

as the initial Manager of the Office Coordinators. Carol completed her service to the House as the Director of the CAO Customer Service Center, where she has been responsible for the oversight of not only the Office Coordinators, but First Call, CAO Graphics, and Modular Furniture as well.

As Carol embarks on her retirement with her husband, Phil, who retired from the House in 2007 following 31 years of service, I am happy to extend to Carol the best wishes of the Members and employees of the House of Representatives for an enjoyable and fulfilling retirement. In recognizing her years of service to the House, I congratulate her on her unwavering commitment and exceptional performance over the years, and I personally thank her for making our lives in Congressional offices a bit easier through her contributions to the efficient management of the physical environment and logistics of our offices.

HONORING MS. DEBORA  
CARPENTER

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2010*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Ms. Debora Carpenter. Ms. Carpenter served her constituency faithfully and justly during her tenure as Ellington Tax Collector.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Ms. Carpenter served her term with her head held high and a smile on her face the entire way. I have no doubt that her kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Ms. Carpenter is one of those people and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of her today.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES AND  
CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MS.  
DOROTHY BLAIR

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2010*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Dorothy "Dottie" Jones Blair, who passed away on January 19, 2010 at the age of 74.

Mrs. Blair was a pioneer in Dallas and diligently served her community through her hard work and determination. In the 1960's, Mrs. Blair became one of the first African American Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists in the country and helped pave the way for many African Americans and women who would have this profession after her. In 1975, she helped to establish Concord Baptist Church where she was a charter member and co-teacher of the Smith-Blair Sunday school class for 33

years. Later she would found Holmes Street Inc., a nonprofit residential and outpatient treatment center for adolescent boys suffering from chemical dependency. Through the years, this center has served over 1,000 patients.

This remarkable dedication to the community garnered Mrs. Blair numerous awards, and in 2007 she was honored by the Minnie H. Goodlow Page Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women Inc. with the Mary McLeod Bethune Award for outstanding service. Additionally, she was a member of the South Dallas Negro Business and Professional Women's Club.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Blair was a remarkable woman who never faltered in her willingness to help people. I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today in honoring this woman who gave so much to Dallas. She will be truly missed.

TONGUE POINT JOB CORPS  
CENTER

**HON. DAVID WU**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2010*

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Tongue Point Jobs Corps Center on its 45th birthday. The Tongue Point Jobs Corps Centers is located at the mouth of the Columbia River in Astoria, Oregon, which is in my district.

The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 created the Job Corps Program. As the second Job Corps Center to open, Tongue Point Jobs Corps Center received its first students on February 2, 1965, exactly 45 years ago. In 1972, Tongue Point Jobs Corps Center was the pilot program for co-ed Jobs Corps centers, which is now the standard throughout the Corps.

To date, more than 25,000 students have come through Tongue Point's doors. Tongue Point is the largest Job Corps Center in the Northwest. On average, Tongue Point contributes \$11.2 million annually to the local community. Beyond obtaining job skills, Tongue Point students are also great citizens. During 2009, students performed 6,230 hours of community service in a variety of service areas.

I am proud to have Tongue Point Jobs Corps Center in my district and I am constantly amazed by the tangible benefits they provide for the students and the local community. They are a wonderful example of how the Job Corps Program provides meaningful education and job training to youth in need. As our country strives to create jobs, train a new skilled workforce and recover our economy, the Job Corps Program will help us succeed in our efforts and accomplish our goals.

HONORING MR. GEORGE  
BECLEROMI

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2010*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to

the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. George Becleromi. Mr. Becleromi served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as a member of the Ellicott Town Council.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Becleromi served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Becleromi is one of those people and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of him today.

HONORING GREG VAN WASSEN-  
HOVE, SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER  
AND SEALER

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 2, 2010*

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Greg Van Wassenhove, recently retired Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of the County of Santa Clara. Throughout his many years of service, Greg has brought knowledge, strength and vitality not only to the agricultural community but to the many County departments that he has managed.

Greg Van Wassenhove graduated from the University of California at Santa Barbara with a degree in Biological Sciences in 1973, and in 1974 started work with the San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner's Office. In 1983, Greg was appointed the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures for Santa Clara County; and for the past 25 years, Greg has demonstrated a continuing commitment to pest prevention at the state and national levels. Greg has participated in numerous advisory committees relating to pest prevention, including the Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Eradication of Exotic Pests. Greg has collaborated with other County Agricultural Commissioners to develop common efforts on pest prevention, and has also worked with the Statewide County Agricultural Commissioners' Association to establish ongoing funding to prevent the introduction of invasive species and to control and eradicate pest populations once they were established. Greg has successfully contributed to the eradication of the Mediterranean fruit fly from San Mateo County and, on three occasions, in Santa Clara County.

For the past 35 years, Greg has dedicated himself to providing exceptional public services that promote and protect the agricultural industry of the State as well as consumers. He has worked in two urban counties where the control and prevention of invasive species introduction is critical to the local agricultural economy and the rest of the state. His cooperative efforts with industry as well as with all levels of federal, state and local government, including the development of an excellent working relationship with USDA, CDFA, and Congressional and State representatives, promoted programs that involved the prevention