

Mr. Algert has spent much of his life on the coast and in the City of Morro Bay. He grew up in Fallbrook, California and came to Morro Bay from the City of Eureka. Prior to that he lived in the City of Santa Barbara, where he attended the University of California and received a degree in Business. Rick and his wife Nancy have three children; Bridgett, Paul and Jamie.

Mr. Algert is deeply familiar with the workings of Morro Bay. He has been involved with almost every essential aspect of the Harbor's functioning over the last two decades. He was responsible for developing and implementing several major projects in the Harbor, including the reconstruction of the South T-Pier, rebuilding the Beach Street slips, dredging the City Mooring area, the North T-Pier re-decking project, and the Fisherman's Gear Storage building.

Mr. Algert has also been the voice of the Harbor and has been its tireless advocate at the local, state and federal levels. He has been instrumental in keeping the City Council abreast of important issues like economic development and federal dredging dollars. And he was a consistent advocate for our local fishing families, representing their views at meetings throughout the country. Finally, he maintained a balanced budget and aimed to provide the highest level of service and efficiency from the Harbor Department and Harbor Patrol, and he did so with no revenue derived from taxes, which stands as a testament to his skill as a public servant.

I commend Mr. Algert's gift of talent, passion, and his devotion to service. His work has been central to helping our waterfront communities flourish in difficult times. I feel deeply honored to share this community with Rick Algert and I have seen first hand the effect of his work on Morro Bay. I wish him much happiness and much deserved relaxation in retirement, knowing fully that he will remain deeply connected to our community, its businesses, Harbor tenants and boat owners.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF ADDISON, ILLINOIS

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the incorporation of Addison, Illinois, in the heart of my Congressional District.

In 1883, the Village of Addison was settled by Hezekiah Dunklee and Mason Smith. In 1884, Addison was incorporated, and Henry Buchholz became its first Mayor. The election had a modest turnout, with only 28 votes being cast.

In the years since its humble founding, Addison has become a center of culture and commerce, serving as a home to businesses, professionals, churches and organizations that have made this a vibrant and thriving community. Over the years, Addison has developed a well-deserved reputation as an enjoyable place to live, work and raise a family.

On the occasion of this 125th anniversary, we join together to celebrate Addison's legacy of growth and prosperity, and to look ahead to the opportunities the future holds for our local community and our Nation. Today both marks 125 years of working together to build a brighter future, and reminds us that our work continues.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me on this special occasion in offering well wishes and happiness to Addison Village President Larry Hartwig, the Village Board of Trustees and all the citizens of Addison.

KUWAIT AND GULF LINK
TRANSPORT COMPANY (KGL)

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, as you know, the issue of negligence by Kuwait and Gulf Link Transport Company (KGL) was brought to my attention by the family of the late Colonel Dominic (Rocky) Baragona. The tragic death of Lieutenant Colonel Dominic Baragona, Jr., occurred on May 19, 2003 on a road in Iraq. His death was caused by the simple, avoidable negligence of a tractor trailer truck owned by KGL, the predecessor company to an enormous group of international Kuwaiti companies, which have and continue to perform large U.S. government contracts potentially worth billions of U.S. dollars and with a vital mission. KGL's tractor trailer careened across three lanes of a highway in the middle of a clear, sunny day and destroyed the Humvee in which Colonel Baragona was riding. At the time of his death, Colonel Baragona had served honorably during Operation Iraqi Freedom and was on his way home to his family. KGL's subsequent conduct in the case brought against them led the Honorable William Duffey, Jr., the U.S. federal judge hearing the case, to write the following in his decision on the case:

"[A]s the Court communicated to the parties in the December 2008 hearing, KGL's conduct in this case was indignant and callous. KGL derived substantial revenue from its contracts with the United States Army. KGL and other Kuwaitis received unquantifiable benefits from the protection the United States Armed Forces have provided to Kuwait for over fifteen years. For KGL to then turn a blind eye to the death caused by a KGL employee of a United States service member, who was on duty protecting the region at the time of the incident, is an affront to the solemn sacrifices service members such as Lt. Col. Baragona honorably provided to Iraq and the citizens of other countries in the Middle East region. KGL took this callousness even further by causing Plaintiffs to expend nearly four years and significant expense in merely getting the question of jurisdiction before the Court. The Court implored KGL to work with Plaintiffs to fashion a just resolution in this case, but this request was ignored."

I agree. The Baragonas commenced litigation, established a prima facie case of in personam jurisdiction over KGL and endured

the personal rigors of the litigation. This burden includes giving testimony during a damages hearing, only to discover that KGL's apparent strategy was to cause the Baragona family to expend their resources for years. This despite the fact that KGL intended to challenge the judgment after it issued in the same court that KGL assiduously ignored during the years of litigation and several notices of the court case and its proceedings. The emotional burden borne by the family of the deceased serviceman was very high; the long years of litigation over their son's death in combination with the sudden entry of the defendant and the challenge to the judgment is not a cost that should be ignored or encouraged.

In the course of the Baragonas' quest for justice against KGL, the family gathered evidence from credible news reports and other sources that KGL has a subsidiary, Combined Shipping Company, which is a partner with ValFajr Shipping Company, a subsidiary of Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines ("IRISL"), a company banned by the U.S. Treasury and now the named subject of the recently announced U.N. sanctions on Iran. We do not have any evidence that KGL's subsidiary has participated with IRISL in sending explosives into Iraq to kill US service personnel. However, it is often true that proliferators of Iranian WMDs, like IRISL, are directed by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, which also controls the Iranian funding, training and provisioning of the insurgents in Iraq who have been killing and wounding U.S. service personnel with Iranian-manufactured explosives over the past several years. No U.S. government contractor, or any member of its corporate family doing any business with Iranian companies blacklisted by the U.N. and the U.S. Treasury, should be considered "responsible corporate parties" as defined by the Federal Acquisition Regulations. This section will force KGL and all U.S. contractors to decide whether they will support Iran or the U.S., and the Congress will closely monitor the enforcement of this section.

Treasury Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Stuart Levey recently submitted written testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on "Iran Policy in the Aftermath of U.N. Sanctions". In this testimony he stated: "[w]e also took action under 13382 to prevent IRISL from carrying out activities to evade sanctions . . . Since we designated IRISL for sanctions in 2008, it has desperately attempted to evade those sanctions, setting up new front companies and renaming and even repainting ships to hide their true ownership."

Importantly, this section finally permits the Procurement Fraud Debarment Branch of the U.S. Army to take action against KGL. The Baragona family notified the Army of these facts on April 29, 2010. On June 11, 2010 the Army sent a letter to the counsel for the Baragonas to notify them of the Army's receipt of the information but no action has yet been taken. I would appreciate this body's interest and support in compelling the Army to move to debar KGL as a result of its ties to Iranian proliferators of weapons of mass destruction. For the above reasons, this miscarriage of justice and threat to our national security cannot be allowed to continue.

A TRIBUTE TO BEL BRANDS USA

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bel Brands USA and its Leitchfield plant located in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. This month, Bel Brands USA, which specializes in the creation and production of quality cheeses, is celebrating its 40th Anniversary.

In 1970 the company established a plant in Leitchfield, KY., and has been manufacturing quality cheese products ever since. Bel Brands USA's Leitchfield facility is a prominent employer in Grayson County and is expected to produce 33,800,000 pounds of cheese this year.

The plant has grown exponentially since its establishment 40 years ago. Currently, the plant employs 370 individuals between two production departments and covers an area of almost 190,000 square feet.

Bel Brands USA and its Leitchfield facility have remained committed to hard work and creativity. With 25 production sites worldwide, Bel Brands USA promotes their core values in the workplace and throughout the community. Ethics, innovation, competence, cohesion and enthusiasm have contributed to the company's many accomplishments.

The entire Grayson County community is grateful for Bel Brands USA's continued presence, support and generosity.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the employees of Bel Brands USA. I am proud to represent them here in Washington and look forward to their continued success.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
MR. AND MRS. SGRO**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Albert and Vera Sgro as they celebrate their platinum wedding anniversary on June 29, 2010.

Seventy years of marriage is a truly remarkable accomplishment; in this time they have raised two sons, been grandparents to four children and now have four great-grandchildren. Except for eight years on a farm in Medina, Mr. and Mrs. Sgro have always lived in Cleveland. Mr. Sgro's parents emigrated from Italy and Mrs. Sgro's ancestors hail from Bohemia. They attended Cleveland schools, met at a dance, and have been inseparable ever since. They continue to be the hearts and souls of their family and remain active in the lives of their children, David and his wife Louise, Jerry and his wife Heather; their grandchildren, David, Shelly, Max and Anthony; and their great-grandchildren, Brittney, Jeremy, Alex and Nicholas.

Mr. and Mrs. Sgro live life with great energy, enthusiasm and joy. They are kind, generous, outgoing and have a great sense of humor.

Like any couple of seventy years they also share many interests: gardening, traveling and reading to name a few. Every year, Mr. and Mrs. Sgro grow enough fresh vegetables and flowers for themselves, their children, friends and neighbors. Mrs. Sgro is an excellent cook and baker; she is well known locally for her pies—especially her rhubarb pie, which she makes with rhubarb straight from their garden.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring, recognizing and celebrating Albert and Vera Sgro as they reach their platinum wedding anniversary. Their ongoing love for each other, and for their family and friends, acts as a beacon of hope. I wish Mr. and Mrs. Sgro continuing health, happiness and peace.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION
AND LEADERSHIP OF DR. SALLY
RIDE**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the amazing accomplishments and life-long dedication of Dr. Sally Ride on the anniversary of the 1983 *Challenger* journey that established her as the first American woman to travel into space. Since that journey, Dr. Ride, a distinguished educator and scientist, has dedicated her life to improving science education.

Dr. Ride received her bachelor's degree, Master's and PhD in Physics from Stanford University. In the Stanford University paper, she saw an advertisement that NASA was seeking astronauts. Out of thousands of applicants, she was one of 35 candidates chosen for the space program. On June 18, 1983, Dr. Ride joined the crew aboard the space shuttle *Challenger* and, twenty-seven years ago on this date, became the first American woman to travel into space. After two journeys to space, she was preparing for her third mission when the *Challenger* exploded in 1986. Dr. Ride continued to work with NASA by serving as a member of the Presidential Committee investigating the *Challenger* accident, and went on to serve as Special Assistant to the Administrator for long-range planning at NASA headquarters.

Dr. Ride continued her life-long commitment to promoting the fields of science, math, and technology, especially among young women by founding the Sally Ride Science Company in 2001. Dr. Ride wanted to share her passion and encourage young women to pursue careers in these fields. The company creates school programs and educational materials aimed at engaging young people's interest in these fields and changing society's perceptions of women in the math, science, and technology workforce.

Madam Speaker, Central Florida is so proud of the space program and we recognize that its success would not be possible without the dedication of Dr. Ride. As a member of the Science and Technology committee, I have great respect and admiration for her contributions, not only to the space program, but also

her work to motivate young people's interest in science. While Dr. Ride will always be known as the first American woman to travel into space, her commitment to advancing the education of future generations of young women ensure there will be many to follow.

NASA'S CONSTELLATION
PROGRAM**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I remain very concerned about the direction of our Nation's space agency under the Obama plan. This Administration has made the surprisingly drastic decision to cancel NASA's follow-on to, the space shuttle, the Constellation program. Constellation would provide the means to service and use the International Space Station, and once again explore beyond low earth orbit.

Canceling the Constellation program threatens our country with the potential loss of tens of thousands of highly-skilled and well-paid jobs. As important as jobs are right now, by canceling Constellation we stand to lose more than just jobs. We are losing American know-how and expertise. The NASA contractor team is a national asset, one that would be difficult and costly to duplicate.

Next year with the retirement of the Space Shuttle, the U.S. will have no way to launch anyone into space. American astronauts and our international partners will have to hitch rides on Russian spacecraft, launched from a Russian base, to get into low earth orbit and visit the International Space Station. I do not think this is the best plan to maintain American preeminence in space.

I have fought hard here in Congress to defend NASA's budget so that they can perform meaningful work. Yet there seems to be a disturbing trend at NASA where priorities are shifted away from what I think should be their top goal—manned space exploration. Rather than focus on the vital elements necessary to maintain American leadership in space, the Obama administration and NASA are distracted with programs that seem to spend money on anything but human space flight.

Last week, the administration came forward with a request to transfer \$100 million out of NASA's already limited human space flight budget and give it to the Department of Commerce and the Department of Labor to fund an Interagency task force to spur "regional economic growth and job creation" aimed at helping Florida and other states bracing for job losses associated with the end of the space shuttle program. Our nation's best and brightest engineers and technicians want to be engaged in building rockets and spacecraft. America's space program already generates substantial amounts of regional economic growth. It does not make sense to kill a program that delivered huge returns on investment to create a government program to retrain and retool workers for some possible, undefined jobs in the future.

The announcement the cancellation of the Constellation program in favor of a \$100 million interagency task force, along with several