

Burrage. She is a letter carrier in my home town of Springfield, Massachusetts. Ms. Burrage has recently been honored as the National Association of Letter Carriers' National Humanitarian Award winner, an event I was proud to attend.

The letter carriers employed by the United States Postal Service have the opportunity to positively influence the neighborhoods in which they work. Though the opportunity may present itself daily, not every letter carrier is willing to become a part of the community to which they deliver mail. On the other hand, there are a number of letter carriers that become deeply involved with the people in the communities through which their route takes them. Christine Burrage is one such person.

Christine Burrage delivers mail in a poor, downtrodden neighborhood. She learned Spanish from her patrons in order to interact with them more effectively, and interact she has. Ms. Burrage gives food to those who cannot afford groceries, toys and clothing to children in need, and all manner of relief for victims of fire. The people to whom she delivers mail know that if they have a problem, Christine Burrage will do whatever she can to help.

There are many children along her route whose family life is less than ideal. For these children, and for many adults as well, Ms. Burrage serves as a role model. She reminds the children who follow along with her of the value of an education and the rewards for hard work. She is also willing to take the time to explain the many dangers associated with drugs. Christine Burrage does not only deliver the mail. She also plays the roles of social worker, counselor, and teacher. She has become an indispensable member of the Memorial Square community.

In a time when the people of the United States are searching for heroes to look up to, some need only look down their own street. The real heroes are ordinary people who take the opportunity to do extraordinary acts of kindness. People who are willing to take risks for the welfare of others are a credit to their town, their state, and their country. Christine Burrage is that kind of person and I feel honored and privileged to serve as her representative in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO WILFREDO BENITEZ

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Wilfredo Benitez, an outstanding Puerto Rican athlete, who has been a successful boxer. He was honored on Friday, September 11, at the "Centro Cultural Latino" in my Bronx congressional district.

Mr. Benitez was born in the Bronx, New York, on September 12, 1958. His record speaks volumes about his achievements: 53 wins, 8 losses, 1 draw, 31 knockouts. He has been in the Boxing Hall of Fame in Canastota, New York, since 1996.

On March 6, 1976, at the age of 17, he defeated Antonio Cervantes for the Junior Welterweight title in 15 rounds. He is the youngest in boxing history to capture the World Boxing Association (WBA) title.

On January 14, 1979, he defeated Carlos Palomino for the World Boxing Council (WBC) Welterweight title.

On May 23, 1981, he defeated Maurice Hope by knockout in the 12th round for the Junior Welterweight title.

Through his long dedication and success in boxing, Mr. Benitez has served as a role model for millions of youngsters in the United States and Puerto Rico who, like him, dream of succeeding in the world of sports.

Mr. Speaker I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Wilfredo Benitez for his contributions and dedication to boxing, as well as for serving as a role model for the youth of Puerto Rico and America.

CHAMBER AMBASSADORS SCORE AN ACE AT TEE OFF FOR SUCCESS '98

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, if anyone wants to see the ingenuity of America, the spirit of innovation, or the day-to-day application of the work ethic that has made our nation the envy of the world, there is no need to look further than the members of the Chamber of Commerce. These men and women who provide opportunities for literally millions of Americans, never tire in trying to find new ways to run their own businesses more efficiently.

Next week the Michigan State Chamber of Commerce will hold their Ambassador Conference at Saginaw Valley State University, hosted by the Saginaw Chamber of Commerce. Nearly 200 Chamber members from throughout the state have registered for this conference, more than for any prior conference.

There will be an outstanding program that will provoke and challenge those attending to think more about how to be more successful in business, increasing one's network, balancing work, family and volunteer obligations, expanding sponsorship of Chamber activities, and earning the continued support of existing members. Given the outstanding efforts of the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce in planning this event for the past two years, I am confident that the time spent at this conference will be amply rewarded.

The Chairperson of this event, Jean George, has committed herself to making this event the best one of its kind, and I have every confidence that she will succeed.

Mr. Speaker, the community of business men and women around this country have a great deal of wisdom and real life experiences to share with their colleagues and to share with us. It is my pleasure to welcome the 1998 State Ambassador Conference to Tee Off for Success '98 at Saginaw Valley State University. I look forward to learning from them, and wishing them a most successful event.

REMARKS ON HILL INTERNATIONAL CLAIM AGAINST THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in support of the claim filed by Hill International, Inc. against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. I have been involved in this fight with Hill since they approached Members and Senators for help more than five years ago, and I am dismayed by the refusal of the Saudis to settle their debts with American businesses.

In the late 1970's, the Saudi Royal Commission refused to pay for \$55 million in additional engineering work required on a desalination plant in Yanbu City, Saudi Arabia. A compromise negotiated three years ago by the late Representative Bill Emerson remains unpaid by the Saudis. Saudi Ambassador Bandar is now refusing to admit he ever asked Representative Emerson to help broker the claim. This is unconscionable.

In a recent discussion with Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk, I reiterated Hill International's request for a meeting with Ambassador Bandar and interested Members of Congress. With the expected visit of Crown Prince Abdullah to Washington, DC on September 24th, I would hope Ambassador Bandar would want to avoid an embarrassing situation and arrange our meeting promptly. To continue his present course of action would reflect poorly on our friendly relations with our ally in the Persian Gulf.

Hill International employees about 100 people in Willingboro, New Jersey which I represent. The failure of the Saudis to pay this claim put the jobs of my constituents at risk. I urge a quick resolution on this matter.

IN HONOR OF STEVEN D. JACOBS

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, today Congressman GEORGE BROWN and I rise together to honor a great American, Steven D. Jacobs. I am proud to say that Steven is my constituent, living with his wife, Deborah, in Victorville, California. Important to add, however, is that Steven's tireless and selfless work crosses the boundaries of Congressional districts. As a very active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) since 1981, Steven represents not only the vets in my district but also many of the veterans who live in the Congressional district of my friend and colleague, GEORGE BROWN. However, his service does not end there. As two time All-American Commander, Steven has represented the veterans of the entire State of California. Furthermore, at this year's convention in Modesto, Steven D. Jacobs was elected State Commander for the 1998-1999 year.

Born in Hawthorne, California on October 27, 1949, Steven joined the Marine Corps after graduating from high school in 1967. In April 1968, Steven was sent to Vietnam to

serve with the Marine Air Group 30 in Quang Tri. Upon his return stateside, Steven was stationed at Twentynine Palms, California until he left the service to go to college. Since 1990, Steven has worked for Target Distribution in Fontana, California where he is currently the Planner and Scheduler for the Maintenance Department. Also a family man, Steven and his wife are the proud parents of six children, four girls and two boys, and three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, on October 3d, a reception will be held in Steven's honor in Ontario, California. Since we can not be present for this event, Congressman BROWN and I would like to honor Steven D. Jacobs today. We would ask our colleagues to join us in celebrating the life and great contributions of a great American.

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION OF KCOH, HOUSTON

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, in recognition of KCOH's original owners Dr. John B. Coleman, Judson Robinson, Jr., Travis Gardner, Skipper Lee Fraizer, and General Manager/Owner Michael Petrizzo; and

Whereas, KCOH was the first Black oriented radio station in Texas and has been a source of entertainment to the Houston community since 1952; and

Whereas, within the years of operation, KCOH has evolved from a sun up through sunset broadcaster to a twenty four hour broadcaster, continuing to provide quality programming to the Houston community; and

Whereas, former air personalities Gladys "Gee Gee" Hill, Perry "Deep Throat" Caine and Clifton Smith set a precedence in the broadcasting profession; and

Whereas, the current air personality Michael Harris, having over 20 years of service, along with air personality Wash Allen, continues to abide by the standard of excellence by providing quality programming; and

Whereas, programming like Person to Person with Michael Harris and Confession with Wash Allen provide mediated forums for the community to express itself and discuss pressing issues that affect the individual, community, as well as, the nation.

Now therefore, be it resolved that KCOH is most deserving for any and all applause and commendations for their work in the area of broadcasting and community service to all people and on behalf of the constituents of the Eighteenth Congressional District of Texas, I extend a sincere and hearty congratulations on your 46th Anniversary. Furthermore, I hereby grant Congressional Recognition to KCOH for Broadcasting Excellence and Quality Community Programming.

IN HONOR OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY GOLDEN AGERS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Immaculate Heart of Mary Golden Agers in celebration of their 25th anniversary on September 20, 1998.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Golden Agers Club was founded on September 18, 1973, by a group of parishioners who recognized the need to increase social activities for the senior members of the parish. Eleven charter members, along with Father Frank Bartnikowski, met and chose Helen Skuza as their first president. In 1985, Helen Skuza retired, and Joseph Sommerfelt was elected to serve as the next president.

Traveling is the favorite activity of the group. However, when traveling is not an option, social events prevail. Picnics, bingo and raffles are enjoyed by the group on the holidays as well as manning the Winter and Ice Cream Socials, Tumbola, Maverick, Instant Bingo and the Split Raffle.

Throughout the last 25 years, the Golden Agers have also promoted many philanthropic events. They have made generous contributions to the Friends and Parents of Retarded Children, Inc., the annual fireworks display at Morgana Park and continue to give money and food to the needy of their community during the holidays. The Golden Agers also hold an annual Rummage Sale and Card Party to raise funds to provide scholarships for the eighth grade graduates of Jesus and Mary School.

While organizing and participating in extra-curricular activities, the Golden Agers have never lost touch with their parish or their community. Over the past 25 years they have generously donated their time and their money to better their community. We owe the Golden Agers a sincere "Thank you".

TRIBUTE TO WILFREDO VASQUEZ

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Wilfredo Vasquez, an outstanding Puerto Rican athlete who has been a successful boxer. He was honored on Friday, September 11, at the "Centro Cultural Latino" in my Bronx congressional district.

Mr. Vasquez was born on August 2, 1961 in Bayamón, Puerto Rico. His record speaks volumes about his achievements: 50 wins, 8 losses, 3 draws, 37 knockouts.

On October 3, 1987, he defeated by knockout Chan Yong Park for the Bantamweight title in 10 rounds in the World Boxing Association (WBA). On March 27, 1992, he defeated Raul Perez in 3 rounds for the Junior Featherweight.

On May 18, 1996, he defeated Eloy Rojas by knockout for the Featherweight title. He is the only three-time champion in the same organization.

Through his long dedication and success in boxing, Mr. Vasquez has served as a role model for millions of youngsters in the United States and Puerto Rico who, like him, dream of success in the world of sports.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Wilfredo Vasquez for his contributions and dedication to boxing, as well as for serving as role model for the youth of Puerto Rico and America.

TRIBUTE TO WEST VIRGINIA JOURNALIST ERNIE SALVATORE

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Mr. Ernie Salvatore on his 50th anniversary as a journalist for newspapers serving Huntington, West Virginia.

Mr. Salvatore began his career as a journalist at age 15 taking sports scores over the telephone. A year later, he covered traffic court for the Greenwich Times in Connecticut and served as sports editor for his high school newspaper.

In 1942, Mr. Salvatore joined the U.S. Army and served in World War II. After his discharge as a staff sergeant in 1948, he enrolled at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia where he met his future wife, Joanne Pinckard. Following graduation, Mr. Salvatore worked for the Huntington Advertiser as radio-TV editor until being named sports editor in 1953. After 14 years as sports editor, he became executive sports editor for both the Huntington Advertiser and the Herald-Dispatch. In 1986, Mr. Salvatore retired from the Herald-Dispatch, but continues to submit columns from his home office.

Mr. Salvatore hired the first woman to write about sports at the Advertiser and has many admirers in West Virginia including Bobby Pruett, the Marshall University football coach. "He's an honest person," Pruett said. "He tells it like it is. In all dealings with me he's been very honest, straightforward and he's treated me fairly. I've known him since 1961, . . . and the thing I've learned about Ernie is that he loves Huntington and he loves Marshall University. But even though he has that strong love, he's going to be honest to his profession and honest to his reading public."

He and his wife, who will celebrate their 50th anniversary in January, have raised five children and are the proud grandparents of six grandchildren. I salute Mr. Ernie Salvatore for his tireless dedication to the Huntington community, the State of West Virginia, and his chosen profession.

TRIBUTE TO AKTINA PRODUCTIONS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to AKTINA Productions, a non-profit Greek-Cypriot-American radio program which offers stellar bilingual programming on