

Independent School District Board of Trustees President John Bruce in Laredo, TX in my Congressional District.

John Bruce is the President of the U.I.S.D. Board of Trustees. Bruce decided to make a run for elected office because he did not agree with some of the decisions the Board was making. Armed with that motivation, he ran for and was elected to the board in May 2002. "It's been a challenging and interesting experience," Bruce said. "I've met a lot of fine people."

John Bruce is the Director of the Laredo Job Corps, an education training facility. As Center Director of Laredo Job Corps, Bruce oversees an organization with an annual budget of \$5,500,000. Bruce is also a certified commissioned peace officer and a licensed law enforcement instructor. He is a certified K-9 trainer, a member of the Sheriff's Department SWAT team, and is a former Special Forces Operations officer in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Bruce ran on the platform of safety in our schools. He initiated the K-9 Patrol Program in UISD to help curtail drug and gang activity at district campuses. Job Corps recently donated two K-9s, which saved the district nearly \$12,000.

Bruce has a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism and history from Texas A & I University in Kingsville. He is also a licensed customs broker. Bruce has held numerous positions in several civic and community organizations. He was a member of the 2001 UISD Blue Ribbon Committee, he was vice president of the United High School Booster Club, and Bruce also serves as an advisor to Explorer Post 437. He is a member of the Laredo Masonic Lodge, the Laredo Shriners, and the Elks Lodge.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize United Independent School District Board President John M. Bruce.

TRIBUTE TO ELENA ANUZIS

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, last week, the State of Michigan and Detroit area community lost a member whose life was characterized by an altruistic commitment to her fellow human beings.

As the youngest daughter of a mill owner and a loving mother, Elena Anuzis was born in Lithuania in 1920, where she grew up in a peaceful country home with three sisters and a brother. But shortly after she married Ceslovas Anuzis, their peaceful life together was ravaged by World War II and the Soviet Union's subsequent occupation of their nation. Fearful for their lives, Elena and Ceslovas fled their country and traveled to the United States, specifically to Michigan, where they settled in Detroit and raised their four children—Ausra, Gailute, Saulius and Andrius.

Elena, along with her husband, is honored by the state of Israel as "Righteous Among the Nations," an honor bestowed to individuals who risked their lives to rescue Jews from the holocaust. Although their means were meager,

they were willing to shelter Hasia Green-Gaslevitz, sent to them by a Catholic Nun from a nearby monastery. There is evidence the couple helped others. They rescued two Jewish girls from the Vilna Ghetto and found shelter for them at the home of a pharmacist in Lyda. They also provided false documentation for other Ghetto escapees.

Mr. Speaker, every day Americans live extraordinary lives, and Elena Anuzis exemplifies their quiet courage and sublime virtue. She triumphed over momentous trials and tribulations and, despite witnessing the horrors of inhumanity, she never ceased espousing, eyeing and elevating the best in everyone; and, in essence and act, generously giving of her heart and soul to her fellow human beings. Let us then all pause to honor Elena; and extend our deepest condolences to her loved ones.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF LCDR ISRAEL G. "TEX" SEEGER, USNR (RET.)

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th birthday of Israel G. "Tex" Seeger and to honor his great contributions to the United States. Tex turns 90 on March 21, 2005, and he will celebrate this momentous occasion on March 26, 2005 at a special dinner with family and friends.

Tex's courage and brave dedication have made our country and the great State of New York extremely proud. Tex volunteered for the United States Navy on June 30, 1941. After graduating second in a class of 500, from the U.S. Navy V-7 Midshipman Training Program, Tex was awarded an officer's sword for achieving the highest grade in engineering for deck midshipmen. Tex began his service as Deck Division Officer and Boat Group Commander aboard the USS *Edward Rutledge*, an attack transport, during the invasion of North Africa. He then went on to serve as Operations Officer aboard the USS *Harry Lee*, another attack transport, during the invasion of Sicily, Tarawa, Kwajalein, and New Guinea.

In May of 1944, Tex was one of 50 Naval Officers selected to take the Preparatory Staff Course at the Naval War College. Following his graduation, Tex served as Operations Officer and Flag Secretary on the Staff of Rear Admiral Oscar C. Badger, where his duties included preparing contingency operation plans for the Fast Battleship Striking Force, the Divisionary Bombardment on the southern coast of Okinawa prior to the invasion at Naha, and the shore bombardments carried out on the Japanese islands of Hokkaido and Honshu. Tex also established the Pacific Fleet Headquarters at the Yokosuka Naval Base Administration Building, where an impressive flag raising ceremony for Admiral Nimitz took place on August 30, 1945.

On September 30, 1945, Tex was separated from the Navy and subsequently received the citation and award of the Bronze Star Medal from Admiral Halsey. On January 1, 1949, Tex was promoted to the permanent rank of Lieu-

tenant Commander, and he was retired in that rank in 1954.

Tex continued his commitment to service through his role as Judge Advocate and as a Director of the U.S. Navy League, New York Council. Tex currently resides in Manhasset, New York, and although he claims to be semi-retired, he is still an active member of the New York bar and is engaged in the practice of law in New York.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Israel G. "Tex" Seeger for his years of dedicated service to this country. Tex's integrity, bravery, and stature have certainly made a significant impression on the great many lives he has touched. In recognition of this, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to please join me in honoring Israel G. "Tex" Seeger as he celebrates his 90th birthday.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LAREDO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER GEORGE M. BECKELHYMER

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of Laredo Independent School District Board Member George M. Beckelhymer, of my Congressional District in Laredo, Texas.

Mr. Beckelhymer graduated from the University of Texas at Austin, earning his bachelor's degree in radio, television, and film. After graduation he decided to venture into the business world, and he became part owner of L. Bufalo Pawn Shop.

In May 2002 he was elected to District 4 of the LISD Board of Trustees, and currently serves as Secretary of the Board. His District includes Sanchez/Ochoa Elementary, Alma Pierce Elementary, K. Tarver Elementary, and J.W. Nixon High School. Mr. Beckelhymer believes in working together with all of the appointed Trustees to create a good working environment between faculty, parents, and children.

Mr. Beckelhymer enjoys working for the community, and is an active member of the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee in the City of Laredo. Beckelhymer hopes to ensure that all students receive the best quality education to prepare them for the future, and he is proud that he is able to help the community move in a positive direction.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have had the opportunity to honor Laredo Independent School District Board Member George M. Beckelhymer.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday March 8, 2005, I was unable to cast my vote

on H. Res. 133 and H. Res. 122. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 53, 54, and 55.

THE WALNUT CANYON STUDY ACT
OF 2005

HON. RICK RENZI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Walnut Canyon Study Act of 2005.

The Walnut Canyon National Monument was originally designated by Presidential proclamation on November 30, 1915, to protect Sinaguan cliff dwellings. Since the original designation, the Walnut Canyon National Monument has been expanded to include 3,580 acres to protect additional ruins adjacent to the Monument.

In the past few years, several groups have proposed expanding the Monument with surrounding Forest Service land and designating this expanded area as a National Park. To further explore the options of the Walnut Canyon National Monument and potential inclusion of this expanded area, along with Senator McCAIN, I have introduced the Walnut Canyon Study Act.

The Walnut Canyon Study Act of 2005 directs the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to jointly conduct a study on the management of certain land adjacent to the Walnut Canyon National Monument.

Cocconino County and the City of Flagstaff have both passed resolutions supporting further review and study of the management options for the Walnut Canyon National Monument. In both resolutions, support for maintaining certain public uses in the Monument was relayed, as well as the need for the protection of the resources in the Monument.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation provides for public input into any recommendation that is forwarded by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture. Within the study, the legislation requires the Secretaries to look at the management objectives of the Forest Service and the National Park Service, as well as the opportunities for maintaining existing public uses, such as grazing, hunting, mountain biking, rock climbing and additional forms of recreation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Walnut Canyon Study Act of 2005. My intent in introducing this legislation is to help resolve the question of future management of the Walnut Canyon National Monument.

HONORING THE POLK COUNTY ENTERPRISE ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to honor and congratulate the Polk County Enterprise on their centennial anniversary,

which they are celebrating throughout this year. The Polk County Enterprise has been a faithful banner of news and source of record for generations of residents in East Texas. From a humble founding by young entrepreneur Will West in the fall of 1904 the Polk County Enterprise and its parent company Polk County Publishing has grown to a circulation of over 60,000 including seven weekly and bi-weekly newspapers, three shops, and two job-printing operations.

Throughout its 100 year history, the paper has had only 16 publishers. Mr. Alvin Holley, the current publisher of the Polk County Enterprise has served in his post for the last thirty years—the longest of any publisher at the Enterprise. I am pleased to report he has no plans to retire anytime soon.

Mr. Holley got his start in the newspaper business as a paperboy for the Corsicana Daily Sun. The papers sold for a nickel each, Holley's profit was two cents per paper. That may not seem like much by today's standards—but back then a movie show cost only nine cents.

Mr. Holley stayed in the newspaper business—and after high school worked in the newspaper's business office and occasionally was assigned news stories. He was named the advertising manager in 1963 and served there until 1972 when he took a position with the Polk County Enterprise. Two short years later, Holley bought the Enterprise and remains its publisher to this day.

Mr. Holley credits his paper's success to the employees that keep the presses running. In a recent interview, Holley estimated that the combined years of service of current employees exceeds 430 years and that the average length of service is 14 years. That says a lot.

The men and women of the Polk County Enterprise and Polk County Publishing Company not only love what they do for a living, but also obviously love their community.

From the days of Linotype to today's high speed desk top computers, the Polk County Enterprise has covered all of the happenings in East Texas.

With a loyal staff and publisher who is just as likely to be caught working at the news desk or delivery bays as he is his private office—I am confident the Enterprise has many more exciting years in store.

Mr. Speaker, our nation's hometown community newspapers have been the trusted source of news Americans have depended on since our nation's earliest beginnings. The Polk County Enterprise has a proud legacy and it is an honor to represent the communities they serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. I urge you to join me in congratulating the Polk County Enterprise on their 100th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION OF UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER JUAN ROBERTO RAMIREZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the important contribution of United

Independent School District Board Member Juan Roberto Ramirez in Laredo, TX in my Congressional District.

Juan Roberto Ramirez is the Secretary on the United I.S.D. Board of Trustees. Even though Ramirez is the District 6 representative, he says his goal is to serve the District as a whole and give the students the best education programs possible. "Let's not forget that we work united for what is best for our children," Ramirez said.

Ramirez is a retired U.S. Customs Agent. He is a veteran of the Vietnam conflict, serving his country in the U.S. Army. After graduating from high school, Ramirez attended Laredo Community College and earned a degree in Business Administration. He is also a graduate of the Federal Law Enforcement Academy. Presently, Ramirez works full-time as a Career Advisor for the Laredo Job Corps, is a self-employed businessman, and a notary public. Ramirez served as Vice-Chairman for the Webb County Appraisal District Board of Directors from May of 2002 to July of 2004.

Ramirez is grateful for being elected and he feels honored by the confidence the voters have in him. He promises to work hard for his constituents. "I have an open door to hear everyone's concerns," Ramirez said. "It's an extraordinary experience to be able to work for the kids in the district, to be part of a team that makes decisions for kids and staff." Ramirez says it's a thrill to be part of the Board, "it's a great honor to work for my District."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize the contributions of United Independent School District Board Member Juan R. Ramirez.

TRIBUTE TO CATHY FINK AND MARCY MARXER

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to commend two of my constituents, Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer. For the second year in a row Fink and Marxer, residents of Kensington, Maryland, won a GRAMMY® for Best Musical Album for Children. Their winning album is entitled "cELLAbration: A Tribute to Ella Jenkins."

The album celebrates the music of Ella Jenkins, "The First Lady of Children's Music" and the winner of the 2004 GRAMMY® Lifetime Achievement Award. The project was a gift to Ella Jenkins in honor of her 80th birthday.

Fink and Marxer won their first GRAMMY® last year for "Bon Appetit! Musical Food Fun," and every album they have released since 1997 has been nominated for this prestigious honor.

As a Member of Congress, I have worked to address the need for broad support for music education and to assure that every child has access to the benefits of active participation in music. I believe that music education is imperative to our children's growth and well-being. During their 21-year musical career, Fink and Marxer have inspired children with their gift of music.