

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS AND IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of National Peace Corps Week and to congratulate the 7,800 Peace Corp Volunteers—including 31 of my constituents—who are serving their country today in 72 countries around the world.

More than 182,000 Peace Corps Volunteers have served in 138 countries since the organization's inception in 1961. Every year, thousands of selfless volunteers share their time and talents by serving as teachers, business advisors, information technology consultants, health and HIV/AIDS educators, and youth and agriculture workers.

In addition to serving countries around the globe, 272 Peace Corps' Crisis Corps Volunteers were deployed to the Gulf Coast in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. These volunteers assisted the Federal Emergency Management Agency with hurricane response efforts. The deployment of Peace Corps' Volunteers within the United States was a historic first, and a great help in managing this national disaster.

I praise our nation's Peace Corps volunteers who serve their country and the world as humanitarians, devoting themselves to transferring life-changing knowledge and skills to the people of other nations.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the hundreds of thousands of men and women of this nation who have selflessly served abroad as Peace Corps Volunteers. On this 45th Anniversary of the Peace Corps, I am especially proud to represent 31 such volunteers and I offer them my sincere gratitude.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRI CITIES KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 1098

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the Tri Cities Knights of Columbus Council 1098.

In 1906, with an initial enrollment of 58 members, the Tri Cities Knights of Columbus Council 1098 was formed. The first Grand Knight was Mr. E. J. Sweeney and the early meetings were held in a hall in Madison, Illinois before moving to neighboring Granite City.

The years before World War I saw steady growth in membership and the establishment of the Knights of Columbus as a presence within the Tri Cities community. During the Great Depression and World War II, membership dwindled and it was only through the determination of the few dedicated members that the council survived. While most social activities for the members ceased during the war,

the council opened the doors of their facilities for the entertainment of the troops stationed at the Granite City Engineering Depot.

After World War II, membership grew rapidly. During the 1950's a circle of the Daughters of Isabella was established for the wives and daughters of members and a circle of the Columbian Squires was formed to promote youth activities.

Social and athletic activities for members and their families expanded and grew but service and acts of charity continued to be the cornerstones of the council. The first chairman of Catholic Charities in the Tri Cities area was a past Grand Knight and members continued to be driving forces in this organization.

Council 1098 has been a significant supporter of community, charitable and educational organizations. The Council has directly contributed in excess of \$100,000 annually in support of local Catholic education and provided more than \$60,000 in scholarships annually. They have also contributed more than \$15,000 a year to developmentally challenged service organizations.

While they have always focused on helping those within their community, Council 1098 has also extended its helping hands to those in need outside their boundaries. In response to the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina, the Council raised \$50,000 in Katrina Relief and continues to provide on-going support to Brother Knights on the gulf coast.

Tri Cities Knights of Columbus Council 1098 has seen many changes through the last 100 years but they have always stayed true to the Knights of Columbus goals of Charity, Unity and Fraternity.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Tri Cities Knights of Columbus Council 1098 and wish the best to them for continued service in the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE LARRY BLACK, OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues the passing of a Miami native and a sports legend, sprint star Larry Black, who died last Wednesday, February 15, 2006.

Born on July 20, 1951 in Miami, Florida, Larry Black was an athlete of extraordinary ability and striking grace. He didn't run as fast as the wind; he was faster.

While still a student at North Carolina Central University, Larry Black won two medals at the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich. He won a gold medal for running the lead leg of Team USA's winning the 4x400 relay squad, and he also captured the silver medal in the 200 meters event, which he ran in 20.19 seconds.

Larry Black was an 11-time collegiate All-American who won four individual national championships and was a part of 3 national championship relay teams. He won NCAA outdoor titles in 1971 (220-yard) and 1972 (200m), and the NAIA indoor 60-yard dash crown in 1974. Black also set the NAIA Championship meet record in the 200m dash in 1972 (20.0 seconds) to help the Eagles win

the 1972 NAIA Outdoor Track & Field Championship in Billings, Montana. His record still stands today.

As a relay team member, Black won national championships in the 1970 NCAA outdoor 440-yard relay and the 1972 NAIA 4x100m (39.5 seconds) and 4x400m (3:04.8 minutes) relays. Both of these relay times still stand as meet records for hand-timing. For his efforts, he was selected as the 1972 NAIA Championships Herbert B. Marett Outstanding Performer. For the last 10 years, Black has been a personal trainer in Coral Gables.

Larry Black is survived by his wife Cheresse, 4 daughters and 2 grandsons. I know that my colleagues join me in sending to Larry Black's family our deepest condolences for their loss, and in celebrating the life of a man of extraordinary ability who had the discipline and desire to hone his talents so finely that he became the best in the nation and in the world.

HONORING SANDRA MACKINNON COSENZA ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the many family, friends and colleagues who have gathered to honor a very special woman, and my dear friend, Sandra MacKinnon Cosenza, as she celebrates her retirement. After more than thirty-four years of dedicated service, Sandy will be leaving Area Cooperative Education Services, one of six educational service centers that were formed under Connecticut State Statute in 1970. A result of recognizing that school districts must work together to meet the ever-changing needs of local education systems, these centers provide an environment where quality programs can be planned, developed and implemented—giving our young people access to the best educational opportunities possible.

Education is the cornerstone of success and the most critical link between our young people and their futures. Throughout our country, we look to our towns and cities to provide these invaluable skills to our children. That is what ACES is all about and its success would not have been possible without Sandy. As former Executive Director Peter Young recently described, for the first twenty years of its existence, Sandy was the heart of the ACES Personnel office—advertising vacancies, processing applications, providing orientation for new hires and ensuring that staff not only received their benefits but also met their specific needs. Everyone consulted with Sandy and welcomed her advice and suggestions. In addition, she built and improved staff spirit by organizing social events and took special care to provide the Governing Board with all that they needed.

Beyond her administrative skills was her commitment to the students of ACES. Though many of them will never know, Sandy's genuine care and concern for their education both inside and outside the classroom made all the difference in their lives. She began a Jesse tree which allowed staff to contribute clothing