

Sergeant Joseph Buonome who recently retired from the East Haven Police Department after three decades of dedicated service. Sergeant Buonome led an exemplary career and has left a legacy that will not soon be forgotten.

Joining the East Haven Police Department as an Auxiliary Officer nearly thirty years ago, Sergeant Buonome was soon sworn in as a full time officer. Appointed Court Liaison and Police Spokesperson ten years ago, Sergeant Buonome played an integral role in maintaining the Department's relationship with the local community. Throughout the course of his career, he also took on the duties of Hostage Negotiator, Supply Officer and Airport Liaison. His outstanding service has been recognized with more than ten Commendations and two Citations for performing above and beyond the call of duty—a reflection of his unwavering commitment to serve and protect the residents of East Haven. Sergeant Buonome has certainly been a hero to our community.

Sergeant Buonome's compassion and generosity extends well beyond his professional career. As a member, Secretary, Vice-President and President for the Police Union Local 1662, he worked hard to ensure the safety and security of his fellow officers and their families. Sergeant Buonome has also served as the Vice President of the Connecticut Police Association as well as Vice President and President of the Order of Centurions devoting countless hours to these fine organizations. Dedicated to enriching his community, he has also served as Co-Chairman for many charitable events. His commitment to the East Haven community, professional and otherwise, is unquestionable and he has made a real difference in the lives of many.

Too often we take for granted the role of our law enforcement officers; men and women who face risks few of us can truly comprehend. Each day, they must be ready to perform under intense pressure—literally in life or death situations. It is an honor for me to stand today to express my deepest thanks and appreciation to Sergeant Joseph Buonome for his outstanding service to the Town of East Haven and to extend my very best wishes to him and his wife, Barbara; daughter, Cheryl and her husband, Michael, and his grandchildren, Gabrielle and Christopher as they celebrate his retirement.

WELCOME IMAM HENDI AND  
COMMENCEMENT OF RAMADAN

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 15, 2001*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to extend a warm welcome to Imam Hendi.

He is here with us today as guest chaplain and here to observe the commencement of Ramadan—the Islamic holy month of fasting and spiritual renewal.

Imam Hendi has spent his life educating and working with youngsters and students to guide their spiritual development and to educate them on the tenets and faith of Islam.

He was the first Muslim chaplain designated by Georgetown University where he currently serves.

Back in 1991, I was the first Member of Congress to invite an imam to pray before the House.

Today we share again the rich religious diversity of America by welcoming Imam Hendi.

This morning, at the commencement of Ramadan we send our greetings as our Muslim citizens and Muslims around the world prepare for this holy month of spiritual renewal.

Islam is one of the largest world religions, and one of America's major religions.

Muslims from all over the world are valued members of our American communities.

And this Muslim community comes together in the United States from all corners of the world: the Middle East, Indonesia, Southeast Asia, and Africa to celebrate their faith in our country.

In this month of introspection, faith, prayer and cleansing, together we share the horror of American Muslims felt when they witnessed criminals use their sacred faith as an excuse for their crimes.

While we will not excuse the criminal acts of September 11, so too can we never excuse those who seek to blame Muslims as a whole for those acts.

Nor will we, as a Nation, tolerate acts of violence and hatred directed towards those who practice Islam.

This has been made clear, from the President on down.

There can be no battle between the United States and the Muslim world, because the United States is part of the Muslim world.

Today we have 6 million Muslims in the United States, and that number continues to grow.

We welcome our Muslim citizens, and we value them, and we send them our best wishes.

I would like to close by stating my support as a cosponsor of Congressman John Laffalce's resolution, H.Res. 280; to express solidarity and support for members of the Islamic community in the United States and around the world while commending them for their faith in Islam.

HONORING GENE PARKER

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 15, 2001*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a truly dedicated volunteer, Ms. Gene Parker, from Southwest Colorado. Gene has spent over a century of her life working to help better understand previous cultures and the archaeological preservation of the Anasazi culture.

Ms. Parker began her work as a volunteer for the Bureau of Land Management's Anasazi Heritage Center in Dolores, Colorado. Her duties include the inventorying of the center's collections, where she is relied upon to verify that each piece was properly documented for its historical study. Gene has also volunteered her services to the center's library, assisting with special events as they occur. She is also a member of the Anasazi Historical Society.

Gene has dedicated her time and effort for two days a week for the past fifteen years. Following recovery from a broken hip in 1999, Gene remained committed to continue her duties where she has amassed 1,814 volunteer hours.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to recognize Gene for her service to help preserve the artifacts of the ancient Anasazi culture. Her dedication to a worthwhile cause certainly deserves the praise of this body. Because of her efforts, many will now be able to better understand the Anasazi culture.

ST. JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL'S  
FOOD DRIVE COMMITTEE

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 15, 2001*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the Food Drive Committee at Saint Joseph's High School in Metuchen, New Jersey. For over thirty years, this Food Drive Committee has provided Thanksgiving food baskets for thousands of needy families throughout New Jersey.

This charitable food drive was inaugurated under the guidance of Brother George Woodburn. Currently, the Food Drive Committee operates under the auspices of the Saint Joseph's Student Council. Annually, this food drive provides hundreds of Thanksgiving food baskets to various food shelters and organizations for distribution to families in need.

The success and longevity of this event is due to the compassionate efforts of Saint Joseph's dedicated administration, faculty, and students. As a result of Saint Joseph's kind-hearted efforts, this month-long food drive enables hundreds of needy families to enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner.

For four decades, Saint Joseph's has also been dedicated to the education and leadership development of young men residing in Central New Jersey. This institution prepares young men for post-secondary academic success, while also enabling them to acquire the skills and values essential to become responsible young adults.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Saint Joseph's High School for its dedication and commitment on behalf of needy families throughout New Jersey.

DULCE AND DECORUM EST . . . BY  
JAMES F. CAHALAN, PH.D.

**HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 15, 2001*

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following poem for the RECORD.

DULCE AND DECORUM EST

JIM CAHALAN, MAY 5, 2001

They once were boys, like you and me, Just little boys, not heroes then; Just small and ordinary.

No one could have known that when Their country called them overseas They'd give their all, more than could bear We who stayed in tranquil leas, Gave out medals, but no care.

We must engrave this one bold truth Of noble men who give their all, Keep us