

Burrage. She is a letter carrier in my home town of Springfield, Massachusetts. Ms. Burrage has recently been honored as the National Association of Letter Carriers' National Humanitarian Award winner, an event I was proud to attend.

The letter carriers employed by the United States Postal Service have the opportunity to positively influence the neighborhoods in which they work. Though the opportunity may present itself daily, not every letter carrier is willing to become a part of the community to which they deliver mail. On the other hand, there are a number of letter carriers that become deeply involved with the people in the communities through which their route takes them. Christine Burrage is one such person.

Christine Burrage delivers mail in a poor, downtrodden neighborhood. She learned Spanish from her patrons in order to interact with them more effectively, and interact she has. Ms. Burrage gives food to those who cannot afford groceries, toys and clothing to children in need, and all manner of relief for victims of fire. The people to whom she delivers mail know that if they have a problem, Christine Burrage will do whatever she can to help.

There are many children along her route whose family life is less than ideal. For these children, and for many adults as well, Ms. Burrage serves as a role model. She reminds the children who follow along with her of the value of an education and the rewards for hard work. She is also willing to take the time to explain the many dangers associated with drugs. Christine Burrage does not only deliver the mail. She also plays the roles of social worker, counselor, and teacher. She has become an indispensable member of the Memorial Square community.

In a time when the people of the United States are searching for heroes to look up to, some need only look down their own street. The real heroes are ordinary people who take the opportunity to do extraordinary acts of kindness. People who are willing to take risks for the welfare of others are a credit to their town, their state, and their country. Christine Burrage is that kind of person and I feel honored and privileged to serve as her representative in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO WILFREDO BENITEZ

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Wilfredo Benitez, an outstanding Puerto Rican athlete, who has been a successful boxer. He was honored on Friday, September 11, at the "Centro Cultural Latino" in my Bronx congressional district.

Mr. Benitez was born in the Bronx, New York, on September 12, 1958. His record speaks volumes about his achievements: 53 wins, 8 losses, 1 draw, 31 knockouts. He has been in the Boxing Hall of Fame in Canastota, New York, since 1996.

On March 6, 1976, at the age of 17, he defeated Antonio Cervantes for the Junior Welterweight title in 15 rounds. He is the youngest in boxing history to capture the World Boxing Association (WBA) title.

On January 14, 1979, he defeated Carlos Palomino for the World Boxing Council (WBC) Welterweight title.

On May 23, 1981, he defeated Maurice Hope by knockout in the 12th round for the Junior Welterweight title.

Through his long dedication and success in boxing, Mr. Benitez has served as a role model for millions of youngsters in the United States and Puerto Rico who, like him, dream of succeeding in the world of sports.

Mr. Speaker I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Wilfredo Benitez for his contributions and dedication to boxing, as well as for serving as a role model for the youth of Puerto Rico and America.

CHAMBER AMBASSADORS SCORE AN ACE AT TEE OFF FOR SUCCESS '98

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, if anyone wants to see the ingenuity of America, the spirit of innovation, or the day-to-day application of the work ethic that has made our nation the envy of the world, there is no need to look further than the members of the Chamber of Commerce. These men and women who provide opportunities for literally millions of Americans, never tire in trying to find new ways to run their own businesses more efficiently.

Next week the Michigan State Chamber of Commerce will hold their Ambassador Conference at Saginaw Valley State University, hosted by the Saginaw Chamber of Commerce. Nearly 200 Chamber members from throughout the state have registered for this conference, more than for any prior conference.

There will be an outstanding program that will provoke and challenge those attending to think more about how to be more successful in business, increasing one's network, balancing work, family and volunteer obligations, expanding sponsorship of Chamber activities, and earning the continued support of existing members. Given the outstanding efforts of the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce in planning this event for the past two years, I am confident that the time spent at this conference will be amply rewarded.

The Chairperson of this event, Jean George, has committed herself to making this event the best one of its kind, and I have every confidence that she will succeed.

Mr. Speaker, the community of business men and women around this country have a great deal of wisdom and real life experiences to share with their colleagues and to share with us. It is my pleasure to welcome the 1998 State Ambassador Conference to Tee Off for Success '98 at Saginaw Valley State University. I look forward to learning from them, and wishing them a most successful event.

REMARKS ON HILL INTERNATIONAL CLAIM AGAINST THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in support of the claim filed by Hill International, Inc. against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. I have been involved in this fight with Hill since they approached Members and Senators for help more than five years ago, and I am dismayed by the refusal of the Saudis to settle their debts with American businesses.

In the late 1970's, the Saudi Royal Commission refused to pay for \$55 million in additional engineering work required on a desalination plant in Yanbu City, Saudi Arabia. A compromise negotiated three years ago by the late Representative Bill Emerson remains unpaid by the Saudis. Saudi Ambassador Bandar is now refusing to admit he ever asked Representative Emerson to help broker the claim. This is unconscionable.

In a recent discussion with Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk, I reiterated Hill International's request for a meeting with Ambassador Bandar and interested Members of Congress. With the expected visit of Crown Prince Abdullah to Washington, DC on September 24th, I would hope Ambassador Bandar would want to avoid an embarrassing situation and arrange our meeting promptly. To continue his present course of action would reflect poorly on our friendly relations with our ally in the Persian Gulf.

Hill International employees about 100 people in Willingboro, New Jersey which I represent. The failure of the Saudis to pay this claim put the jobs of my constituents at risk. I urge a quick resolution on this matter.

IN HONOR OF STEVEN D. JACOBS

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 1998

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, today Congressman GEORGE BROWN and I rise together to honor a great American, Steven D. Jacobs. I am proud to say that Steven is my constituent, living with his wife, Deborah, in Victorville, California. Important to add, however, is that Steven's tireless and selfless work crosses the boundaries of Congressional districts. As a very active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) since 1981, Steven represents not only the vets in my district but also many of the veterans who live in the Congressional district of my friend and colleague, GEORGE BROWN. However, his service does not end there. As two time All-American Commander, Steven has represented the veterans of the entire State of California. Furthermore, at this year's convention in Modesto, Steven D. Jacobs was elected State Commander for the 1998-1999 year.

Born in Hawthorne, California on October 27, 1949, Steven joined the Marine Corps after graduating from high school in 1967. In April 1968, Steven was sent to Vietnam to