

With ever-increasing numbers of obese and diabetic Americans, organizations such as Northwest Kidney Centers offer an unparalleled number of services to patients in need of critical, advanced care. Hundreds of dialysis staff and nephrologists are equipped and prepared for any emergency, and the new facility's innovative design allows additional dialysis stations to be activated at any time. The new facility will no doubt play an integral role in the lives of countless Northwest residents who depend on kidney therapy to live quality lives—and to enable them to spend more time with their families and friends.

The new Northwest Kidney Centers' SeaTac Facility is a perfect example of a successful State and Federal partnership, and it will be a significant asset to our communities. All of us in the Northwest can take pride in knowing that the SeaTac facility is a model for the rest of the country to follow.

CONGRATULATING ATTORNEY JOSEPH M. COSGROVE UPON RECEIVING THE W. FRANCIS SWINGLE AWARD FROM THE GREATER PITTSSTON FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Attorney Joseph M. Cosgrove, a native of Pittston, PA, who has been honored by the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick with the W. Francis Swingle Award for 2008.

Attorney Cosgrove is a graduate of St. John's High School and the University of Notre Dame and its law school in South Bend, IN. He received a master's degree in theology from Notre Dame's graduate school and a master of arts degree from Marywood University.

Attorney Cosgrove was admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania and the Federal court system including the United States Supreme Court. In 2005, he was appointed to the Lawyers Advisory Committee of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit on the nomination of the Honorable Max Rosenn. He serves as conflict counsel for the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas and is engaged in the private practice of law with offices in Forty Fort, PA.

Attorney Cosgrove served two terms as president of the Luzerne County Law and Library Association and is immediate past president of the statewide Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys. As president of the county bar, some accomplishments include recognition of the importance of a local case that made history through a U.S. Supreme Court decision 70 years ago. The case, *Erie v. Tompkins*, involved a railroad accident in Hughestown where local resident Harry Tompkins was injured. Through Attorney Cosgrove's efforts, the Luzerne County Bar and the New York City Bar will conduct a special seminar in New York in September. In ad-

dition, Attorney Cosgrove created "Maysie's Bike Program," based on Harry Tompkins' promise to his niece, Maysie Cochran. In honor of that promise, the bar now awards bicycles to locally needy children and is establishing a children's pro bono representation project in Maysie's name.

Attorney Cosgrove has also worked extensively in the local educational field, having served on the Pittston Area School Board for one term and is currently a member of the board of trustees for Marywood University in Scranton. In addition to this, Attorney Cosgrove has been an adjunct faculty member at King's College for more than 20 years and is currently a member of the selection committee for dean of the Wilkes University Law School initiative. He also serves on the ethics committee at Misericordia University.

Attorney Cosgrove is a former chair of the Luzerne County Election Board where he served three appointed terms. He is also a member of the Screen Actors Guild, AFL/CIO, and has appeared in several motion pictures. He also had a recurring role on NBC-TV's hit show, "The West Wing."

While an undergraduate student at the University of Notre Dame in the late 1970s, he served as "The Leprechaun," the university's sports mascot. During his tenure, the "Fighting Irish" were football national champions, and their basketball team reached the "Final Four."

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Attorney Cosgrove on this auspicious occasion. The W. Francis Swingle Award is intended to honor those who distinguish themselves by honoring their Irish heritage and who commit themselves to a high level of community service. In that context, Attorney Cosgrove's selection for this award is indeed well deserved.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING HAROLD AND DIANE KEESEE ON RECEIVING THE ANGELS IN ADOPTION AWARD

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Harold and Diane Keesee are recognized for receiving the Angels in Adoption Award, and

Whereas, Mr. and Mrs. Keesee are an asset to our community and have been fostering children for seventeen years, and

Whereas, Mr. and Mrs. Keesee have made a difference in those lives that enter their home, and

Whereas, Mr. and Mrs. Keesee exemplify the spirit of selflessness and giving through their extraordinary work in child welfare: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with their friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend Harold and Diane Keesee on their contributions and service to children in Tuscarawas and Guernsey Counties. Congratulations to Harold and Diane Keesee on receiving the Angels in Adoption Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 87, The "Iraq and Afghanistan Fallen Military Heroes of Louisville Memorial Post Office" Designation Act, in honor of the service men and women from Louisville, Kentucky, who died in service during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

A PHONE CALL IS PRICELESS . . .

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Cell Phones for Soldiers, a nonprofit, charitable organization founded by two teenagers, Robbie and Brittany Bergquist, from Norwell, Massachusetts. True patriots, Robbie and Brittany Bergquist, recognized the fact that many of our soldiers are spending a tremendous amount of money on cell phone bills to stay connected to their families. They implemented a simple plan to help soldiers call home: Collect used cell phones, recycle them for cash, and use the money to buy prepaid calling cards to send overseas to our military. Through a network of more than 3,000 collection sites across the country, they have raised almost \$1 million in donations and distributed more than 400,000 prepaid calling cards to soldiers.

Across my district, I have witnessed patriotic Americans helping military families cope through difficult times. I would like to commend patriot Dave Kilby with the Greater Humble Area Chamber of Commerce for doing his part in helping our soldiers overseas. Four years ago, Dave Kilby approached the Greater Humble Area Chamber of Commerce with the idea for the chamber to become one of the central drop off sites for Cell Phones for Soldiers. This extraordinary group of chamber members began promoting and challenging members to recycle used cell phones. Soon thereafter, collection boxes were then placed in schools, churches, and private businesses. Over 10,000 used cell phones have been collected throughout the second district of Texas on behalf of Cell Phones for Soldiers program.

Dave Kilby recalls one exceptional event held on behalf of Cell Phone for Soldiers at the Houston Astro's Minute Maid Park. Cell Phones for Soldiers Day at the park brought Robbie and Brittany Bergquist along with their family to Houston. They donated 27,000 phone cards to Col. Lanny B. McNeely, Commander of the 147th Fighter Wing stationed at Ellington Field. Col. McNeely was able to deliver those cards to troops in Iraq.

The Greater Humble Area Chamber of Commerce continues to be the designated drop site for Cell Phone for Soldiers. Dave Kilby's collections net approximately 100

phones a month. I hope that all of us recognize the significant ways in which we can strengthen our Nation's Armed Forces. I applaud the efforts of the great State of Texas. And that's just the way it is.

HONORING MARGARET WEINBERG

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Mrs. Margaret "Midge" Weinberg for her public service to the Germantown community.

Since joining the Maternal League in 1986, Mrs. Weinberg has been greatly involved with caring for young mothers and their babies by making it her mission to help teenage mothers learn effective parenting skills through the Maternal League's successful Sunshine program. Serving as corresponding secretary, historian and parliamentarian, Midge has been indispensable to the efforts of the League and has proven time and time again her ability to avert any crisis with her quick thinking and calm presence.

When she's not dedicating her time to the Maternal League you can often find Mrs. Weinberg serving as co-chair of "This Side Up," teaching safe sleeping practices to caregivers of newborns, as well as serving on the boards of Bethany Home, The Parenting Center and LeBonheur Club.

In culmination of all her community efforts, Margaret Weinberg has been recognized by the Germantown Lions Club as their Citizen of the Year for 2007. Her experience and leadership make her an invaluable member of the Germantown community and a shining example for others to follow.

Please join me in honoring Margaret Weinberg and wishing her the best on this well-deserved award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I was voting in the Texas Democratic Primary and missed the votes on:

H.R. 1143, To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park (Rollcall 88). Although H.R. 1143 passed by a vote of 378-0, I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall 88.

H.R. 1311, To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Alta-Hualapai Site to the city of Las Vegas, Nevada, for the development of a cancer treatment facility (Rollcall 89). Although H.R. 1311 passed by a vote of 377-0, I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall 89.

H.R. 816, To provide for the release of certain land from the Sunrise Mountain Instant

Study Area in the State of Nevada and to grant a right-of-way across the released land for the construction and maintenance of a flood control project (Rollcall 90). Although H.R. 816 passed by a vote of 375-0, I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall 90.

Again, I express my full support for these important pieces of legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RIC KELLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I have remained in Orlando, Florida with my wife and our new daughter who was born on Monday, March 3rd. If I had been present yesterday, I would have voted in the following manner: rollcall 88: "yea"; rollcall 89: "yea"; rollcall 90: "yea."

A PROCLAMATION HONORING LADY BAESMAN ON HER RECEIPT OF THE OUTSTANDING ADVOCACY VOLUNTEER AWARD

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Lady Baesman is appreciated for her dedication and contributions to the American Cancer Society; and

Whereas, she has been a volunteer for the American Cancer Society since 1956; and

Whereas, she has fought for numerous improvements and has been successful in many of her campaigns; and

Whereas, her efforts have been recognized through the Capitol Dome Award, which is the highest nationwide advocacy award given at the state level each year; and

Whereas, she has served the organization and her community selflessly and tirelessly: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend Lady Baesman on her contributions to the American Cancer Society. Congratulations to Lady Baesman on her receipt of the Outstanding Advocacy Volunteer Award.

RECOGNIZING CARLOS K. HAYDEN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, Elmer Davis once said "this nation will remain the land of the free, only so long as it is the home of the brave." Standing as a testament to Mr. Davis' statement are courageous Veterans like

Atascocita resident Carlos K. Hayden. Born into a family with generations of soldiers, he always harbored aspirations to serve his country. Throughout his 35 year military career, Carlos K. Hayden bravely fought to uphold the liberties that we are able to today as a Nation hold dear.

Hayden was commissioned as a second lieutenant on June 17, 1941. Just a week later, he was on active duty with the 1st Armored Division, 68th Field Artillery Battalion. While fighting in Tunisia under the command of General George S. Patton he served as a forward observer. He even had the fortune of meeting Gen. Patton while overlooking a battlefield. During WWII he served 5 years of active duty, 3 in North Africa, and 2 in Italy.

When Carlos K. Hayden retired from the military in 1976 he had attained the rank of Brigadier General. The evidence of his brave 35 year career is illustrated through his many commendations. They include the Purple Heart, the Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, a Bronze Star with Valor, a Presidential Unit Citation and Six Battle Stars. The Battle Stars were awarded for his service in Tunisia, Naples, Foggia, Rome-Arno, Anzio, North Apennines and the Po Valley. He also received the Texas DAR Metal of Honor, and the Ohio State University Distinguished Service Award. As a result of Hayden's impressive vocation; he was inducted into the Army ROTC hall of fame.

Now at the age of 90, Carlos continues to serve the community and commemorate his time as a military serviceman. He returned to the battlefields in Tunisia on the 50th anniversary of its liberation. With other members of the 1st Armored Division, they retraced their 1940's route. In 2008, Hayden is serving his third term as the president of the 1st Armored Division's national association. For the Military Order of the Purple Heart, he is also the senior Vice Commander of chapter 782.

Abiding with the generational service to their country, Carlos K. Hayden's Grandson Army Captain Jeff Sharpe recently returned from a second tour in Iraq. Evidence that America is still "the home of the brave."

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to explain my absence from votes cast on March 4, 2008. I was in Houston for the Texas primary election.

On rollcall vote No. 88, to approve H.R. 1143, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall vote No. 89, to approve H.R. 1311, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall vote No. 90, to approve H.R. 816, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."