

honor is well deserved by Mr. Pitts for his success and influence in the insurance industry, his outstanding contributions to the Memphis community, and his truly exemplary life.

Over 50 years ago, Mr. Pitts co-founded Lipscomb & Pitts Insurance which has grown to become the largest locally-owned independent insurance agency, and one of the largest privately-owned, single-site insurance agencies in the United States. Throughout his career, Mr. Pitts has served locally as president of both the Insurers of Tennessee and the Insurers of Memphis, and he has been active nationally as the State National Director of the Independent Insurance Brokers of America and as the president of the Professional Insurance Agents.

With all of these achievements, Mr. Pitts still affirms that the most rewarding experiences of his professional career have been the instances when he has watched employees develop professionally and has had the opportunity to influence the lives of those who work at Lipscomb & Pitts. Mr. Pitts has been instrumental in leading Lipscomb & Pitts to support many community organizations both with financial resources and with employees' volunteered time.

Mr. Pitts is an Eagle Scout and the father and grandfather of Eagle Scouts. He has received numerous awards for the Boy Scouts of America and currently serves as the chairman of the Eagle Board of Review. Mr. Pitts has also been an active life-long member of his church, Faith Christian Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. John Pitts, a man who is a true leader in the insurance industry, the Memphis business community, his local community, and his family on the occasion of his induction into the Tennessee Insurance Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING THE HEROIC EFFORTS OF THE PEOPLE WHO SAVED DEAN OLSON

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 25, 2005, 84-year-old Dean Olson of Montevideo, Minnesota lost control of his pickup truck during a storm, went off the road, and landed approximately 35 feet into the Minnesota River. The vehicle was not visible from the road. Mr. Olson spent over 2 hours trapped in the vehicle, submerged to his shoulders in 40-degree water, after sustaining multiple injuries.

It is our intention today to recognize the compassionate and heroic efforts of three people who saved Mr. Olson's life that day: Mr. Kevin Applewick, Chippewa County Sheriff Deputy Timothy Christensen, and Mr. Robert Pender.

Kevin Applewick discovered the partially submerged truck while searching for a fishing spot. Mr. Applewick could not determine if anyone was in the vehicle. He promptly notified the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Timothy Christensen was dispatched to the scene and arrived at the same time as Robert Pender, who was fishing in the area. By the time of their arrival, Mr. Applewick

thought he had heard low moans coming from the pickup. Mr. Pender and Deputy Christensen immediately waded into the swift current of the near freezing Minnesota River, where they discovered Dean Olson trapped in the vehicle. They notified emergency response personnel, and kept Mr. Olson breathing and prevented him from drowning for 20 minutes while standing in over 4 feet of cold river water until EMS professionals could evacuate him.

Dean Olson, who served his country as a fighter pilot in the Pacific Theater during WWII, remains hospitalized in serious condition at Hennepin County Medical Center.

He and his family are extremely grateful for the extraordinary efforts that sustained Mr. Olson's life.

The extraordinary efforts and exceptional actions of Kevin Applewick, Timothy Christensen, and Robert Pender are hereby recognized and commended.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to business in my district, I was unable to vote during the following rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as indicated below.

Rollcall No. 324: "yes"; rollcall No. 325: "no"; rollcall No. 326: "no"; rollcall No. 327: "yes"; rollcall No. 328: "no"; rollcall No. 329: "no"; rollcall No. 330: "yes"; rollcall No. 331: "yes"; rollcall No. 332: "yes"; rollcall No. 333: "yes"; rollcall No. 334: "no"; rollcall No. 335: "yes."

ACKNOWLEDGING THE PARKER FAMILY FOR THEIR SACRIFICES DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Chas and Effie Parker of Westfield, FL, who had five sons in World War II: Samuel, Leon, John, Lewis, and Chas Jr. Their three daughters, Clea, Nita, and Marquerite, and other son, Alan Parker, remained in the U.S. For their accomplishments the Parkers received a Blue Banner with five blue stars. After the war all five sons returned home safely. They lived out the American dream and made a home, a family and life in the country they loved.

The millions of young Americans, like the Parkers and their sons, pulled the U.S. out of a Great Depression. They defeated fascism and saved the world from the threat of Nazi occupation of Europe. Without their help, America would not have had victory during World War II.

In a letter to the mother of five men who died during the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln wrote, "I feel how fruitless must be any words of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering to you the con-

solation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save."

I thank the Parkers for their sacrifices during World War II, which helped preserve the freedom Americans enjoy. The Parkers are a model American family, a family I am proud to call constituents.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOHN W. IVES

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor today to rise and pay tribute to a great American, Colonel John W. Ives, for his distinguished and exemplary service on behalf of my constituents and a grateful nation.

When Colonel Ives first enlisted as a soldier in 1972, no one could have imagined the events of September 11, 2001 and the war on terrorism that would ensue. And yet in hindsight, Colonel Ives' entire career prepared him to be a leader in our post 9/11 world and to help the Army position itself to face the future.

Colonel Ives was commissioned as a military intelligence officer in 1981 after completing his undergraduate studies in the Business School at the University of Texas, El Paso. Colonel Ives led two platoons in the 125th Military Intelligence Battalion (CEWI), followed by 2 years as the S2 Intelligence Officer with the 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. He later directed a Joint Agency Task Team from the National Photographic Interpretation Center, specializing in North Korean affairs. During his combat tour in Operation Desert Storm, Colonel Ives served as the S3 Operations Officer.

Following his time in Desert Storm, Colonel Ives continued his established career in intelligence by managing sensitive advanced technology programs for the Office of Secretary of Defense. From 1997-1999, he commanded the 532nd Military Intelligence Battalion (Operations) in the Republic of Korea, afterwards being assigned as Director, Imagery Assessments Directorate (IAD) with the National Ground Intelligence Center (NGIC). In June 2002, he assumed command of the Army Garrison at Fort Meade.

A highly decorated individual, Colonel Ives' commitment to American security is evident in the number of awards he has earned. The Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (3rd Oak Leaf Cluster), Joint Staff Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (3rd Oak Leaf Cluster), National Defense Service Medal (2nd Oak Leaf Cluster), Saudi Arabian-Kuwait Liberation Medal, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal are just a few of the many decorations Colonel Ives has achieved. Never one to rest in his accomplishments, Colonel Ives continues to fight for excellence for every soldier and for our nation's Army.

I am proud to represent both Ft. Meade and NSA. As a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I understand the threats our nation faces and fully appreciate the contributions of military intelligence experts like Colonel Ives. I have also had the pleasure of personally knowing Colonel Ives to be a man who cares deeply about his country. He has provided dutiful service as a leader on

the battlefield and an expert in the field of intelligence for over 30 years. Our nation is indebted to leaders like Colonel Ives, who deserve our respect for their unending dedication in providing security for Americans both at home and abroad. Of course, no soldier can be successful without a supportive and understanding family at home. Their service and sacrifice in allowing Colonel Ives to do his work deserves our respect and appreciation as well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Colonel Ives for his decades of tireless service towards the protection of our nation. We wish him and his family well in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO LANCE CORPORAL
RYAN S. MCCABE, UNITED
STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lance Corporal Ryan S. McCabe of the United States Marine Corps for his extraordinary courage and heroism while serving our nation in Afghanistan. On March, 10, 2005, Lance Corporal McCabe was presented with the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Lance Corporal McCabe put himself at grave personal risk to protect the lives of the Marines in his unit. He used a bayonet to navigate his unit through a minefield in Afghanistan. Due to his bravery, Lance Corporal McCabe's patrol leader—who had been wounded by a detonated landmine—received the urgent medical care he needed to survive and recover.

Lance Corporal McCabe has brought great pride to his parents, Stephen and Kathleen, and his hometown of Lowell, Massachusetts. I would like to congratulate Lance Corporal McCabe, and enter into the record a news article titled "V for valor" by reporter Robert Mills which ran in the May 30, 2005 edition of The Lowell Sun.

His patrol leader had already been wounded by a landmine explosion when Lance Cpl. Ryan McCabe, of Lowell, was handed a bayonet and told by his sergeant to start digging his way through the minefield.

McCabe, 22, took his orders without hesitation.

Just minutes before, McCabe and the rest of the six-man patrol he was part of on that mid-August day had started up a hill where they saw a bunker. The patrol leader took the lead, walking up a trail even though the troops saw landmines on the hillside.

Nevertheless, the patrol leader soon detonated an anti-personnel mine, which blew off part of his leg.

The rest of the patrol retreated from the immediate area to avoid setting off any other mines, and began to organize a rescue mission.

That's when McCabe received his orders.

McCabe, who comes from a long line of veterans and Lowell firefighters, got on his hands and knees, and began probing through the minefield, plunging the bayonet into the dirt, searching for mines.

"You feel through the dirt with the bayonet at an angle so if you find a mine you hit it on the side, which won't set it off," he said.

The anti-personnel mines are triggered when they are stepped on, so only direct pressure on top of the mines will cause an explosion.

McCabe was too excited at the time to remember about how far he had to crawl through the minefield, but he eventually got to the lieutenant and secured the area around him which allowed the rest of the patrol, and the medic that was traveling with it, to rescue and treat the group's leader.

In recognition of his efforts, McCabe was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, with a combat V—for valor—earlier this month.

Despite his heroism in Afghanistan, which he returned from in December, McCabe and his unit, Lima Company of the Third Battalion Sixth Marines, will now ship out for duty in Iraq starting in August or September.

He will leave for urban and desert warfare training in California next week, before spending an estimated six to nine months in Iraq.

He said having another deployment so soon is "stressful," but nothing he can't handle.

"It's stressful, but once you get over there it's not too bad" he said. "The first few months are depressing, but you get used to it real quick."

McCabe, who lived in Lowell all his life before joining the Marine Corps, ran cross-country and track while he was a student at Lowell High School.

When his duty with the Marine Corps is finished in about two years, he hopes to return to Lowell to become a firefighter, just as his father, two uncles and grandfather were before him.

McCabe's father, Steve McCabe, of Lowell, is a lieutenant with the Lowell Fire Department's Ladder 4. McCabe's uncle, Patrick McCabe, is one of the department's eight deputy chiefs. His uncle, Bob McCabe, is also a Lowell firefighter, as was his grandfather, Patrick McCabe, who was a deputy chief when he retired from the department in 1984.

He followed in his father's footsteps when he joined the Marines in 2001. His father had served from 1974 to 1976, just missing being sent to Vietnam.

Speaking from his Lowell home last week, Steve McCabe said he is proud of his son, though he naturally worries about him being in such dangerous situations.

"Like any parent that has a son or daughter serving I'm extremely proud, but at the same time I have mixed emotions because like any parent I worry," Steve McCabe said. "I'm nervous about him going to Iraq."

Steve McCabe said that just as he did when his son was in Afghanistan, he will be following closely any reports he can find while his son is in Iraq.

Though his rescue mission in Afghanistan was perilous, McCabe said he didn't realize what he had done until after the lieutenant was saved.

"At the time, the adrenaline was going so much I just wasn't thinking of what was going on," he said from Fort Lejeune, in North Carolina, last week. "It happened so quickly I didn't have time to get nervous."

"Afterward, I realized 'wow, what did I just do?'" McCabe said.

Mr. Speaker, we're blessed to have brave men and women like Lance Corporal Class

Ryan S. McCabe serving our nation. We should never forget the risks they take to preserve our liberty.

TRIBUTE TO MR. GEORGE
RODRIGUEZ

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to a long time friend, Mr. George Rodriguez. "Georgie", as he is affectionately known in my community, will be honored in the Bronx, New York tonight for his outstanding work and unyielding service to the people of the Bronx, NY.

Since he arrived in New York over forty years ago, George has devoted most of his time to fighting the good fight. Serving as an advocate for the disadvantaged, George has helped to curtail the debilitating effects of racism, poverty and disease throughout the Bronx community.

Among George's long list of accomplishments are several projects which have helped to put roofs over the heads of our most vulnerable citizens. He has served as Chairman of the NYC Model Cities Program (a program that provides low income residents and senior citizens with housing), and helped to establish Mins Plaza Housing, OVB Garden Apartments and Borinquen Court housing for seniors. In addition, George has assisted in providing his neighbors with much needed quality healthcare. He was instrumental in the establishment of the New Lincoln Hospital, and the Segunda Ruix Belvis Neighborhood Health Center.

Mr. Speaker, men like George are a rare breed. It is not everyday that you find individuals who are willing to devote their entire lives to uplifting others. His selfless acts of kindness have helped countless Bronxites live better lives. Furthermore, his actions serve as a testimony to the great influence an individual can have when he is determined to bring about change.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly appreciative of the work George has done for residents of the congressional district. As a result of his strong leadership and vision, the Bronx is a better place and as result of his enduring friendship I am a better leader. For his outstanding service to the people of my community, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. George Rodriguez.

MILITARY PERSONNEL FINANCIAL
SERVICES PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 27, 2005

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of Title II of H.R. 458. This provision protects our service men and women from the predatory practices of high cost military lenders. Companies such as Pioneer Financial have demonstrated the need