

politics is someone well known to many of us, my predecessor, General Ben Blaz, who was elected to the Congress after retiring from the Marines. As a former Member of Congress, Ben will be escorting his comrades to this chamber where deliberations and decisions were made that committed them to combat in Korea and Vietnam.

There is a marvelous irony in my having the privilege to call my colleagues' attention to the contributions that these courageous men of the Corps have made to our country, both in war and peace. During the Spanish-American War, a young man from Gastonia, North Carolina joined the Marines and was part of the contingent that was sent to Guam to formally occupy the island. He was so enchanted by the island and, I hasten to add, its lovely *senoritas*, that he chose to stay in Guam. In time, he married a native girl and started a family. His name was James Underwood. He was my grandfather.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for extending me the honor of paying tribute to these veterans and retirees of the Corps and to salute them, in behalf of our grateful nation, on the Golden Anniversary of their commissioning as officers of Marines.

(Roster of members/wives of deceased members of the 11th SBC Marines celebrating the 50th Anniversary of their commissioning as Officers of Marines, May 3-5, 2001):

Robert Altick, Al Bailey, Robert Beezer, Gene Benbow, Charles Bentzen, John Bickley, Ben Blaz, Ted Brothers, Charles Clifford, John Connor, Frank Delaney, and Bill Diederich.

Tom Fallon, Dale Faust, Marshall Figgatt, Benis Frank, Ced Gifford, Bill Gilwee, Fred Grube, (Mrs.) Don Helgeson, Maurice Heartfield, Bill Keating, John Keck, and Paul Kortepeter.

Bill Kyle, Tom Lamb, Bob Land, Bob Lavine, (Mrs.) James Lindsey, John Lussenhop, Andy McDonald, Harold Marshall, Joe Molitoris, Gene Moyers, (Mrs.) Dick Norlin, and Larry O'Nele.

Herb Oxnam, Dick Paschal, Jordan Peck, Hank Pruitt, Tom Qualls, Stan Rauh, Chayne Stinemetz, Dick Stone, Noval Stephens, Speros Thomaidis, Peter Walker, and Stan Wilson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, due to recent death of a close friend I was unable to attend votes this week. Had I been here I would have made the following votes:

Rollcall No. 85—"Yes," No. 86—"Yes," and No. 87—"No."

NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a proud member of the Congressional Autism

Caucus to remind my colleagues that the month of April is National Autism Awareness Month, and that tomorrow, Mississippi, and many other states will recognize April 27th as National Autism Day. The ribbon that I wear is the International symbol for autism, symbolizing the complexity of the disorder. The different colors and shapes represent the diversity of the people and families living with autism, while the brightness of the ribbon signals hope—the hope to be found through increasing research, resources and awareness.

This month gives us a unique opportunity to celebrate the progress we have made in understanding Autism, and the goals we must continue to fulfill. This century we have come a long way in overturning the misconceptions of what autism is. We know that autism is a developmental disability that over 400,000 people in the United States are estimated to have. We know that it is four times more likely to be diagnosed in boys as in girls. We know that there are many degrees of severity of autism, but that all autistic people tend to exhibit deficient social behavior, language and cognitive development. What we still don't know though, is what causes Autism.

Last year, Congress passed landmark bipartisan legislation, the Children's Health Act of 2000, which was signed into law last October. Within this legislation were major provisions for the creation of five regional "centers for excellence" for research into autism, administered the National Institute for Mental Health, as well as education programs on autism for the community. The bi-partisan spirit of cooperation, fueled by the thousands of involved parents, teachers, and doctors in the autism community, enabled us to do what we were intended to do in Congress; to provide a voice and resources for those most in need of advocacy.

So, what do we do now? As Congress looks forward to debating education legislation, we should be vigilant in our support for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. In 1975, the U.S. Congress passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, also known as IDEA, mandating that local school districts provide appropriate education to students with special needs. Understanding that this could be a costly endeavor, Congress agreed to fund up to 40 percent of the average per pupil expenditure. However, to date, Congress has only provided States with about 14 percent of the funds promised.

I have listened to countless parents of children with disabilities in my district talk about the struggles and challenges they have in getting their schools to properly educate their children. The years of frustration parents have endured in attempting to get their children appropriate assistance is disgraceful. Parents, particularly those of children who have special needs, should have strong partnerships with their schools. Instead, due to an often appalling lack of resources, our parents and teachers sometimes find themselves having adversarial relationships. This helps no one, least of all the child, whom our schools seek to educate.

National Autism month reminds us to reflect on our responsibility to do a better job of keeping the IDEA promise. As members of Congress, we should celebrate how far we have come in meeting the needs of children with disabilities, but remember that our job is far from over, and our goals far from being fulfilled.

TRIBUTE TO HON. DOUGLAS "TIM" JAMERSON—A GREAT FLORIDIAN AND A GREAT AMERICAN

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Douglas L. "Tim" Jamerson, the former Florida Education Commissioner, Labor Secretary, and state legislator who died of cancer this past Saturday at age 53.

I will not recount his incalculable, enormous contributions, other than to say that without Doug Jamerson, Florida would be much less than it is today. Without Doug Jamerson Florida would not be one of the greatest state's in this union.

Mr. Jamerson understood that he was the first African American to serve as Florida's Commissioner of Education. He understood that gave him an obligation beyond his own race. He understood that Floridians would be looking at what he did very carefully, but he also understood that his role was that of doing what he could to improve education in a far more universal sense. Through his many efforts—as Education Commissioner, Labor Secretary, and State Legislator, guidance counselor and friend, he improved the quality of life for millions of Floridians, many more who were not Black, and not the least of them women.

Doug Jamerson, throughout his life, reminded us that Florida is a state of opportunity, and America is a country of great promise, but that that promise and opportunity has not yet been totally fulfilled. Doug reminded us all that we all have a duty to help our state and our nation fulfill its true promise.

The words of the great poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in his eulogy to Charles Sumner, apply equally to Doug Jamerson. Wadsworth said:

Were a star quenched on high for ages would its light still traveling downward from the sky shine on our mortal sight so when a great man dies for years beyond our ken the light behind lies upon the paths of men.

Douglas Jamerson is a uniquely special individual who was a thoughtful and a principled public servant whose life will serve as a reminder of everything that we must all strive to become. He has taught us all, that its not how many years you live, but what you accomplish in the years you have. Doug Jamerson accomplished much in his 53 years.

HONORING SUSAN MUSGRAVE AND THE LOS ALAMOS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, when a deadly fire devastated Los Alamos, New Mexico, and surrounding communities in May, 2000, Susan Musgrave, the executive director of the Los Alamos Chamber of Commerce stepped up to the challenge of helping the community recover and rebuild. There are

hundreds of unsung heroes from the Cerro Grande fire, and Ms. Musgrave is one of them.

The intense Cerro Grande fire forced local residents to evacuate and essentially closed down Los Alamos for eight days. When residents were allowed to return on May 15, they found the fire had left more than 420 people homeless and destroyed a number of local businesses. To help the town get back on its feet, the Chamber took the lead in coordinating relief and rebuilding efforts.

I can attest that Ms. Musgrave and others met with me and my staff during this time to see what they could do and to continue to provide us with assistance. Within five days after the fire, in conjunction with local banking institutions, the Chamber had established a loan fund for Los Alamos businesses. These businesses could apply for a six-month loan up to \$25,000 with a 7.5 percent interest rate. The Chamber paid the interest expense on the loans for six months.

Through this effort, more than \$640,000 in loans were made available to 37 companies in Los Alamos. Businesses were able to take care of short-term financial needs and stabilize the effects of lost revenue after being closed for almost eight days. A Web site for construction contractors interested in helping Los Alamos rebuild was on line within a week of the disaster.

Thanks to generous donations from member businesses and individuals, the Chamber was able to extend help to others with an immediate need for funds, including renters and homeowners without insurance. By May 20, gifts in the amount of \$1,000 were distributed to 97 families who had lost their homes. As the fund grew, the Chamber was able to make a second distribution in the amount of \$500 to the same individuals. The Chamber's total contribution topped \$142,000. In addition, 12 college students who lost their homes were each given \$1,000 towards their recovery needs.

The Chamber also helped spread the word that Los Alamos was once again "open for business" through an innovative advertising campaign. The Chamber underwrote 80 percent of the costs for member businesses who took out advertisements to let the community know their businesses were up and running again. The Chamber set up a similar advertising campaign with the State of New Mexico's Economic Development Department as a means to successfully bring tourists back to the area.

The Chamber's good deeds did not go unnoticed. Ms. Musgrave was named New Mexico's Chamber Executive of the Year 2000 by the New Mexico Business Journal and the Association of Commerce and Industry. The award recognized her exceptional and exemplary services to the Chamber and the community.

Thanks to the Los Alamos Chamber of Commerce's strong leadership and coordination, Los Alamos recovered quickly. And, the Chamber has earned respect and gratitude from its member businesses and the local community.

Additionally, since then the recovery began, Ms. Musgrave has continually been a leader in seeking to correct the technical setbacks that have faced victims of the Cerro Grande fire. She has kept me informed of the concerns of local businesses and the community in gen-

eral. Her actions led to my introducing legislation in the House of Representatives, H.R. 1095, intended to make claims of the fire tax-free.

The Chamber has also contacted me on issues that are not fire-related. I am proud to serve as a member of the Small Business Committee and, as a result, work on matters vital to the Chamber. For example, we have worked together on daycare issues facing employees of the Los Alamos National Laboratory and other equally important items.

Mr. Speaker, Susan Musgrave is not only a wonderful asset for the Chamber of Commerce, but she is a true champion for the state of New Mexico. I am proud to know her, and I thank her for her continued service.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JOEY
RAMONE

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2001

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent of mine and an icon in the music world who recently passed away. Joey Ramone, lead singer of the Ramones died after a long battle with cancer on Easter Sunday. Born Jeff Hyman in Forest Hills, Queens, he changed his name to Joey Ramone at age 23 and began stirring up the music world with what was to become known as punk rock. The Ramones were at the leading edge of the punk rock movement in the early to mid-1970s and spoke to a generation of adolescents looking to find their way through that decade.

Many of my colleagues here in Congress may not be familiar with the music of the Ramones, or the impact they had on many in my generation and on music in general. The Ramones were everything a classic rock and roll band were not. They played short, simple songs. And they did it loudly. They abhorred convention but compared to many of the bands today, they did it with style. Irony, sincerity and humor ran through many of their simple lyrics. They poked fun at the latest fad, and often themselves, in a way that caused adolescents everywhere to nod their heads in agreement.

The Ramones lasted an impressive 22 years. Their music helped spawn musicians who would go on to create their own styles of rock and grunge and rap-rock. At the heart of the Ramones was Joey, a notoriously shy, gangly, nice guy, who until his death, loved to visit the local clubs in New York and listen to the music he helped create.

I would like to submit for the RECORD a story from the April 22, 2001 edition of the New York Times which summarizes well, the life of Joey Ramone:

A STAR OF ANTI-CHARISMA, JOEY RAMONE
MADE GEEKS CHIC
(By John Leland)

FROM his home in Queens last week, Monte Melnick remembered a time the Ramones stopped for gas in rural Texas. It was the early days of punk rock, and the woman at the gas station gave the band the once-over: matching leather bomber jackets and ripped jeans, dopey mops of hair, four guys taking the surname Ramone. Mr.

Melnick, who was the tour manager, feared there might be trouble. Instead, the woman smiled at him indulgently. As Mr. Melnick, 51, recalled, "She said, 'It's really nice, you taking care of these retarded boys.'"

Joey Ramone, the gawky, geeky, lovable-loser singer of the Ramones, died last Sunday of lymphatic cancer, never to be underestimated again. His real name was Jeffrey Hyman; he was 49.

As the music world celebrates the 25th anniversary of punk, the band's imprint—its goofy fury and delinquent humor—echoes not just in the music of latter-day punks like Green Day and Blink 182, but in the strain of self-aware, loser comedy that has become the dominant adolescent rattle: "The Simpsons" and "South Park," pro wrestling and MTV's blithely moronic "Jackass."

Mickey Leigh, Joey's younger brother, who played in a band called the Rattlers, described the Ramones as a reaction to the Queens streets where the band members grew up. "The humor was inherent to Forest Hills, a Jewish neighborhood, and to the small circle of rejects and misfits that we were," said Mr. Leigh, who, like his brother, was bar mitzvahed. (Several other Ramones were not Jewish.) "We were always on the outside, rejected by the girls—not by all girls, but by the pretty ones, who preferred guys with cars. Our protective shell was to shock people."

Picked on in Forest Hills, Joey made himself a star of anti-charisma, fronting a band whose legend drew on failure as easily as success. When my friends and I heard the Ramones in the late 1970's, as under-achieving college students, we formed our own band—awful, but even at our loudest, always knowing. I like to think we were post-awful.

A set by the Ramones was a furious race to the finish line, blurring bubble-gum riffs and cartoon pathologies: "Now I Wanna Sniff Some Glue," "Teenage Lobotomy," "I Wanna Be Sedated." What you came away with depended in large part on how you took the joke.

"We thought punk rock was going to be the biggest thing ever," said John Holmstrom, 48, a cofounder of Punk magazine, which coined the name for the music. "We thought we were mainstream. It was a shock to everyone at CBGB when one by one it didn't happen."

Charlotte Lesser, Joey's mother, always got the joke. Ms. Lesser ran an art gallery and is a commercial artist. At CBGB, the Bowery dive where the band got started, people used to call her Mama Ramone, she said, adding: "CBGB struck me as too narrow, too crowded, and it had the worst bathrooms you ever saw. But I always saw the whole thing as a funny show."

The Ramones emerged just when the radical thrust in pop music was turning in on itself Hip-hop whittled down disco; punk trimmed rock 'n' roll to its loud essentials.

Writing about the Ramones and CBGB in The Village Voice in 1975, James Wolcott observed, "No longer is the rock impulse revolutionary—i.e., the transformation of oneself and society—but conservative: to carry on the rock tradition." For all their locomotive mayhem, the Ramones were preservationists. Even the name harked back, to the days when Paul McCartney, as a Silver Beatle, called himself Paul Ramon.

I think the impulse had much to do with age. Lou Reed, punk's eminence grise, born in 1942, was able to sing of a girl whose life was saved by rock 'n' roll. For Mr. Reed, whose childhood began before rock, the music bred transformation, both personal