

Those who serve in our criminal justice system today are tasked not only with protecting our communities and neighborhoods but also with protecting our homeland and serving on the front lines of our war against terrorism. Within this framework, the job these brave public servants are doing is truly remarkable. Although sometimes it is hard to feel and see, the gratitude of the American people and this body for our dedicated public servants will not waver.

I ask—as the Resolution does—that we all look seriously at how we as individuals can prevent and respond to crime to help the public servants we too often take for granted.

RECOGNIZING PIERCE BROS.  
REPAIR OF INDIANOLA, IOWA

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 13, 2008*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the repair and welding shop, Pierce Bros. Repair of Indianola, Iowa, on celebrating their 50th Anniversary and to express my appreciation for their commitment to providing important services to Iowans in the area.

In 1958, brothers Lee and Gene Pierce opened an old-style blacksmith shop, primarily repairing farm equipment. Current owner Kurt Wells now has a five-man crew doing various jobs in the area, including repairing lawn mowers, grills, trailer hitches, and other projects.

Kurt joined the company in 1960 at age ten and bought the shop in 1972.

Pierce Bros. Repair's success has come by sticking to their original niche and only upgrading the necessary modern modifications. Although the shop has expanded twice since 1958, there are no computer-run tools, and the shop is still heated today by a wood burning stove. Kurt's managing secret is to work with his employees, not boss them. It is a secret that has generated 130 years of experience at the shop between the five current employees.

For 50 years, Pierce Bros. Repair of Indianola has benefited Iowans by providing important, reliable, customer-oriented service, and for this I offer them my utmost congratulations and thanks. It is an honor to represent Kurt Wells and all members of the Pierce Bros. crew in Congress, and I wish them continued success in serving the Indianola community.