

Prince William County continues, to this day, to have a close connection to our military. In fact, the town of Quantico is completely surrounded by a Marine Corps Base. The military history of this town goes back to the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, when the land was used for Virginia Naval Operations. The Marine Corps Base was established there in 1917.

Today, Prince William County is the second most populous county in the Commonwealth. The rich history in this county makes it one of the most historical counties in the nation. The citizens are proud to keep this history alive and are continually reminded of the past by the collective knowledge of those who live and work there. Moreover, Prince William County is a leader in a new Virginia revolution, a technology revolution. I am certain that her citizens will continue their role as leaders of Virginia's and America's futures.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish continued prosperity for the County of Prince William and I call upon all of my colleagues to join me in applauding this remarkable milestone. I am proud to represent a portion of Prince William County in the House of Representatives.

A TRIBUTE TO FRANK E.  
McCARTHY

**HON. DON SHERWOOD**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform my colleagues of the recent passing of Frank E. McCarthy, the President of the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA). Frank died on February 25 as a result of complications from his battle with kidney cancer.

Before my election to Congress, I was a franchised new car dealer and a member of NADA, so I can personally attest to the role that Frank McCarthy played as an automotive industry leader for more than three decades. Dealers, automotive executives, and policy-makers alike will miss his determination, reasoned voice, and knowledge of the industry. NADA is the Voice of the Dealers and for 33 years Frank McCarthy was the heart of NADA.

Frank had been the chief executive of NADA since 1968, making him one of the deans of the trade association community in the nation's capital. To put his service in perspective, Frank assumed the helm of NADA when Lyndon Johnson was President and the 1968 Ford Galaxie was the best selling car in America. During his entire tenure, Frank enjoyed the utmost respect among Members of Congress, professional staff, and his colleagues in the private sector.

On behalf of dealers, Frank built strong relationships with the automobile manufacturers. He had a unique ability to convey the concerns of the franchised dealers directly and concisely without sacrificing civility or professionalism. Under his leadership, NADA has become one of the largest trade associations in the United States, providing a wide variety of services to dealers and their more than one million employees. In all of these efforts, Frank was the consummate team player, always seeking credit for others rather than himself.

Despite Frank's extraordinary professional accomplishments, he never lost sight of what is truly important in life. During the eulogies delivered at his funeral earlier this month, his family and colleagues spoke eloquently about the balance in Frank's life. His deep faith was a guiding force in his approach to life, and his professional responsibilities never overshadowed his commitment to his wife, Pat, and their five children and 12 grandchildren. In that regard, Frank McCarthy was a role model to working men and women in all walks of life.

At this time, we all feel a tremendous sense of loss, but also reflect with great affection and gratitude for his contributions to the industry and his community.

TEACHER SABBATICAL LEAVE  
GRANTS ACT

**HON. PATSY T. MINK**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Teacher Sabbatical Leave Grants Act.

Without a quality teacher in the classroom, it is impossible for us, as a nation, to provide the education our children deserve. It is essential that we ensure quality teachers are in every classroom in every school.

Professional development helps ensure our teachers' skills grow and change as our students grow more diverse and as our technology changes. However, our teachers will never get the in-depth development training they need to stay on top of their field from one-day workshops.

Recent findings have shown that 99 percent of our teachers have participated in at least one professional development activity in the past year. However only 12 percent of teachers who spent only 1 to 8 hours in professional development said it improved their teaching a lot. That is a dismal figure. We must work to provide teachers with intensive professional development, so 100 percent of teachers who receive the training feel that it improved their teaching. Without it, we will never be able to ensure our children are being taught by quality teachers.

My bill will give teachers the opportunity to receive intensive professional development training. This bill creates a program to provide grants for public school teachers who take one or two semesters of sabbatical leave to pursue a course of study for professional development. The grant covers one-half of the salary the teacher would have earned if the teacher had not been granted a leave of absence. Teachers are eligible if they have been approved for sabbatical leave and if they have enrolled in a course of study at an institution of higher education designed to improve classroom teaching.

By providing teachers with financial resources, they will be free to pursue an intensive course of study that can greatly improve their teaching skills.

And studies have shown that the more qualified a teacher is, the better the students' performance will be.

For instance, in Boston, students assigned to the most effective teachers for a year showed 18 times greater gains in reading and nearly 16 times greater gains in math than those students who were assigned to the least effective teachers.

In Tennessee, similar students with 3 very effective teachers in a row scored 50 percentile points better than students who were assigned 3 very ineffective teachers in a row.

All of our students deserve to achieve these same gains.

By providing teachers with the opportunity to receive intensive professional development, my bill will help put more effective, qualified teachers in the classroom.

I urge my colleagues to support the Teacher Sabbatical Leave Grants Act.

CONGRATULATING THE OUR LADY  
OF LOURDES WARRIORS

**HON. SUE W. KELLY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of hard working women who have given their all in order to continue one of the Hudson Valley's greatest dynasties. On Sunday afternoon, the 14 members of the Our Lady of Lourdes women's basketball team cruised to their third consecutive Class B State title, the Warriors' eighth crown in the past 15 years.

Under the guidance of 18th year coach Brian Giorgis, Our Lady of Lourdes won their final 27 games en route to a 27-1 record and a 22nd place ranking in USA Today's national poll. After defeating Garden City, 57-37 to reach the championship games, the Warriors put the crown jewel on their season by setting down Iroquois, 57-28 in the final.

Throughout the year, the Warriors embodied the American ideal, working together as a team to accomplish a goal. From seniors who had played on two previous State championship teams to first year players getting their first taste of interscholastic competition, the team formed a cohesive unit under coach Giorgis and steamrolled the competition, outscoring its opponents by a whopping 1,905 to 978. At the same time they showed dedication to their sport and their teammates, they held the same high standard towards their education and the local community, making it easy to understand their near invincibility.

While Our Lady of Lourdes is not a large school, it looms large in the annals of women's basketball. My fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating coach Brian Giorgis, the Most Valuable Player of the Tournament, Kristin Keller, all-tournament team members Jenna Viani and Kristen Vilardi, team members Kelly Barnum, Kim Boone, Sue Clanci, Kathy Duffy, Jocelyn Kelly, Vicki Koster, Lauren Martinez, Aimee Meyer, Kelly Roche, Natalie Serkowski and Julianne Viani and all who assisted the Our Lady of Lourdes Warriors in building the latest empire in the Empire State.

IN HONOR OF DENNIS WEBER FOR HIS SERVICE TO DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AND OUR NATION

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 20, 2001*

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dennis Weber, Commander of the California chapter of the Disabled American Veterans for his service to his community, his country and as a proud member of the Armed Services.

Mr. Weber, a true Californian, was born on February 21, 1948 in Los Angeles, California. Upon graduating from high school Mr. Weber enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. While serving with the 3rd Marine Engineer Battalion near An Hoa, Mr. Weber's platoon was ambushed by the Viet Cong. As platoon leader and while severely wounded, Mr. Weber encouraged his men to stand strong against the ambush and managed to lead his platoon to safety. Unfortunately two of his men were killed in the battle. After spending a year in the hospital recovering from his wounds Mr. Weber was medically discharged and returned to Los Angeles where he immediately began serving his country's needs in the Los Angeles city government.

During Mr. Weber's year as Commander he has lead the organization in assisting veterans in filing more than 16,000 claims for VA benefits, assisted in transporting more than 49,000 veterans to medical appointments covering over 1 million miles, and his given veterans countless amounts of emotional support.

The State of California and this nation is proud to have Mr. Weber as a native son. Mr. Weber is an example of the finest product of this nation and I want to thank him for his professionalism, initiative and unwavering devotion to veterans. As commander of the California chapter Mr. Weber's performance has truly been in keeping with the highest tradition of the Disabled American Veterans, the state of California, and the United States of America.

Colleagues, please join with me as we honor Mr. Dennis Weber with his wife Pam for his outstanding contributions to our nation.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RITCHIE VALENS

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 20, 2001*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Ritchie Valens, who was inducted into the Rock of Roll Hall of Fame on March 19th. Although Valens died over forty years ago, his presence is still strongly felt in my congressional district, especially in the Northeast San Fernando Valley where he grew up. The recognition he is receiving brings honor to his entire community.

A pioneer in the history of rock and roll who helped shape American music, Valens is con-

sidered to be the first Chicano rock and roll star to cross over into mainstream America with his hits, "Come On, Let's Go," the ballad "Donna" and the flipside, "La Bamba" which is still heard all over the world. At age seventeen, his career ended tragically when he died in a plane crash along with rock and roll legend Buddy Holly and fellow rocker the Big Bopper (J.P. Richardson) on February 3, 1959.

Valens achieved success and stardom at a younger age than many of rock's superstars, including John Lennon, Paul McCartney and Bob Dylan. The music Valens made is as vibrant today as it was when his hits were released in the late 1950's.

Born Richard Steve Valenzuela, Valens began his music career by imitating the earliest rock and roll artists, especially Elvis, Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee Lewis, Fats Domino, The Penguins and The Drifters. Like so many of that era, Valens was caught up in the excitement of rock and roll. The performer with the greatest influence on his music, however, was Little Richard. Ritchie would entertain visitors in his household with his versions of Little Richard's "Ooh My Soul." He joined The Silhouettes, a typical high school garage band that played the popular tunes of the day at high school sock hops, church dances and local parties. Playing for the Silhouettes helped Valens realize that making music was what he wanted to do more than anything else.

In 1987, Columbia Pictures released the film *La Bamba*, written and directed by admired Chicano playwright Luis Valdez, which immortalized Valens' brief life. The movie rejuvenated his music nearly thirty years after his death. A whole new generation of fans grew to love Valens' as his hits were re-recorded and performed by the East Los Angeles Chicano group, "Los Lobos," for the *La Bamba* soundtrack. This contemporary band went on to become a musical phenomenon, in large part because of Valens' achievements in the early days of rock and roll.

Since the release of the movie *La Bamba*, Valens' contributions to rock and roll have been honored many times: he received a star on the Hollywood walk of Fame, The United States Postal Service recognized his life and career with a commemorative postage stamp, the Ritchie Valens Recreation Center was formally dedicated at a park in his hometown of Pacoima, and he was inducted into Hollywood's Rock Walk for his contributions to pop music. Additionally, an annual music festival, "The Legend Lives On," is held in his honor.

It was an honor to work with Valens' family, friends and fans to urge the recording industry to name this outstanding artist to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Although long overdue, Valens' inclusion is richly deserved and is cause for great celebration in Pacoima today.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the late Ritchie Valens, rock and roll's first Chicano star!

TRIBUTE TO CALIFORNIA MARITIME PRESIDENT JERRY ASPLAND

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 20, 2001*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues another milestone in the seventy-two year history of the California Maritime Academy, located in the City of Vallejo in my district of California. In furthering its mission of supporting the maritime interests of the United States, Cal Maritime receives federal assistance, primarily in the form of its training ship, the T.S. Golden Bear. Many of its graduates become licensed officers on merchant marine vessels, or in the U.S. Navy or Coast Guard. As a federally designated regional maritime academy for the Western states, Cal Maritime is the maritime college of choice for students from California, Washington, Alaska, Hawaii, Arizona, and other western states.

On June 30, 2001, California Maritime Academy President Jerry A. Aspland will retire, completing five years at the helm of this fine institution. President Aspland, a Cal Maritime graduate, had previously retired from his position as President of Arco Marine, Inc., when the California State University system called him to begin a second career as one of the nation's leading maritime educators. He assumed the position of President of Cal Maritime on July 1, 1996.

President Aspland's tenure has been marked by numerous advances for the institution. Cal Maritime has become fully involved with the CSU system, as its twenty-second campus. Enrollment has nearly doubled. Numerous improvements to their facilities have been completed on his watch, including the recent opening of a new, state-of-the art laboratory building, infrastructure and technology replacement and upgrading, seismic retrofits, and the acquisition of additional training vessels. Ground will be broken soon for a new technology center on the campus. A second annual summer training cruise has been introduced, thereby doubling the number of training billets. Academic programs have been expanded, and further options are in the planning stages. Under his leadership, Cal Maritime was the first U.S. maritime academy to receive preliminary approval for having its educational program meet the requirements of the international Standards for Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping. A new strategic plan has just been published, and the institution is in readiness for its next academic accreditation visit scheduled this fall.

By any measure the Aspland years at the California Maritime Academy have been years of accomplishment in every aspect of this distinguished academic institution. I invite my colleagues to share my great pride in all that Cal Maritime has contributed and continues to contribute to its students, graduates, and to the maritime interests of the United States.

Finally, on behalf of the constituents of my district and my colleagues here in this chamber, I wish to extend to President Jerry Aspland our deeply felt appreciation for all that