

Schatzman and his wife, Stefanie, sponsored a child for the summer program last year. Schatzman has been involved in PAL Scouts, served on the board of directors and helped with the after-school reading program.

"We know kids are receiving wholesome programs and great contact with police officers that will be key to their choosing a positive path to being good citizens," Schatzman said.

Planting seeds, executive director Melissa Byers said, is what PAL is all about. Its mission is crime prevention through athletics, education and recreation.

"We offer young people opportunities to enrich their self-esteem and team-building skills in a structured, nonthreatening environment," she said. The idea is to keep kids busy between the peak hours of youth violence and crime between 3 and 9 p.m.

Programs include daily fitness, art, drama, soccer, tennis, games, movies and homework time. Character development focuses on issues like gang involvement, making choices, stranger danger, bullying prevention and goal setting.

A new emphasis is being placed on health and the environment.

"We are planting an organic garden behind the facility and putting more focus on healthy eating," Byers said.

PAL works with disadvantaged youths, but children from all walks of life are welcome. Scholarships are offered.

More than 300 children each year get involved with PAL through a truancy intervention program. Officers pick up youngsters skipping school and wandering the streets. The students are brought to PAL's facility. They get help with ways to increase school attendance, improve their grades and find out what else they need to be successful. Often they are referred to outside services for help. That may mean counseling, drug treatment or school-based services.

"This is a much more productive use of their days," Byers said. The issues range from skipping school and low academics to homelessness and substance abuse.

Success is measurable.

"Over 60 percent of these students show improved attendance as a result of this intervention," Byers said.

"Our St. Pete PAL has kept kids on the right path for 50 years; and if that isn't important, I don't know what is," said Schatzman. "The kids of PAL will make St. Petersburg's future bright."

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF BARBARA BARKER UPON HER RETIREMENT AS DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF OHIO'S FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OFFICES

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding public servant from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. My District Director, Barbara Barker of Antwerp, Ohio will be retiring following Twenty-One years of service to Ohio's Fifth Congressional District Offices.

Barbara Barker began her service to Ohio's Fifth Congressional District as a Staff Assistant to the late Congressman Paul E. Gillmor.

Barbara was soon promoted to serve in various capacities under Congressman Gillmor, being selected to serve as District Representative, Senior District Representative, and then lastly as District Director during her tenure. Following the vacancy left by the late Congressman Gillmor, Barbara's professionalism as a manager of congressional district operations made her a natural choice to assume the same role in my district offices. I have found Barbara to be a dedicated public servant, who has not only managed the day to day functions of my district offices, but has demonstrated that she made the well-being of the constituents of Ohio's Fifth Congressional District the hallmark of her career with the United States House of Representatives.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Barbara Barker for her role in my district offices. Our communities have undoubtedly benefited from her years of faithful service. We wish Barbara Barker all of the best upon her retirement as District Director of Ohio's Fifth Congressional District Offices.

HONORING UNITED STATES MILITARY WHO SERVED DURING THE KOREAN WAR

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women of the United States Military who served our nation with honor and dignity during the Korean War. I would like to particularly note the service of Connecticut's veterans who served during that conflict.

On June 25, 1950, soldiers from North Korea invaded South Korea and within days quickly secured the South Korean capital of Seoul. Only two days later, on June 27, President Harry Truman ordered the U.S. military to give the South Korean Government troops cover and support. Less than three months later, on September 15, 1950, United States forces under the command of General Douglas MacArthur successfully invaded Incheon stunning the North Korean military. Over the following years, a series of battles were fought between North Korean and South Korean forces aided primarily by U.S. forces as well as those from some twenty countries. Tragically, some 37,000 members of the U.S. Armed Forces lost their lives fighting in the Korean War and sadly their sacrifices have in some circles been forgotten or marginalized over time. We must never allow this to happen to those men and women who have served and given so much in defense of our freedom, and that is why I stand here today in the House of Representatives to honor them.

In my home state of Connecticut, thousands of men and women answered the call of duty and many of those gave the ultimate sacrifice. This week, in the town of East Lyme, veterans, family members and local citizens will join together to honor the service of the men and women who served in the Korean War. I would like to particularly thank Joyce Harris,

President of the East Lyme Veterans Council for her efforts to put this event together and all those veterans who will be in attendance for this event. We owe these men and women our respect and our thanks, and we must honor the commitments that have been made to these veterans and their families. I ask that all members of the House join me in that effort.

A BILL TO DESIGNATE THE FACILITY OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE LOCATED AT 3270 FIRESTONE BOULEVARD IN SOUTH GATE, CALIFORNIA AS THE "HENRY C. GONZALEZ POST OFFICE BUILDING"

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I am proud today to introduce a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3270 Firestone Boulevard in South Gate, California as the "Henry C. Gonzalez Post Office Building."

Henry Gonzalez currently serves as a Councilmember for the City of South Gate, where he has proudly served for over two decades, beginning in 1982 when he became the first Latino elected to the City Council. He continued to make history as the City's first Latino Mayor just a year later, a role he has assumed several times during his 23 years in elected office.

In addition to his government service, Henry Gonzalez is a pillar of the South Gate community. He is an avid supporter of South Gate youth sports—having founded the South Gate High School Booster Club and the South Gate Youth Football league—and he has served as a board member for countless national and local organizations.

He is a much-loved and respected community leader. In light of his great service to our community, it is fitting that we name this post office in his honor.

Henry Gonzalez has given much of himself to better the city of South Gate. A post office named in his honor will remind us of what true civic commitment is and will inspire us all in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF CORNELIUS JOHN GROVES

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. CARDOZA. Madam Speaker, it is with the greatest respect and admiration that I rise today to honor Cornelius John "C.J." Groves. C.J. is not only an engaged member of our community in Merced County, California, but a respected and influential educator.

C.J. Groves was born in Casper, Wyoming on May 26, 1920. His family moved in 1924 to Petaluma, California, where they settled. He

attended local public schools and graduated in mid-year from Petaluma High School in 1938. After graduation, he enrolled at San Jose State, but was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1941 during his junior year. While in the service, he boxed as a light heavyweight and won all the tournaments that he entered. He retired undefeated. His ability to articulate made him an obvious candidate for Officers Candidate School where he graduated as a second lieutenant and was assigned to the Medical Administrative Corps. He was then sent to the Philippines for active duty. After the war ended, he was shipped to Japan until March 1946. He was discharged as a first lieutenant and ended his military career as a captain in the reserve.

After the service, C.J. continued his studies at San Jose State and graduated in June 1947 with a degree in English and a minor in history. He then attended Stanford University, where he completed the credential program. He began teaching at Merced High School in 1948. He continued his own education during his career and ultimately received a masters degree from Chapman University. In 1958, he helped open the new campus for Atwater High School as Vice Principal and Dean of Boys. He served in that capacity until 1974 when he was named Principal of Atwater High School. He continued to lead the school with distinction until 1981 when he retired.

His commitment to education has garnered the life-long respect and admiration of the countless students who were fortunate to have gone to both Atwater and Merced High Schools during his long tenure with the Merced Union High School District. His distinguished career in education has also been a source of inspiration and encouragement to all of those who have served with him as faculty and staff.

C.J. currently resides in Merced, where he has enjoyed his retirement years. He was an active member of his duck club for many years, a member of the Elks, and is a 32nd degree Mason. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor and privilege to join my community in honoring Mr. C.J. Groves on his 90th birthday.

HONORING DEANNA ESPINA

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Deanna Espina, who has managed the San Lorenzo School District's Indian Education Program for over 35 years.

Deanna is an enrolled member of the Yakama Nation in Washington State. Her tribal name is "Speelyi," which means "Coyote." Deanna and her husband, Joe, have been married for 56 years; their four children all graduated from San Lorenzo High School.

Deanna's career at the San Lorenzo School District began in 1974, the first year of the Title IV Indian Education Program. More than 35,000 students have attended Deanna's presentations at the Native American Museum during her three decades of managing the program.

Deanna's achievements and honors are numerous. She is the founding member of the Bay Area Indian Education Council; was recognized as Administrator of the Year by the National Indian Education Association; received Distinguished Educator of the Year for Indian Education from the State of California; received Indian Education Showcase Award from the U.S. Department of Education for one of the best Indian Education Programs in the country; and received the Honored Elder Award from the California Indian Education Conference. The San Lorenzo School District's Indian Education Program has received commendations from the Alameda County Superintendent of Schools, The California Congress of Parents, Teachers and Students and a Congressional Record tribute on the 25th anniversary of the Titled Indian Education Programs.

Additionally, Deanna is one of the first Native American women elected to the National Board of the YWCA. She is a member of the California Teachers Association, National Education Association, and the Association of California School Administrators. She is also a founding member of the Oakland Museum's Cultural and Ethnic Affairs Guild.

Deanna's leadership and vision have allowed Native American programs to thrive throughout Alameda County. Her commitment has raised the community's awareness of the history and richness of Native American culture. I join many others in thanking Deanna Espina for her exemplary contributions to our community.

IN HONOR OF FIRST STATE
BALLET THEATRE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize First State Ballet Theatre as they celebrate their 10th anniversary. Over the past decade, First State Ballet Theatre has become a staple in and around the Delaware arts community, one that currently holds the distinction of being the only professional ballet company in our state.

Since its establishment, First State Ballet Theatre has brought the beauty and excitement of live ballet to Delaware, and in doing so has served more than 7,000 school children through in-theatre lecture demonstrations and classes. The company has made the city of Wilmington a tourist destination for ballet enthusiasts, commissioning major works from internationally recognized choreographers and drawing patrons from throughout the mid-Atlantic region—from Richmond, Virginia, to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to New York City and Rhode Island. The collaborations that First State Ballet Theatre has initiated with Delaware artists and arts institutions like Charles Parks, SPARX, the Delaware Symphony Orchestra, OperaDelaware, and the Grand Opera House, have served to enrich our state's arts programs and we in Delaware are extremely grateful for their contributions.

In addition to regional and local achievements, First State Ballet Theatre has also made a significant impact on the international stage. Its students have been ranked among the top 12 young dancers in the world by distinguished judges at the Youth America Grand Prix—the world's largest ballet competition for pre-professional dancers. The company founded and presented four Arabesque international festivals of classical and contemporary ballet, attracting guest artists from around the globe to the main stage of the Wilmington Grand Opera House. In 2007, First State Ballet Theatre students performed by special invitation at the Spoleto Festival dei Due Mondi in Spoleto, Italy—a prestigious international ballet festival—and were the only Delaware performing arts company to receive such an honor.

In recognition of their 10th anniversary, I would like to congratulate and honor First State Ballet Theatre for the extraordinary amount of effort and dedication the company has invested not only in its students, but in the greater arts community of Delaware. I commend them for their continued efforts and numerous contributions, and I wish them all the best on this momentous occasion.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL THAT
PROHIBITS THE CLOSURE OF
THE COMMISSARY AND EX-
CHANGE PROGRAMS AT NAVAL
AIR STATION BRUNSWICK

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to be introducing a bill that prohibits the closure of the commissary and exchange programs at Naval Air Station Brunswick in my home State of Maine.

Unfortunately, before I was a Member of Congress, Naval Air Station Brunswick was selected for closure during the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure process. We are saddened to see the base close and so many active duty members, who have made Maine their home transfer to Jacksonville, Florida. However, a significant active duty population will remain whose mission still requires them to be stationed in the midcoast area. These units include Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion and Repair, which is a field activity of Naval Sea Systems Command located in Bath, 1st Battalion, 25th Marines located in Topsham, and units of the Maine Army National Guard that will soon construct a joint reserve center at Naval Air Station Brunswick. Additionally, there are thousands of military retirees who depend on this fundamental part of their pay and benefits package.

Military families count on the commissary and exchange programs to deliver costs savings. Access to these programs is not a fringe benefit, but a critical part of the pay package we have promised the men and women who serve.

The fact that Brunswick has been selected for closure is no excuse for these men and women to go without the same programs their counterparts across the globe depend on.