

need, reached out, and made a difference, and they deserve the recognition of a grateful Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO JAMES V. PARRILLO

● Mr. CORZINE. Madam President, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues a great man from the State of New Jersey, Mr. James V. Parrillo. A 66 year old native of Newark, Mr. Parrillo is a man of integrity who has devoted his time and talents to making his city a thriving urban center.

A graduate of East Side High School, Mr. Parrillo currently serves as a community relations specialist at the Newark Housing Authority. In this capacity he is responsible for coordinating special events, including an annual parade and senior citizen fashion show.

A grassroots coalition-builder and youth advocate, Mr. Parrillo is also involved in strengthening the community and promoting the development of children. For the past fifteen years he has sponsored a little league baseball team in Newark's Ironbound section, providing a much needed recreational outlet for the city's young people. Most recently, he was elected to serve as a member of the Newark Board of Education and is chairman of its Community Development Committee.

In 1981, Jimmy, as he is affectionately known, established the Jimmy Parrillo Civic Association, an organization comprised of representatives from the business, educational, and political communities. Each year the association recognizes the achievements of individuals who have contributed to promoting stable communities in the city of Newark.

I want you to know that James V. Parrillo is a true American and believes that all people should have access to America's Promise. An unselfish man, he has the gift of bringing people together to work for a common cause.

Jimmy believes that he can make a difference. The city of Newark is a better city today because of his dedication and leadership.

Lastly, I am proud to call Jimmy a friend and it is an honor for me to bring him to your attention.●

TRIBUTE TO VERNON ALLEY

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, earlier this year our country was treated to "Jazz," the latest documentary by Ken Burns. The ambitious, multi-part series traced the personalities, culture and, of course, music of jazz from its origins in turn of the century New Orleans until the present day. Like his critically acclaimed documentaries on the Civil War and baseball, Mr. Burns' production was as much a meditation on America and the nature of our democracy as it was an overview of jazz

itself. For those who have not yet had a chance to see this wonderful exploration, I highly recommend it.

Jazz is a distinctly American art form, born of many different influences and nurtured in a wide variety of contexts and communities. Although often over-shadowed by cities such as New Orleans, New York and Kansas City, San Francisco was and remains one such community. Over the years, it has been home and played host to many of jazz's greatest talents.

Perhaps no musician better personifies San Francisco's connection and contributions to jazz than bassist Vernon Alley. Vernon Alley is a long-time San Franciscan. He grew up in the City and has maintained a band here off and on since the mid-forties. As jazz vocalist Jon Hendricks once remarked, "[Vernon is] the dean of San Francisco jazz."

Mr. Alley began his lifelong association with San Francisco and jazz when he accompanied his parents to see a performance by the incomparable Jelly Roll Morton at Maple Hall. Thus inspired, Vernon went on to dedicate his life to music. Arriving in New York as a young man at the high point of the swing era, he played with some of the biggest names in the business, including both the Lionel Hampton and Count Basie Orchestras. Always a sought after accompanist, in later years he would play with such other legends as Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Dizzy Gillespie, Erroll Garner and more.

Although he may have been able to gain wider exposure or acclaim if he remained in New York, Vernon returned to San Francisco after World War II. Here he is beloved, not only for the power, warmth and lyrical quality of his music, but also for his great personal charm. I have had the pleasure of meeting Vernon Alley and seeing him perform. He is a gifted and gracious man and certainly a Bay Area treasure.

Vernon was honored this year at the prestigious San Francisco Jazz Festival with the SFJAZZ Beacon Award for his achievements in music and as a stalwart in the community. Mayor Willie Brown declared October 30, 2001 "Vernon Alley Day." That evening Vernon joined 15 friends on the stage for a three and a half hour tribute concert. By all accounts it was night filled with joy and an appreciation of how the gifts of one man can be gifts to us all.

I am greatly encouraged by what I see as a renewed sense of love for America and respect for its traditions and achievements. In Jazz, we see a reflection of ourselves at our finest. And in Vernon Alley we see the embodiment of jazz at its finest. For keeping this art form alive, we owe him our deepest thanks.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:28 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 3(b) of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-12), the Majority Leader appoints the following individuals to the Medal of Valor Review Board: Mr. Oliver "Glenn" Boyer of Hillsboro, Missouri and Mr. Richard "Smokey" Dyer of Kansas City, Missouri.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 10) to provide for pension reform, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2540) to amend title 38, United States Code, to make various improvement to veterans benefits programs under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2716) to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise, improve, and consolidate provisions of law providing benefits and services for homeless veterans.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 1196) to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1291) to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of educational benefits for veterans under the Montgomery GI bill, with an amendment; in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 26. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Patricia Q. Stonesifer as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 58. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the tenth annual meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 259. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the relief efforts undertaken by charitable organizations and the people of the United States in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks against the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001. H. Con. Res. 281. Concurrent resolution honoring the ultimate sacrifice made by Johnny Michael Spann, the