

beginnings with a single office in one county, it has grown to an organization with three offices serving more than 2,500 people in four counties with an annual operating budget of \$1.5 million.

CRI has enriched the lives of its clients by working with individuals, cities and counties to improve access for persons with disabilities in their work, study, play, housing and worship and received national recognition for its work in 2000.

The organization's Transition Project assists people with disabilities in moving from institutional to independent living. It is the only program successfully serving homeless disabled individuals in Sonoma County.

The Deaf Services Program provides advocacy, communication assistance, community education, independent living skills, peer counseling and accessibility equipment resources.

The Disability Law Clinic has been instrumental in raising disability awareness in the community by working with employers to support reasonable accommodations in the workplace and by protecting the rights of its clients to be participating members in the community.

2006 is also a milestone year as it marked the inauguration of CRI's first wheelchair basketball team, The Redwood Rollers. Naturally they won their first game.

In work and in play, Community Resources for Independence has become an invaluable organization in my Congressional District and it is therefore appropriate that we acknowledge and honor them as they celebrate 30 years of service.

IN RECOGNITION OF LE MOYNE COLLEGE MEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2006

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the Le Moyne College Men's Lacrosse team on winning the 2006 Division II National Championship. Their 12-5 victory over Dowling College capped off an 18-0 campaign for the Le Moyne Dolphins, and earned them their second Division II national title in 3 years. Le Moyne's national title efforts were spurred by the best D-II defense in the Nation. The Dolphins also had a total of 8 players earning All-America honors from the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association.

On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I congratulate Head Coach Dan Sheehan, Assistant Coaches Brian Datellas, Kevin Michaud, Eric MacCaull, and the players of the Le Moyne College Men's Lacrosse team:

Jared Corcoran, Travis Tarr, Alex Bily, Markus Fallico, Brian Cost, Jason Longo, Chris Doran, Brian Griffin, Nate Evans, Chris Moore, Matt Juriga, Matt Emerson, Mike Recor, Jordan Witt, Tim MacLean;

Brian Welch, Ted Rund, Ed Street, Mike McDonald, Doug McIve, Pete Gibbons, Blake Gale, Ryan Lewis, Tom Donahue, Kevin Kohl, Brad Wolken, Jim Fiacco, Matt Crandall, Marc Cizenski, Mike McLaughlin;

Dan Brown, Jeff Lewis, Craig Rosecrans, Tyler Hill, Russ Oechsle, Andrew Carducci,

Rob Poole, Mike Lindstrom, Mike Malone, Matt Cassalia, Dan Ziegler, Pat O'Donnell, Pat McPartlin, and Matt Foster.

HONORING EUGENIA BULNES

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2006

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Ms. Eugenia Maria Bulnes, the Principal of the Sister Carolyn Learning Center. Principal Bulnes is retiring on June 9, 2006 after 8 years as principal and over 40 years as an educator and mentor to the youth of South Florida.

Eugenia, arrived in our great country in 1961 after fleeing the Castro regime. Since then, she found her life's calling working with children. In fact, Eugenia has spent the majority of her life, mentoring and guiding youth.

Throughout her career she has established herself as a selfless leader, and her dedication to her field is unquestionable. It is the perseverance and compassion of people like Eugenia that enables our country to continue to prosper and grow.

I am grateful for the tremendous diligence and dedication Eugenia exhibited on behalf of the student body at Carolyn Learning Center. Eugenia's dedication to enriching the lives of others is truly admirable. The passion she exerted towards her profession is not only commendable, but inspirational as well.

Once again, I commend Eugenia for her distinguished career as an educator and I applaud her for all the tremendous successes you have accomplished throughout the years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2006

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of May 19, 2006 the House voted on a procedural motion to H.R. 5385, the Fiscal 2007 Military Construction-VA Appropriations Act. On House rollcall vote No. 173, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNITION FOR REV. BOB RUSSELL

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2006

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the career and service of the Reverend Bob Russell, who is retiring this month after forty years of ministry at Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, Kentucky. Throughout his time at Southeast, Rev. Russell has worked diligently to follow his faith in God wherever it might lead him. His contribu-

tion to the Louisville community is unparalleled and his impact on individual lives is immeasurable.

As a young man in Pennsylvania, Rev. Russell dreamed of coaching high school basketball. However, life would hold a different plan for him. During his senior year of high school, he felt a call into ministry. He enrolled in a seminary, graduating from Cincinnati Bible Seminary in 1965.

On June 12, 1966, Rev. Russell delivered his first sermon as pastor of a nascent Southeast Christian Church. Only four years prior, Southeast was founded with seventy-seven charter members. At the time of Rev. Russell's arrival, the church had reached a membership of 120. Within two years of his first sermon, the church had more than doubled to nearly 300 members. On Easter Sunday 1976, the church hosted 1,000 worshippers for the first time. Fourteen years later in 1990, 10,000 people worshipped at Southeast on Easter Sunday. And the church set its current record of 29,424 on Easter weekend 2004 over the course of five services.

Rev. Russell's career is not, measured solely by explosive church growth, but by the many ways the church under his leadership has expanded to meet the needs of our community. The church reaches its community through ministries in counseling, disaster relief, and prison support, among others. The Southeast Outlook newspaper began publication in 1995. Rev. Russell can also be heard nationally on his syndicated radio program, The Living Word.

Throughout his career of four decades in ministry, Rev. Bob Russell has strived to follow his faith in God and live a life of service to the Louisville community. We as a city have been blessed to have Rev. Russell among us for so many years. His loyalty to God, his family, his church, and our city has not gone unnoticed. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my gratitude for Rev. Russell and congratulate him on a lifetime in ministry and service that will continue to touch Louisville even after his retirement.

TRIPLE CROWN WINNER
WHIRLAWAY AND THE ARMED
SERVICES

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2006

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the outstanding civilian support of our Armed Services that was embodied by the Triple Crown winning-horse, Whirlaway, during the beginning of World War II. As a direct result of the fundraising enabled by the popularity and talent of Whirlaway, many USO Clubs around the country were established. As a congressionally chartered, nonprofit organization, that support U.S. troops and their families wherever they serve, the USO has also recognized the contribution that Whirlaway aided in the early 1940s.

Whirlaway accomplished some impressive feats as a sports figure, including the still-unbroken record for the fastest furlong ever run

in the Kentucky Derby. As a war hero, Whirlaway was an irreplaceable symbol of unity and mutual support between our civilian population and the men and women who serve our country.

As we remember the brave soldiers who have served our country in uniform this Memorial Day, we should also remember the inspiring stories of those civilians who have demonstrated extraordinary support in the past.

May God bless our men and women in uniform and all civilians who remember them on this Memorial Day.

TRIBUTE TO MINISINK HOOK &
LADDER COMPANY #1 ON 100
YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2006

Ms. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, volunteer service is vital in the basic framework of our nation. Without those sacrificing their time, energy, and efforts for the benefit of others we could not advance as a society.

It is in this notion of service that those in need are given opportunity. It is because of people who dedicate their life to helping others that our communities flourish and lives are changed.

The spirit of volunteerism is alive and well in thousands of communities with the dedicated service provided by volunteer firefighters. Their reward is not monetary, but is in the lives they change, people they save and those they protect day in and day out.

On June 10, 2006, the Minisink Hook & Ladder Company #1 will celebrate 100 years of courageous service to the people of Orange County, New York. On behalf of the people of the 19th Congressional District, in recognition of a century of service I proudly commemorate this momentous achievement. I congratulate and wish the Minisink Hook & Ladder Company continued success in serving the public and keeping people safe.

AMENDING TITLE 49, UNITED
STATES CODE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5449 changes the rules under which the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) negotiates with Federal employees unions, such as the National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA), to make the FAA abide by the exact same process that other government agencies do when they negotiate with Federal employees unions. Contrary to the claims of its opponents, H.R. 5449 does not allow NATCA to indefinitely prolong negotiations. H.R. 5449 allows the FAA to act to end negotiations and bring their case before a Federal mediation board who has power to resolve the dispute. H.R. 5449 would prevent the FAA from unilaterally imposing a contract

on the air traffic controllers. In contrast, the current system may provide the FAA with the opportunity to drag out negotiations, so it can ultimately declare an impasse and impose a contract. Thus, the changes made in H.R. 5449 seem reasonable.

Some people, including many House of Representatives members with whom I usually agree, are claiming that H.R. 5449 will cost American taxpayers billions of dollars. This claim is based on an assumption that the final result of the mediation process established by H.R. 5449 will be significantly more costly to the taxpayer than the contract the FAA will impose on the controllers if H.R. 5449 fails to pass. However, under H.R. 5449, the dispute will be resolved by a Federal mediation panel whose members are appointed by the president. I am skeptical that a presidentially appointed mediation board will give an exorbitant package to NATCA, especially since the difference between the FAA's current proposal and the NATCA's last offer is less than a billion dollars. It is true that a future mediation panel may be populated by people appointed by an administration more friendly to the air traffic controllers than the current administration, but it is also possible that a future Congress would use its leverage in the current process to force the FAA to accept contracts tilted in favor of the NATCA. We should not judge procedural issues based on uncertain predictions about results.

Some opponents of H.R. 5449 complain that the air traffic controllers are overpaid. However, since the air traffic control system is government controlled and government financed, the wages of air traffic controllers are not set by the market. Instead, these wages are set by political and bureaucratic fiat. Absent a market, it is impossible to say the air traffic controllers' wages are too high or too low. In fact, given the importance of air traffic control, it is possible that, in a free market, some air traffic controllers may have higher incomes than they do now. One thing I can say for sure is that air traffic controllers would still have their jobs if the Federal government were limited to its constitutional functions since air traffic controllers perform a function that would be necessary in a free market.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5449 reasonably changes the process under which the FAA negotiates with Federal employees unions. H.R. 5449 does not favor one party over another, and, contrary to the claims of its opponents, H.R. 5449 does not preordain the conclusion of the negotiations between the FAA and NATCA.

MEMORIAL DAY SPEECH BY
STAFF SERGEANT JOSEPH M.
DIMOND

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 2006

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter the following Memorial Day speech into the RECORD. It was made by Staff Sergeant Joseph M. Dimond. I am sure that you, and all who hear these words, will be

moved by this unforgettable tribute to those who have fallen in the service of their country:

MEMORIAL DAY

Good morning and happy Memorial Day! Memorial Day means many different things to many different people. To some it means BBQ's and beer, to some its just another long weekend to relax, to some it's the beginning of summer, but to people like me, and I'm guessing people like you since you are here, it means a lot more!

Since I was a boy, Memorial Day has always had a special meaning to me. I remember at 8 and 9 years old following my father, a Korean War Vet, around East Lansdowne and Upper Darby while he and his fellow American Legion brothers fired off 21 gun salutes at all the memorials. I would run around collecting all the shells from the rifles and save them as my own little memorial. Afterwards, we would put flags on the graves of all the Veterans in Fernwood Cemetery. I'm not even sure if I understood completely what we were honoring, I just knew it was very important! I knew, that for some reason, every time I heard TAPS or the National Anthem played, I would get teary eyed, but I don't think I ever really grasped the importance of it all.

Unfortunately, over the past year I had the chance to find out first hand what it all meant, why I would cry, why I felt the way I've been feeling for my entire life. I have experienced many difficult times in my life, but nothing could prepare me for the last year! You see, I was in charge of security for the bomb squad for the entire city of Fallujah. While over there, we dismantled 362 roadside bombs and, unfortunately, got hit by some too.

One of the many downfalls of being with the bomb squad in the most violent city in Iraq is that whenever an American or Iraqi soldier is killed by a roadside bomb or suicide bomber, we have to go and make sure all of the ordnance that is in the vehicles when they blow up are stabilized, and removed before the mortuary affairs people can come in and remove the bodies, so long story short, we were forced to work around the bodies of every ally killed by a bomb in Fallujah and the surrounding area. While doing this, my team had to remain calm, keep our heads and not get tied up in what we were seeing, because the bomb squad was a huge target, and I needed to do my best to keep them safe while they focused on their jobs. We were successful most of the time, but did have some bad luck too. Since October 15th, six of my very good friends were killed on the streets of Fallujah, five of which happened while I was there, all in separate incidents. One happened a week after I left Iraq, while my friend John was finishing his last week of a 9 month tour.

These men were all heroes! Whatever your politics, whether you believe we should be in this war or not, whether you are Republican or Democrat, we are all Americans! And I want to make sure you all know this: every single soldier, sailor, airman, and marine over there is there for you! They all feel they are doing what they have to do to make life better for you, our kids and me. I'm not a politician, and this isn't the time or place for politics, but the #1 question I've been asked in the past 2 months since I've been home is "Do I think we should be there?" Well, my answer to that is very simple, I don't know if we should have gone over there, but I, like these men we honor today, was asked to go so I went. I'm an enlisted man, and leave that to the people that sit behind their desks and make the big decisions.