

Mr. Speaker, our communities and our country have always relied on the contributions of those individuals who have the ability to rise above and beyond the call of duty to make a difference in the lives of others, both personally and professionally. Bill Solomon has demonstrated an unfailing and tireless commitment to the betterment of Dallas County, the State of Texas, and the entire Nation. With his steady guidance and strong leadership, in 1991, he founded the Dallas Together Forum, where he has potentially made his greatest impact. This multi-racial group of approximately 30 Dallas business leaders met monthly to discuss ways to reduce racial tension and improve minority economic opportunities. The Dallas Together Forum helped defuse racial tensions in the '80s and early '90s, and its impact on racial harmony is still felt today.

Bill Solomon is a dedicated community servant, activist, and leader. He is a credit to Dallas, and through his tireless work, my home town has become a better place to live. I am proud to join his family, his colleagues, Zale Corp. and The Dallas Morning News in congratulating Bill Solomon on a job well done.

IN HONOR OF THE HISPANIC ORGANIZATION OF STUDENTS IN TECHNOLOGY/SOCIETY OF HISPANIC PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AT THE NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hispanic Organization of Students in Technology (HOST), the New Jersey Institute of Technology's student chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE). HOST/SHPE was honored for its outstanding achievements at the Region IV Student Leadership Conference (RSLC) Gala Banquet on March 19, 2005.

The Hispanic Organization of Students in Technology/Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers represents a group of extremely talented and dedicated students who, at a young age, have already shown amazing promise and success. The HOST/SHPE RSLC offers new members the opportunity to share valuable knowledge and learn from other SHPE leaders. The goal of RSLC is to provide students with the leadership skills necessary for success in the business world, as well as the organizational, managerial, and technical skills essential for developing and enhancing the infrastructure of their respective SHPE student chapters and pre-college programs. In addition, students learn how to interact and network with SHPE corporate officials, which can lead to long-lasting, professional relationships. Under the strong leadership of Daniel Lozano, the conference has been organized to assemble more than 200 students from across the eastern United States, including Puerto Rico.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the achievements of the students in HOST/SHPE, as well as the strong commit-

ment on the part of the RSLC Committee and Daniel Loranzo to organize this worthwhile event. I applaud the students' dedication and their success, and wish them the best as they head towards an already bright future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 17, 2005, I was unable to vote on a motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 18, Expressing the grave concern of Congress regarding the continuing gross violations of human rights and civil liberties of the Syrian and Lebanese people by the government of the Syrian Arab Republic (rollcall 89). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING DAVID HANNON, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF SOUTH SHORE HOSPITAL ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute David Hannon who is being honored today for his outstanding work as President and Chief Executive Officer of the South Shore Hospital in Weymouth, Massachusetts.

Since Mr. Hannon's tenure as President and CEO began in 1986, South Shore Hospital has experienced considerable growth and development, adding programs consistent with the highest quality of medical care in the region, and bringing to the community a level of excellence that was once the domain of prestigious academic medical centers in major cities. In addition, David has promoted sustained investments in hospital infrastructure, including new medical technologies and health care equipment.

These initiatives have enabled the hospital to grow from a small community facility to a regional medical center offering highly complex and sophisticated care—from acute and outpatient services to home health and hospice care—to more than 650,000 residents in southeastern Massachusetts.

In addition to caring for the medical needs of the community, he has also taken an equally strong interest in the outstanding work of the 3,000 employees who are the very heart and soul of South Shore Hospital. Through their collective efforts, South Shore Hospital has become a leading health care provider in the state of Massachusetts, with a record of clinical excellence and superb patient care. That is reflected in the hospital being the first in the Commonwealth to earn maximum recognition with commendation from the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations for three consecutive review periods.

On behalf of a deeply grateful community, I want to join with my colleagues in the House

of Representatives in thanking David Hannon on a job well done.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF COUNTY SHERIFF OF ATASCOSA TOMMY WILLIAMS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Atascosa County Sheriff Tommy Williams.

Tommy Williams is an excellent example of a Sheriff who understands the needs of his community. Sheriff Williams has been serving his community since 1973, when he first became sheriff of Atascosa.

Sheriff Williams is a man who believes in the value of community involvement and intervention. He has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Master Peace Officer certificate. Williams has also served as President of the Sheriff's Association of Texas. He is a member of the National Sheriff's Association, Sheriff's Association of Texas, the Poteet VFW Post and the American Legion Post.

Sheriff Williams believes that an informed public is better equipped for preventing crime in our streets and neighborhoods. As part of his duties and responsibilities, Sheriff Williams provides security for the operation of county and district courts as well as enforcing county ordinances and other state laws.

Sheriff Williams is a major resource for his county and sets a great example for his law enforcement community.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize the past and future accomplishments of Atascosa County Sheriff Tommy Williams.

HONORING THE OCCOQUAN WATERSHED COALITION

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Occoquan Watershed Coalition (OWC) of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Established in 1994, the Occoquan Watershed Coalition is a nonpartisan, broad-based citizens group that works to improve communication and expand dialogue regarding major issues concerning the Springfield District portion of this environmentally sensitive region.

The coalition actively works with the Virginia General Assembly, the Virginia Department of Transportation, and citizen and homeowner associations to protect and improve both the environment and the quality of life of the area's residents. Specific examples of the OWC's efforts include their involvement in the closure of the Lorton Prison Complex and subsequent redevelopment of the area. The coalition also closely monitored numerous transportation decisions including the refurbishment of the Yates Ford Bridge and paving of Yates Ford Road.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Occoquan Watershed Coalition for 10 years of dedicated service to its community. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the OWC's past accomplishments and in wishing the program continued success in the many years to come.

HONORING CORPORAL JOHN T. OLSON

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to U.S. Marine Corporal John T. Olson of Elk Grove Village, Illinois. Corporal Olson was killed by enemy action while conducting combat operations on 21 February in Nassir Wa Al Salam, Iraq. It was Corporal Olson's third tour of duty in Iraq.

He graduated from boot camp from the San Diego Marine Corps Depot in 2002 and was deployed to Iraq in January 2003 for his first tour. His third tour of duty was with the Alpha Truck Company, Headquarters Battalion, 2nd Marine Division.

John Olson was a graduate of the Elk Grove High School, Class of 2001, graduating six months early. He was a student at Harper Community College when 9/11 changed his life, he enlisted shortly afterward and was deployed to his first tour in Iraq. At the time of his death, he was driving a truck just outside his base when a bomb exploded. He died while medics tried to save him.

Corporal Olson was a young man of 21 when he made the ultimate sacrifice in service to his country. Our deepest sympathies go to his beloved family—his mother Diana, his father John R, and his sister Courtney—as well as to his other family and friends. The entire community joins in mourning John's loss.

We honor the memory of Corporal John T. Olson and the dedication and bravery with which he served our Nation and the people of Iraq.

IN HONOR OF THE WORK OF PROFESSOR JOHN MONTGOMERY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished work of Professor John J. Montgomery, a native Californian who was a pioneer of early aeronautics from 1882 until 1911.

Professor Montgomery made many distinguished advances in the field of aerodynamics and fluid mechanics. In 1883, he designed, constructed, and flew a glider 600 feet at Otay Mesa, California, achieving the very first controlled flight of heavier-than-air, fixed winged craft in history. This was quite a remarkable feat, as Professor Montgomery relied only upon his superb knowledge of fluid mechanics and his scientific observations of birds.

In 1893, after many more years of exploration and reflection, Professor Montgomery attended several conferences where he was able to share his findings with the world. Audiences were captivated by his writings describing fluid mechanics and his initial flight experiments. His original manuscript, aptly titled "Soaring Flight," contained some of the world's earliest understanding of fluid dynamics and is now proudly displayed at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC.

As Professor Montgomery's interest and knowledge in fluid mechanics grew, he continued to explore the abilities of larger aircraft. Professor Montgomery was exhilarated by these larger models, and when inspired to fly, he retreated to the beautiful Leonard Ranch in Aptos, California, here in the 17th district.

In 1903 Professor Montgomery reached a breakthrough and built a full-scale version of his tandem wing design. He quickly began testing the abilities of his new machine by flying it like a kite, performing load carrying tests, practicing vertical drop launch, and equilibrium and control tests. He continued to conduct these tests and manned flight experiments in the spring and summer of 1904.

In the winter of 1904–1905, Montgomery was ready to display the skills of his new craft in a spectacular new way. Montgomery hoisted his craft high into the air with the aid of a hot air balloon. Montgomery then trained a circus acrobat and a professional parachutist, Daniel J. Maloney, the delicate skills required to steer the aircraft. In March, 1905 in Aptos, the hot air balloon hoisted the glider and Mr. Maloney, high into the air. Audiences then were treated to the show of a lifetime. Mr. Maloney darted upward and downward, carving circles and figure eights. The new aircraft was an absolute sensation, with the longest flight lasting an astonishing eighteen minutes and covering a distance greater than two miles. Truly this was the very first flight of its kind, and Montgomery's "aeroplane" set lasting altitude and endurance tests that served as a testament to Professor Montgomery's genius.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the achievement of this fine gentleman on this day, March 19, 2005, the Centennial Celebration of his "Soaring Flight". Professor Montgomery will always be remembered for his ceaseless devotion to aerospace science and his many contributions to the Santa Cruz County community in the 20th century. Though no longer with us, it is my honor and pleasure to recognize such a unique and fascinating individual.

TRIBUTE TO THE TURTLE CREEK CHORALE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the 25th anniversary of the Turtle Creek Chorale, of Dallas, Texas. The TCC held their first performance in April of 1980 with only 70 members. Through the idea of "the power of har-

mony," their commitment to the community and the leadership skills of Artistic Directors like Dr. Timothy Seelig, the chorale has exploded to over 200 singing members.

The TCC performs an annual series in Dallas at the Meyerson Symphony Hall, along with traveling around the United States, Canada, and many locations in Europe. In addition to more than 100,000 hours of rehearsal, and over 50 yearly benefit performances, the TCC also participates in numerous community service projects.

The TCC has many accomplishments, such as their collaboration with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation with the creation of the much respected Sing for the Cure: A Proclamation of Hope, narrated by Maya Angelou. In addition, they produced and performed the world premier of Song of Wisdom from Old Turtle that was based on the award winning book Old Turtle. A portion of all the recording proceeds benefited St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The TCC has also performed for the inaugurations of Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk and Texas Governor Ann Richards.

The dedicated members of TCC have excelled in their mission to entertain, educate, unite, and uplift audiences through music distinguished for its innovation, diversity and artistic excellence.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in acknowledging the honorable works of Turtle Creek Chorale for their 25th Anniversary.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SEGUIN MAYOR BETTY ANN MATTHIES

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize distinguished civic service of Seguin Mayor Betty Ann Matthies.

Betty Ann Matthies is a native of Guadalupe County. She graduated from Seguin High School, and attended the University of Texas at Austin. She graduated from the Steton School of Nursing in Austin in 1976, and received her Certificate in Health Care Administration from Trinity University in 1978.

Ms. Matthies has been a strong advocate for health care in Guadalupe County. She has been involved in nursing for almost 30 years, and is a member of the American Nurses Association, the Texas Nurses Association, the Texas Organization of Nurse Executives, and the American Organization of Nurse Executives.

Betty Ann Matthies entered public service in 2000, as Seguin District 7 City Council Member. In 2004, she was elected Mayor of Seguin. In addition to her executive responsibilities, she finds time to give to a variety of volunteer organizations. She is a member of Seguin Senior Citizens, the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and she is director of the Pecan Museum.

Betty Ann Matthies has done a great deal for the people of Guadalupe County, both as