where he became part of the official flight crew of, then, General Dwight D. Eisenhower. Mr. Salveron went on to serve as part of the crew for the U.S. Secretaries of Defense and State until his retirement in 1963.

Upon retirement, Mr. Salveron went on to devote his life to volunteer work in the city of Bladensburg, in my home State of Maryland, and to preserving the MacArthur legend. He went on to found the General Douglas MacArthur Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and was commander for 21 years. Mr. Salveron was also active in the Bladensburg promotion committee. He distinguished himself by restoring the Bladensburg Peace Cross Memorial, and establishing the town's Korean and Vietnam memorials. In 1983, he was named outstanding senior citizen by the Prince George's County Maryland Jaycees. His military honors include a bronze star, a purple heart and three Presidential distinguished citations. Mr. Salveron is survived by his wife of 66 years, four children, nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Mr. Salveron dedicated his life to service in both the public and private sector. He was an individual who stood out among his fellow soldiers and showed strength of character during some very difficult times. I join the citizens of Bladensburg in recognizing his commitment to our country, our State, and their great city.

THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DALLAS, TEXAS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 125th anniversary of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas. St. Paul has a rich history of service and contribution to the surrounding community, It is indeed a historical pillar in the city of Dallas that has strengthened its congregation. Throughout St. Paul's 125 years of service, the church has successfully created innovative ministries to assist all segments of the community.

A historical landmark site located in the arts district of Dallas, St. Paul is one of the oldest congregations in the entire D.F.W. Metroplex. St. Paul reaches out to many individuals in our diverse community.

The congregation began as a mission from the Wesley Church in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1873. This great beginning was followed by St. Paul becoming the first African-American Methodist Church to be organized in Dallas by the direction of its first pastor, Rev. H. Boliver in addition, the first church building served as a school to educate the minds of African-American children while serving as a church. The significance of this achievement was that it was the only vehicle to formally educate Dallas African-American children until the city built its first public school for African-Americans in 1884 across the street form the church.

Two years later the Reverend G.W. Richardson organized Samuel Huston College, (presently Huston-Tillotson College, now in Austin, Texas) on February 22, 1876 at Dallas, where its first classes were held in the St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Speaker, this was the beginning of St. Paul's mission to proactively reach out to the community and making the tenets of the Methodist Church active and service-oriented. St. Paul's current pastor, Dr. Henry L. Masters Sr., not only continued that proactive service, but has also been the driving force in increasing membership growth, creating an improved infrastructure and doubling the church staff and budget. Along with this work, new ministries have been developed to feed the homeless, to take inner-city youth to summer camp and to teach pastors business skills.

Mr. Speaker, the work of St. Paul's is innovative, compassionate and much-needed. This has all resulted in a Dallas Community that is much stronger and closer. Therefore, the anniversary of the church means more than just a celebration for its leaders and congregation. It means that countless citizen from all walks of life and backgrounds in the Dallas area are beneficiaries of St. Paul's 125 years of service. I join the many in congratulating St. Paul's on this achievement and also in extending the church the best wishes for another 125 years of successful service.

CHALLENGES FACING IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES AND SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my deep sadness over a tragedy that occurred in my district of Saint Paul, Minnesota. A young mother, Khoua Her, aged 24, is suspected of strangling her three sons and three daughters, ages 5 to 11. When Saint Paul police responded to the 911 call on September 3, they found the six children dead and Khoua Her semiconscious after trying to take her own life. Khoua Her has been charged with six counts of second-degree murder in the deaths of her children: Koua Eai Hang, 11; Samson Hang, 9; Nali Hang, 8; Tang Lung Hang, 7; Aee Hang, 6; and Tang Kee Hang, 5. She is currently under psychiatric evaluation to gauge her mental competence at the time of the slaying and ability to stand trial.

This is an occasion not only to mourn, but to reflect. I certainly do not excuse these horrific actions and am confident that law enforcement officials in Saint Paul are taking the steps necessary to investigate this case. This chilling incident does shed some light on special problems and significant challenges facing our Minnesota community.

Recent press accounts highlight a 1995 study conducted by the University of South Carolina profiling mothers who have taken the lives of their own children. The study cites that 8 in 10 were mentally ill or had a low intelligence quotient. They also share what mental health professionals call ''life stressors,'' such as poverty, many children, limited education and low-paying jobs. This incident is just one of many recent examples demonstrating the need to make social services more accessible, particularly in the area of mental health. The federal government has a responsibility to provide leadership in making mental health services more accessible to the public. Congress must continue to demonstrate its commitment to mental health by supporting legislation and programs that treat mental health problems as seriously as physical ailments and also provide a seamless safety net which catches parents with such problems, placing their children at grave risk.

Cultural isolation is another factor social service experts cite as a factor leading to crimes of desperation. This incident brings to light the problems new Americans face as they try to integrate into our communities. Too often due to cultural conflicts, social service agencies have a difficult challenge effectively reaching out to new immigrants. This is particularly true with the new Southeast Asian community in such places as Minnesota. Many came to the United States after fleeing their ravaged villages and living in refugee camps as a result of the Vietnam War. Now in the United States, many Southeast Asians are fractured families dealing not only with the mental scars associated with war, they are also trying to break the cycle of dependency and cope with the breakdown of the traditional extended family structures.

The City of Saint Paul has in recent years become the home to the third largest population of new Southeast Asian refugees in the nation. Our community has been both blessed and challenged by this sudden demographic change. Today, Southeast Asians compose 30% of the students in Saint Paul's public schools. Although many of these students are succeeding academically and holding leadership positions in their classes, the integration of the Southeast Asian community has been uneven. A popular radio station in my area recently broadcast some remarks about the Hmong community that were both culturally demeaning and racist in nature. Such messages of intolerance not only serve to alienate new members of our community, they are bad for the psyche of our nation and tear at the fabric of our society. This tragic loss of life is certainly not solely the result of ethnic intolerance, but certainly needs to be a recognition that harsh ridicule and insults leave such a minority feeling isolated and desperate. As a nation of immigrants it would be my hope that we will greet new Americans with the openness and hospitable responses extended to many of our grandparents and families.

The City of Saint Paul and surrounding communities are greatly shaken and concerned by this tragedy. Our state and communities have been pro-active reaching out to these new Americans, but it is evident that more must be done and that Minnesotans are painfully aware of the challenge. Hundreds of mourners have gathered to pay their respects to these six innocent children. My deep sorrow is mixed with new hope that tragedies of this magnitude can be prevented as we all work together to reach out and address the problems in our communities.

NATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD FOR CHRISTINE BURRAGE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the actions of a spectacular humanitarian, Christine

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