself, members of her family support her by driving the route, as she no longer always feels capable of handling the delivery truck on the highway. The current Postmaster of Exeter, Mr. Thomas Fisher, recently wrote of Ms. Brown that she "exemplifies the spirit of America's mail system," and that, furthermore, "her dedication, commitment, and honesty is surpassed only by her love for the mail." On June 19, her community will honor her with a retirement party at the American Legion Hall in North