

Over the years, the Reisterstown American Legion Post 116 family has been active in many community endeavors. Some of the Post's many community activities include giving assistance to the Reisterstown Recreation Council, awarding scholarships to students at Franklin High School, participating in the American Legion Boys State and the Auxiliary's Girls State programs, as well as taking part in the American Legion Oratorical Contest for high school students. In addition, the Post compiled a list of all known local veterans and donated this to the Baltimore County Library.

The Reisterstown American Legion Post 116 has contributed time and treasure to help many charitable organizations including, the Maryland Special Olympics, the Epilepsy Foundation, the United Cerebral Palsy Association, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and organizations combating Multiple Sclerosis.

In 2010, the Reisterstown American Legion Post 116 was the winner of the Outstanding Newsletter Award, produced by editor and Past Post Commander Doug Lawrence. I would also like to congratulate the Post Officers for the 2010–2011 term as they celebrate the 75th Anniversary:

Commander Glenn "Thumper" Krout
1st Vice Commander Diane Hackney
2nd Vice Commander Bill Finch
Adjutant Len Gmeiner, Past Post Commander
Finance Officer Maurice "Moe" Morton, Past Detachment Commander, Sons of the American Legion
Sergeant at Arms Keith Hughes, Past Post Commander
Chaplain Bill Finch
Judge Advocate Mark H. Olanoff
Service Officer Diane Hackney
Historian Keith Hughes, Past Post Commander

Madam Speaker, I strongly commend the Reisterstown American Legion Post 116 as they celebrate their 75th Anniversary on November 6, 2010.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD SCOTT
ALDEN

HON. KEN CALVERT
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, Riverside has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. I rise today to recognize and honor one of those individuals: Richard "Dick" Scott Alden. Dick passed away at his home on Monday, September 20, 2010. He will be deeply missed.

Dick Alden was born July 27, 1931, in Hibbing, Minnesota and is the son of Alvin and Verne Alden. As a young man his family moved to Pasadena, California. Dick was a student in the Pasadena school system and upon graduation, served honorably in the United States Air Force.

After his service in the Air Force, Dick earned his college degree from Woodbury

Business School in Los Angeles. He began working for Union Oil and later moved his young family to Riverside acquiring what eventually became Empire Oil Company.

During his active life in Riverside, Dick, along with building Empire Oil into a major petroleum and chemical distributor, devoted his time and resources to a number of community-based charitable organizations. He also was active in Republican politics and various local sports programs. Dick was known for his generosity to many charitable organizations and those who know him remember his sense of humor.

Mr. Alden is survived by his son Eric Alden of Huntington Beach and wife Martha; Daughter Michelle Fisher of Aliso Viejo; Daughter-in-law Ann Alden of Riverside; five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Also surviving are Dick's sister Barbara Meza of San Clemente and a brother Gayle Alden of Auburn, Washington. Dick was preceded in death by his son Scott, who played an important role in the building of Empire Oil, and by his granddaughter Jennifer Stevens. Dick was especially impacted by the death of his son and granddaughter, two individuals that were remarkable in their own right. Dick will be buried in Olivewood Memorial Park, the same cemetery where Scott and Jennifer were laid to rest.

On October 2, 2010, a memorial service celebrating Dick's extraordinary life will be held at the Salvation Army Chapel in Riverside. Dick will always be remembered for his incredible work ethic, generosity, love of family, and sense of humor. His dedication to his family and community, especially the Salvation Army, are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Dick's family and friends; although Dick may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

GUARDIANS OF FREEDOM ACT OF
2010

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II
OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, today, I rise on behalf of all of America's National Guard and proudly introduce the Guardians of Freedom Act of 2010—a bill to elevate the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to a position on the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The National Guard is one of our nation's longest standing institutions, empowered by Congress and providing to the states a highly trained and well equipped force to protect life and property.

Over the course of its nearly four hundred year history, the National Guard has remained a dual state-Federal force, providing security on the home front and fighting threats to our Nation and our freedoms all over the globe.

Our National Guardsmen are true American patriots. Theirs is a proud story of tradition, service, sacrifice, and uncommon acts of heroism. They make each of us so very proud.

Aristotle said, "Men acquire a particular quality by constantly acting a particular way

. . . you become just, by performing just actions . . . brave by performing brave actions."

The American people owe an enormous debt of gratitude to our 362,192 men and women members of the National Guard in service to these great United States. These extraordinary individuals maintain the Guard's multi-mission role—providing nearly 33 percent of America's combat power globally. Yet, simultaneously and with great skill, from approximately 3,400 community-based armories they serve their fellow citizens in defense of our homeland, and in support to states and local civil authorities and emergency response needs.

For decades there has been a significant evolution in the missions and capabilities of the National Guard. As Major General Allen E. Tackett, the Adjutant General of the West Virginia National Guard so appropriately states, "Not since World War II has the Guard been so vital to the overseas mission and not since the founding of our Nation has the Guard been so vital to the defense of our homeland."

Madam Speaker, for 34 years I have been privileged to represent the people of southern West Virginia, and it is with humble sincerity I say, our West Virginia National Guard is a model example of the training, commitment to excellence and professional dedication to America's defense.

From the home front to the front lines, we call upon our National Guard to fulfill missions of public safety and security on and between our borders here at home, and send them to foreign lands to combat terrorism abroad. They are among the first called to aid in a domestic disaster and have often times been the last to leave a battlefield.

This year the National Guard marks its 374th birthday. Formed as colonial militias, the new colonies in North America depended upon the Guard to protect fellow citizens from Indian attack, foreign invaders, and later to help achieve our independence. Recognizing the militia's role for the newly formed United States, the Framers of the Constitution empowered Congress to provide for training and equipping the militias.

Since founding and through an historic journey of "call outs" and stand out missions—from the bayou communities ravaged by Hurricane Katrina to the frontiers of freedom during the Cold War, our National Guard has seen its Federal mission change.

Our National Guard has a duty and commitment to the citizens and communities of the states in which these soldiers call "family" and "home." It is a military service tradition that has been challenged by long-term and multiple deployments to front lines in two active theaters, and in support of missions in all corners of the globe as directed by our Nation's Commander in Chief.

Therefore, it is not only our duty it is an absolute necessity, that Congress take action to elevate the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to a position on the Joint Chiefs of Staff to serve as an advocate and liaison for the National Guard of each State to inform of all actions that could affect their Federal or State missions.

In a Nation such as ours, it is a stunning reality that today we ask our brothers and sisters, husbands, and wives to serve around the

globe to preserve democracy and promote freedom. But in our country, where every voice counts, our Nation's active duty leadership excludes the voice of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

Congress must ensure the National Guard has appropriate input during the planning and budgetary process within the Department of Defense, and end the challenge to live with "after-the-fact" process, as is now the case.

As a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau would have responsibility and authority to advocate and coordinate the Guard's warfighting support and force provider mission with its homeland security and support missions to ensure the Guard has the resources to perform its multiple missions and fulfill its Constitutional role to our states.

Creating a Veterans' preference in the Transportation sector is very simple. It seeks to give America's veterans an opportunity advantage in the contracting process for their service to our country—a means to attach importance and to acknowledge our fellow Americans who have put their life on the line to preserve our way of life.

Madam Speaker, from the battlefield to the home fields, our National Guard—America's patriots—exemplifies sacrifice and commitment to duty.

I urge my colleagues to vote for Guardians for Freedom Act of 2010—so that we may respectfully and gratefully fulfill our duty to support the original intent of our Constitution for each state to maintain an organized militia with integrity—and, effectively support and acknowledge the great sacrifice so many willingly make for all of us.

TRIBUTE TO ATHENS-CLARKE
COUNTY, GA AND THE NAVY
SUPPLY CORPS SCHOOL

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the exceptional partnership that has thrived for 57 years between the community of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia, and the Navy Supply Corps School (NSCS).

For more than half a century, America's Supply Corps officers have viewed Athens as the birthplace of their careers. Before the school cast anchor in the southern college town of Athens, the institution resided in numerous locations, including Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and Harvard University.

On June 4, 1953, the United States Navy purchased 58 acres of land in the Oglethorpe Historic District of Athens. The beautiful property held a rich history of education. Dating back to the 1860's, the property served as campus to Georgia University High School, the Confederate Military School, the School for Disabled Confederate Veterans, the University of Georgia's College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts, the State Normal School, and Coordinate College. Its legacy of education continued with the commissioning of the Navy Supply Corps School on January 15, 1954.

The Athens community had established a rapport with the U.S. Navy prior to the school's arrival. During World War II, Athens was home to one of only five naval preflight schools in the nation. For the past 57 years, the residents of Athens-Clarke County have enjoyed a wonderful relationship with NSCS. They have also benefitted from the quality of students who studied there and retired officers who have settled in the Athens area. Since 1954, NSCS has launched more than 89,000 officers into successful careers, and on October 29, 2010, approximately 81 more officers will graduate, the final class to complete their studies in Athens. This storied institution has remained in "The Classic City" longer than any other location, making Athens truly the "Cradle of the Supply Corps."

As the Navy Supply Corps School prepares to set sail for a new facility in Newport, Rhode Island, the Athens campus will continue in its heritage of higher learning by serving as home to the University of Georgia and Georgia Health Sciences University's new medical school.

Madam Speaker, I honor the Navy Supply Corps School for the tremendous service it has provided, not only to the community, but for the entire nation. I applaud the exceptional partnership that has existed over the last 57 years among the Navy school and Athens-Clarke County, Georgia.

CONGRATULATING LEO P.
VERGNETTI ON BEING RECOGNIZED BY THE COLUMBUS DAY
ASSOCIATION OF LACKAWANNA
COUNTY AS MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Leo P. Vergnetti, this year's recipient of the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County's "Man of the Year" award.

Mr. Vergnetti will be honored at the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County's 102nd annual banquet in Dickson City, Pennsylvania on October 10, 2010.

Mr. Vergnetti is a native of Scranton, Pennsylvania. He is the son of Anthony and Angeline Vergnetti.

Since 1972 he has owned and operated LPV Enterprises, Inc., the sole food and beverage vendor in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport.

Since 1994, Mr. Vergnetti has been President of Vergnetti Consulting, Inc. He is also an agent with Northeast Insurance and Financial Consultants.

Throughout this career, Mr. Vergnetti has been dedicated to helping individuals suffering from drug and alcohol abuse and addiction. Since 1994 he has served as an Aftercare Coordinator and Counselor at Clear Brook, Inc., helping to organize intervention services and support groups with schools, churches and other community organizations.

He also serves as a liaison with the Lackawanna County Treatment Court, and has

served on the Medical and Legal Advisory Board of the Pennsylvania Drug and Alcohol Commission for the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office.

In addition to his dedicated work with drug and alcohol addiction support services, Mr. Vergnetti has generously donated his time to numerous community and public service organizations throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania.

He has served on the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society Ball of Hope, the Northeast Theater Group, the Arts and Cultural Commission of Lackawanna County, the Lackawanna County Council on Transportation, and the Lackawanna County Council on Economic Development.

Mr. Vergnetti currently resides in Scranton. He has nine children, fifteen grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Leo P. Vergnetti as the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County's Man of the Year. Throughout his career he has been dedicated to improving the quality of life in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

HONORING MRS. MARIE BOUCHER

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Marie Boucher and to celebrate her 101st birthday.

Marie moved to Greenville, Maine with her husband Auguste Boucher in 1951, and she has been the oldest citizen of Greenville since 2006. She is a proud mother and grandmother with eight children, twenty-eight grandchildren, fifty-one great-grandchildren and nine great-great-grandchildren.

Marie is well known throughout Greenville for her gracious hospitality and prowess in the kitchen. She not only cooked for her large family, but also made sure the woodsmen who worked with her husband were well fed after their long days in the Maine woods. For several years, she took her cooking skills to the kitchen at the Log Cabin Restaurant, and Marie has remained active in her community throughout her life as a long time parishioner of Holy Family Church.

As an exemplary member of the Greenville community, Marie is an asset not only for her town but also her state, and she celebrates her birthday surrounded by family and friends.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Marie Boucher for her contributions and in celebrating her birthday.

BIRTH DEFECT PREVENTION, RISK
REDUCTION, AND AWARENESS ACT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, one out of every 33 babies born in our country suffers