

reaching impacts on the entire State. It is simply an ounce of prevention for a pound of cure.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for considering this important and timely legislation. Studies and history have shown that levees in the Delta are vulnerable to breaks at any moment. We must act now to protect our communities and water supply and this bill does exactly that.

TRIBUTE TO POINT MUGU,
CALIFORNIA

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and pay tribute to Naval Air Station, Point Mugu, California and its 60 years as a premier Navy missile research, development, test, and evaluation center.

Mugu beach is believed to be the site where Juan Cabrillo landed on October 10, 1542. Muwu was the capital village of the Chumash Indians located along the shores of Mugu Lagoon. Most of its early history centers around ranching, farming, and the famous Mugu fish camp.

In 1947, Congress appropriated funds to establish a permanent Navy presence here to develop a site where both missiles and pilotless aircraft could be tested. Since the mid-1940s, Point Mugu has had several Center Names, all with the mission to develop, test, and evaluate missiles and related systems.

Originally, on October 1, 1946, Point Mugu was named the U.S. Naval Air Missile Test Center, followed on August 1, 1949, as the Naval Air Station. On June 16, 1958, it obtained the Pacific Missile Range moniker and on January 7, 1959, it was named the Naval Missile Center. On April 26, 1975, Point Mugu became the Pacific Missile Test Center. On January 21, 1992, it became the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division and Naval Air Weapons Station.

Today it is part of Naval Base Ventura County with the designation Naval Air Station, Point Mugu.

The main base complex at Point Mugu consists of 4,500 acres of support facilities and instrumentation equipment. Point Mugu maintains three runways to support range users and the numerous operational units assigned there.

Additionally, the Sea Range Operational Area comprises a 36,000-square-mile instrumented sea test range that can be expanded to 196,000 square miles. The sea range is supported by a deepwater port located at nearby Port Hueneme, and San Nicolas Island 60 miles off the coast.

Point Mugu is an integral part of the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, NAWCWPNS, the Navy's full spectrum research, development, test evaluation, and in-service engineering center for weapons systems associated with air warfare.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to the military and civilian men and women who, over the course of 60 years, have dedicated themselves to the defense of the United States and have substantially contributed to the security of the United States and our allies.

CONGRATULATING JEEHYUN CHOI

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my congratulations to one of my constituents—Ms. Jeehyun Choi. Jeehyun, a resident of St. Paul, is one of six national winners of the Library of Congress's 2006 Letters about Literature competition. She is one of the two high school-aged winners.

Jeehyun, who will read her letter during the Letters about Literature national awards presentation at the National Book Festival on the National Mall on September 30, 2006, is an 11th grade student at Saint Paul Academy.

Jeehyun addressed her letter to Peter Hedges the author of *What's Eating Gilbert Grape*. In her letter she eloquently expressed her thoughts about the book and her ability to relate to the main character—Gilbert. The letter is a joy to read and will certainly inspire many to enter the world of Gilbert by taking time to read *What's Eating Gilbert Grape*.

I also would like to recognize those who support Letters About Literature—affiliate State centers of the book and Target Stores—a Minnesota company. These kinds of public/private partnerships expand opportunities for our youth and I appreciate their commitments.

Congratulations Jeehyun. It is my hope that you will continue to be inspired by literature and to share your inspiration with others.

TRIBUTE TO ACCESSIBLE ARTS ON
ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity today to pay tribute to Accessible Arts, Inc., of Kansas City, Kansas, during the year in which it celebrates its 25th year of service to children with disabilities.

Accessible Arts values children and the arts; above all, access to the arts for children with disabilities is their core principle. Advocacy, education and collaboration are essential components in accomplishing their objectives. Through the arts, children develop critical thinking skills, take risks in a safe environment and experience successes. The challenge of creating something of value instills hope and self-confidence in children of all ages.

In 1981, Accessible Arts founder and first executive director William Freeman saw the need for an organization to advocate for active participation in the arts for all children, regardless of their ability. The result was the Arts with the Handicapped program of the Kansas State Department of Education, which later became Accessible Arts, Inc.

This unique and innovative program has benefited thousands of children, their teachers and parents. This 25th anniversary of the Accessible Arts program is cause for celebration and appreciation of all who have contributed to its development, and to celebrate Accessible Arts' continuing its important work. I join in paying tribute to this unique and valuable program and wish Accessible Arts many more

years of successful service to children with disabilities and their families.

TRIBUTE TO NEW VERNON
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department, in the Township of Harding, Morris County, New Jersey, a patriotic community that I am proud to represent! On September 30, 2006 the good citizens of Harding Township and the surrounding area will celebrate the New Vernon Fire Department's 85th anniversary at their 54th annual auction.

New Vernon, in the early 20th century, was a small community within Passaic Township with about 300 scattered homes with no electricity or radio. The Postmaster and keeper of the general store owned a large coach with a long seat on each side, which he used to take groups on picnics and other outings. When someone heard of a fire, he hitched his team to the coach and took the available men to the site of the fire. In the absence of a water supply and pumps, the best they could do was to pass buckets of water from hand to hand. Residents were eager for a fire department. The New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department was formally incorporated in 1921 with approximately 21 members along with the Ladies Auxiliary of approximately 35 members.

The all volunteer fire department has never received financial support through taxation. A large portion of the financial support in 1924 came from a carnival fundraiser, dinners and square dances; today, and for the past 54 years, an all-day auction, annual steak and lobster dinners, pancake breakfasts and soup contests have successfully raised a majority of the money needed to support the fire department. These events also are known to be opportunities for town residents to get together.

During the first 50 years of the department's history, the fire department responded to over 1,000 calls. In 1995, along with the First Aid Squad, they responded to more than 400 calls in that year alone.

Today, New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department Chief Ken Noetzli and his 60 volunteer firemen respond within an area that includes over 1,000 homes and a major interstate highway. The number of members has grown from 21 to 60.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department on its 85 years of protecting one of New Jersey's finest municipalities.

A TRIBUTE TO ROMALLUS O.
MURPHY

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen and a person whom I admire greatly, attorney

Romallus O. Murphy of Greensboro, North Carolina. The meaningful accomplishments of Romallus Murphy have affected the lives of many people across the State of North Carolina and across this Nation. On October 14, 2006, this great American will be justly honored by the North Carolina State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, for his many meaningful years of remarkable service. At the Conference they will also announce a fitting tribute, the establishment of an Annual Continuing Legal Education Program bearing the name of Romallus Murphy. The yearly award will assist lawyers in refining their skills and renewing their dedication to honorable, steadfast service which has been the hallmark of his career.

Mr. Speaker, Romallus Murphy served as Chair of the Legal Redress Committee of the North Carolina Conference of the NAACP since the 1960s. Over the last half-century, he and those he has inspired have given invaluable counsel to clients and young lawyers alike who were and still are engaged in dismantling the old walls that have divided people of North Carolina along artificial lines of color and creed.

Romallus Murphy is a native of Houston, Texas. He attended college at Howard University in Washington, DC, and graduated in 1951. He briefly attended the School of Law at Howard University but finished his legal education at the University of North Carolina School of Law in 1956 where he was the only student of color.

Mr. Speaker, Romallus Murphy began his legal career in my home community of Wilson, North Carolina. He was the only African-American attorney in this eastern North Carolina community. As such, he was a role model to countless individuals. I attribute my desire to become a lawyer to the tremendous impression he made upon my young life.

Mr. Speaker, in 1957 the Wilson City Council changed its election procedure to require at-large elections and a provision requiring voters to vote for a full slate. Anything less than a full slate was considered a spoiled ballot. The purpose of these discriminatory changes in election procedure resulted in the Black candidate, Dr. G.K. Butterfield, being defeated.

In 1959, another Black candidate ran for a seat on the City Council but was required to run in the new at-large election system and be subjected to the full slate requirement. The candidate, Reverend Talmage A. Watkins, was soundly defeated and his defeat was directly attributable to the new elections procedure. In response, the community retained Romallus Murphy to bring a voting lawsuit against the City of Wilson. Mr. Murphy litigated the case through the state courts and eventually argued the case before the United States Supreme Court. Though unsuccessful, the case was part of the record that convinced the Congress to enact the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Mr. Speaker, Romallus Murphy served in the United States Air Force and was honorably discharged with the rank of Captain. He was assigned to Shaw Air Force Base, Sumter, South Carolina, Clovis Air Force Base, Clovis, New Mexico, and Japan.

Romallus Murphy served as President of Shaw College in Detroit, Michigan, for several years. He also practiced law in the capital city

of Raleigh, North Carolina, with renowned civil rights lawyer, Samuel Mitchell. He currently practices law in Greensboro, North Carolina, where he serves a community that is appreciative of his work.

In 1987, Romallus Murphy was legal counsel to the North Carolina State Conference of Branches for the NAACP. He was part of the legal team that forced the State of North Carolina to create electoral opportunities for Black lawyers to become Superior Court Judges. His lawsuit was the catalyst that forced the General Assembly to create majority black judicial districts. As a result of this effort, at least eight African-American judges were elected to the Superior Court bench.

Currently, Romallus Murphy is a practicing attorney in Greensboro, North Carolina. He is a member of Genesis Baptist Church. He is married to Gale Bostic Murphy and he has six children: Natalie, Kim, Romallus Jr., Wynette, Verna, and Christian.

Mr. Speaker, placing this tribute into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD is a great personal honor for me. I ask my colleagues to join me and the delegates to the North Carolina Conference in paying tribute to this courageous attorney who has worked to foster and continue our Nation's founding principle—that all men and women are created equal.

IN RECOGNITION OF NASHVILLE'S
SCHERMERHORN SYMPHONY
CENTER

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, Nashville has long been known as Music City. It is famous as the home of the Grand Ole Opry, the best place anywhere to hear the stars of country and bluegrass perform. Nashville is also the place to head if you want to kick back at a lively spot like Tootsie's Orchid Lounge for a night of sad songs and good times.

Now, Nashville has another reason to claim the title of Music City. It is home to a new symphony hall that is being heralded as a world class triumph. According to the Wall Street Journal, "the \$123 million, 1,860-seat concert hall is an architectural and acoustic gem and one of the most successful auditoriums built in a century."

Nashville's new Schermerhorn Symphony Center opened September 9th to great reviews from the media and the community. Praised for its elegant neoclassical design and its superb acoustics, the project also won fans because it was on budget and on time. But Nashville is truly proud of our new hall because it recognizes the extraordinary talent and dedication of a gentleman who led the Nashville Symphony for more than 20 years, Maestro Kenneth Schermerhorn. Under his leadership, the Nashville Symphony was transformed from an orchestra that too often struggled for funding and stability into one now recognized as among the best in the nation. And, equally important, Nashville became a city that celebrates music in all its genres. In keeping with the tone set by Maestro Schermerhorn, the new symphony hall will present performances that showcase music from classical to pops, cabaret, choral, jazz,

and blues and yes, even a country tune or two.

On Saturday, October 7th, the spirit of Maestro Schermerhorn will fill downtown Nashville. On this day, the new symphony hall that bears his name will open its doors to one and all for a day-long celebration of music and culture in true Music City style. On this one day, more than 600 musicians from the region will bring their talents to the stages and courtyards and many performance spaces that are part of the Schermerhorn Symphony Center. The Nashville Symphony will share the spotlight with the Fisk Jubilee Singers, the Belmont Bluegrass Ensemble, the Gypsy Hombres, Annie Selleck and the Tennessee State University Band, among others. Come early and stay all day. Whatever style of music you prefer, you will find it celebrated here at the Schermerhorn Symphony Center, and that is just the way the Maestro envisioned it.

Saturday, October 7th will be a special day in Nashville. But in our city, and at Schermerhorn Symphony Center, we are proud to say every day is special because every day we celebrate what it means to be Music City.

TRIBUTE TO IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE NORTHWEST AND SOUTH SHORE CLEAN CITIES, INC.

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and pleasure that I stand before you to recognize Ivy Tech Community College Northwest and South Shore Clean Cities, Incorporated, as they join the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium in hosting the 2006 National Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) Day Odyssey. They, along with other community leaders, will come together on Thursday, October 12, 2006, at the Westfield Shoppingtown in Hobart, Indiana to explore alternatives to powering cars and trucks with gasoline and diesel throughout many locations across Northwest Indiana.

The National AFV Day Odyssey began in 2002. The mission of the National AFV Day Odyssey, which is vital to the protection of our environment for future generations of our country and the world, is to create awareness of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles. The first event reached more than 17,000 people at 51 sites nationwide. In 2004, nearly 25,000 people attended the 54 locations where the Odyssey events were held. Having continually grown in size and interest, this event will once again explore the environmental needs for AFV's in our country, and local participants will learn of alternative fuel options to protect the future of not only Northwest Indiana, but the rest of the nation as well.

On October 12, 2006, Ivy Tech Community College Northwest and South Shore Clean Cities, Incorporated will be educating participants on how alternative fuels can be part of the solution to America's environmental and energy needs. The day's events will include presentations, information, and games, as well as a special appearance by the Lindquist CNG