

with employment opportunities. In 2007, it served more than 9,500 persons with disabilities, and placed almost 2,800 of them in jobs. Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey employs more than 1,800 people with disabilities, and its youth programs provide education, recreation and enrichment to 9,400 children and their families. And, as the Member of Congress representing the neighborhood of Astoria in the Borough of Queens, I am proud of Goodwill Industries' long-term commitment to serve the Two Coves community of Astoria, where its headquarters are located.

This year, the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company is celebrating its 150th anniversary by supporting family-strengthening initiatives across the nation. Northwestern Mutual is working in tandem with Goodwill Industries International to achieve this laudable goal. With 184 member and affiliate Goodwill agencies around the world serving 1.1 million individuals and placing 140,000 in employment, the program promises to be an outstanding success.

This month, Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey and the Northwestern Mutual Foundation are co-sponsoring a Community Connect Action Fair at Lighthouse Park on Roosevelt Island in New York City to help connect New York families with employment and community resources while providing healthy, entertaining activities for children and adults alike.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues rise to join me in saluting the tremendous contributions of Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey to the civic good of the communities it serves, and to recognize the vital support for those efforts provided by the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company and its Northwestern Mutual Foundation. All Americans owe these great institutions a debt of gratitude for their selfless and compassionate efforts to serve others.

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HONORING THE 33RD ANNIVERSARY OF BISHOP GEORGE W. BROOKS

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**HON. MELVIN L. WATT**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mr. WATT. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to recognize the 33rd anniversary of Bishop George W. Brooks as Senior Pastor and Chief Elder of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Greensboro, NC.

Since becoming the pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in 1975, Bishop Brooks has proven to be an inspirational leader in Greensboro, our nation and around the world.

Under his leadership, the Mt. Zion Baptist Church has flourished from 35 members in 1975 to over 5,000, and 42 ministries that work to address some of the fundamental needs of its congregation, the Greensboro community and people abroad. Examples of these ministries include daycare and after-school programs that serve 200 children daily, homeless outreach, health and wellness care

and the One In Christ Bible College. Internationally, Bishop Brooks and his congregation have established churches and schools in West Africa, South Africa and the Philippines, including the first Bible School in a South African prison to reduce recidivism. In the midst of all his accomplishments, Bishop Brooks is also an outstanding husband, father and grandfather.

Bishop Brooks is also the co-founder of the Welfare Reform Liaison Project, a program that has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for empowering welfare recipients with the skills to become self-sufficient.

Madam Speaker, we are often reminded and we all agree that government can't solve all our problems. It's great to know that we're getting help on the ground from faith and other non-government organizations. Bishop Brooks and Mt. Zion Baptist Church are certainly doing their part. I'm sure my colleagues join me in wishing Bishop George W. Brooks and the Mt. Zion Baptist Church congregation a happy 33rd pastoral anniversary and best wishes for years to come.

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HELPING AMERICAN WORKERS

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**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, we cannot allow the understandable focus on Wall Street to distract us from the struggles facing America's working families. The families of more than 5,000 New Mexico workers who are still looking for jobs in our struggling economy could soon face destitution. On this day when we consider legislation providing \$700 billion in taxpayer dollars to bail out Wall Street, we must do something to help the working families and to make our economy start producing jobs again.

The Unemployment Insurance extension bill we are voting on today does what is right for New Mexico workers who need a helping hand so their families can make ends meet while they look for jobs in our struggling economy. It also does what's right for every New Mexico family concerned about our state's economy, because it will boost economic growth so we can start producing jobs again. Experts consider extending unemployment insurance to be one of the quickest and most efficient ways to make the economy produce jobs again, since the benefits go to workers who need the money and will spend it quickly. Moody's Investor Service's Economy.com Chief Economist Mark Zandi estimates that every \$1 increase in UI benefits results in a \$1.64 infusion of economic activity.

Numbers released today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that America has lost jobs for 9 straight months. New Mexico's unemployment rate rose from 4.1 percent to 4.6 percent in August, the last month for which numbers are available. It is up from 3.1 percent in January. Since the beginning of the year, the economy has lost 760,000 jobs. The job loss in September was the largest one-month jobs loss in 5½ years, more than twice the average of the previous 8 months.

These numbers make two things clear. First, the Bush administration's economic policies have failed, and we need to go in a new direction. Second, American workers need our support. They are suffering because of economic policies they had nothing to do with. As I continue to work for real reforms to fix our financial system, I will not forget New Mexico's working families.

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HONORING TEXAS STATE  
REPRESENTATIVE PAUL MORENO

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**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my fellow El Pasoan, Texas State Representative Paul Moreno, an institution in El Paso and the State of Texas and the longest serving Hispanic elected official in the United States.

After over 4 decades of public service and a distinguished career defending and championing the rights of the poor and disenfranchised, he has left his mark on American politics.

Born in 1931, Paul Moreno grew up in the Segundo Barrio of South El Paso. After high school, he proudly served 6 years in the United States Marine Corps and saw combat in Korea, earning the Presidential Unit Citation, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, the National Defense Service Medal and the Korean Service Medal.

After his military service, Paul went on to earn his bachelor's degree from Texas Western, now the University of Texas at El Paso, and he also attended the University of Texas at Austin School of Law.

Representative Moreno first won election to the Texas House in 1967. During his tenure, he has always been a passionate and outspoken advocate for the poor, the disabled, and the underdog. He fought on behalf of the next generation of Texans and vigorously supported improving education, economic opportunities for our youth and health care for our children. He has been a staunch advocate on behalf of teachers, and for over 40 years has been a champion of working families. In short, Paul Moreno has been a voice for the people, and many consider him to be the "Conscience of the Texas House."

Representative Moreno has worked with 8 governors and many speakers of the House, and currently presides as the dean of the Texas House. Even though his voice may no longer echo in the halls of the State Capitol in Austin when his term is over at the end of this year, it will continue to guide those who strive to live up to the example of public service that he has set for us all. He will be missed.

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**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

T4 . . .  
 The next generation!  
 As great as any others who have come before!  
 An Army Man . . .  
 Who, with but his great heart here now so stands!  
 Part Titanium, Part Man . . . The New Prototype, of an Army Man!  
 Who's Tours DeForce . . .  
 All in his life's force, with his tours of duty while all out on death's course . . .  
 A Freedom Fighter, the kind our hearts and souls so here ignite here . . . with all of his great life's force!  
 Special Forces . . .  
 And 107th Cav, those great men of honor who freedom so enforce this!  
 With great acts of daring and might, with all of their most superhuman feats . . . are but freedom's voice!  
 Where do you go?  
 When your face and body, have been blown and shattered here so?  
 How do you rebuild with no back left still? For it's all found so deep down inside, in what a heart can will!  
 Piece by Piece, as this T Man has grown . . . Day by Day, Hour by Hour . . . as all have so found out what his soul can shower! As he stands alone!  
 To find the courage on battlefields of honor, in operation rooms he towers! All in courage's finest hour!  
 Eggleston, a doctor's son . . .  
 A sure fine one, as is this America's Son . . . Terminating evil this one!  
 A Virginian who so shines, for all of us so in time . . . as we watch his heart . . . his fire . . . burn like The Sun!  
 For all of those who go off to war . . . Are but the greatest of all Americans so sure, who for us all . . . our very freedom do so insure!  
 For all that we have, all in this land of the free . . . is but bought and paid for, by all these fine heroes sure!  
 The people who hate war the most!  
 Are but all of those Magnificent Brave Heart's, who must face death . . . and lose their comrades close!  
 And leave their loved ones behind in tears, with sleepless nights here . . . all so that we can have the most!  
 In life, all is possible in what you feel . . . All in what you so stand for, your ideals . . . deep down inside ones heart so real . . . That let's you go off to war, to face heartache and death . . . and evil to endure and rebuild, and not yield!  
 Like T4 . . .  
 Bodies can grow and rebuild, with but hard work, courage and iron wills . . . with titanium and more . . .  
 But, without a heart . . . one can not so live and endure . . . only with, these special forces within like T4!  
 Dedicated to Charles Eggleston.  
 Grew up in Richmond, Va. E6 Staff Sergeant Special Forces and 107th Cav.  
 He was injured in Mousal, Iraq, in an IED blast. Legs, back and face reconstructed with titanium.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN ROBERT VALLEJO II

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Captain Robert Vallejo II who was killed on September 18, 2008, while serving our country.

Captain Robert Vallejo II was a captain in Texas National Guard. He and six other Guard members lost their lives while on duty aboard a Chinook helicopter near Tallil, Iraq. The soldiers were assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 149th Aviation, 36th Combat Aviation Brigade based in Grand Prairie, Texas. Captain Robert Vallejo II will be remembered for his commendable and selfless service to this great nation.

Captain Robert Vallejo was born in Beeville, Texas, and later moved to Fort Worth. He was a member of the ROTC program at Texas Christian University, where he graduated in 2005 with a Communication Studies degree before being accepted to flight school at Fort Rucker, Alabama. He dreamed of being a pilot and he put his passion into practice when he joined the Texas National Guard.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize such a brave man as Robert Vallejo II. I am proud to have had the chance to represent him in Congress. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of this American hero.

HONORING THE MARINO-CAPPELLO FAMILY

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am pleased that this week the Senate has followed the House in passing the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008, H.R. 6893. This landmark legislation will make significant improvements to child welfare through numerous provisions, including reauthorizing the Adoption Incentive Program and increasing education oversight for youth in foster care.

I would also like to recognize Voice for Adoption, an organization that works to improve our adoption policies. There are 129,000 children in foster care who are waiting to be adopted, and many families who wish to adopt. These numbers may sound daunting, but Voice for Adoption positively illustrates the need to adopt through the Adoptive Family Portrait Project. This program promotes adoption by matching Members of Congress with a photo of an adoptive family from their district or State.

It has been my privilege to participate in this project for the second year in a row and I have decided to display the photo in my DC office for an entire year. The 2008 theme emphasizes the importance of sibling connections for youth in foster care and adoptive placements.

I am honored to recognize the Marino-Cappello family. Sandy Marino and her husband Sam Cappello were moved when they learned about the many waiting children in the New Jersey foster care system. Five adoptions later, they have been blessed with Kirby, who was adopted as an infant from South Korea; Percy, Maya and Violet, who are birth siblings adopted separately as infants; and Helena, adopted at seven months. Caring for medically-fragile, drug-affected infants has stretched the Marino-Cappello family to new limits. They deserve praise for their willingness to provide permanent, loving homes for children in foster care, despite challenges.

H.R. 6893 will help families like the Marino-Cappellos to better provide for the special needs of children adopted from foster care. I applaud the passage of this much-needed legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES F. LONERGAN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to James F. Lonergan, a distinguished New Yorker who has selflessly devoted himself to his community and our nation. His contributions to the civic life of New York City are being recognized this month as he begins his retirement after many years of dedicated public service at the New York City Department of Education's Division of School Facilities, which he served with distinction as its Chief Executive Officer.

After serving in the United States Navy in Vietnam, James F. Lonergan joined the New York City Department of Corrections. At the Department of Corrections, he served as Stationary Engineer, Senior Stationary Engineer and Supervisor of Mechanics. In 1989, he joined the New York City Department of Education and rose through its ranks, serving as Deputy Director of Facility Maintenance, School Plant Manager, Assistant Director, Director, Senior Director and ultimately Chief Executive Officer of the Division of School Facilities. As the Chief Executive Officer, he supervised 9,000 employees and managed a \$1 billion budget with effective leadership and consummate skill. Dedicated to education and self-improvement, he also earned a master's degree in urban affairs.

He made the School Facilities Mission Statement his mantra: "To provide a safe, warm, clean setting that is conducive to the education and nurturing of our children in the most economic and efficient manner possible and to provide a school environment that allows students to realize their full potential and to improve the quality of life in the community we serve."

James F. Lonergan views our public schools as cornerstones of the community, symbols of prestige in the community, and harbingers of a better future. He dedicated himself to making every school in his purview a "beacon of