

HONORING MARGARET C. MOSHER

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2001

Ms. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to a woman who has been invaluable to California's Central Coast, Mrs. Margaret C. Mosher. Because of her generous dedication and devotion to young people, Mrs. Mosher was honored at the Annual Kids Auction on November 3, 2001, in Santa Barbara, CA.

Proceeds from the Annual Kids Auction will benefit youth development programs at local Boys and Girls Clubs throughout California's 22nd Congressional District. Since its inception 18 years ago, this auction has raised over a million dollars to support programs that benefit over 4,000 youth a year. After school care, computer training, and drug abuse and gang prevention programs are only a few examples of the services that will benefit from the auction proceeds.

It is fitting that the Annual Kids Auction will be honoring Margaret Mosher this year, as she has spent over 20 years dedicating herself to the Boys and Girls Club Organizations. Striving to aid the organization in as many ways as possible, 18 years ago Mrs. Mosher established an annual fundraiser, the Bill Oliver Memorial Golf Tournament. All of the proceeds of this tournament go directly to the Goleta Boys and Girls Club.

In addition to her dedication to the Boys and Girls Club, Mrs. Mosher is currently the president of the Samuel B. Mosher Foundation. She is also the president and owner of the Dos Pueblos Orchid Company and the owner of the Perry Investment Company. She is on the advisory board of the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins Hospital and the International Eye Tissue Bank. She is also on the board of directors for the John Tracy Clinic and the Los Angeles Orphanage Guild. In 1992 Mrs. Mosher received the UCSB Alumni Association's Honorary Alumni Award. She has been a trustee of The UCSB Foundation since 1983, and is a member of the Chancellor's Council, the Lancaster Society and the Legacy Circle.

Numerous children have benefited from Mrs. Mosher's generosity, and I am so pleased to have this opportunity to honor her and thank her for all the wonderful things she has accomplished.

CONGRATULATING PYUNIC USA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Pyunic USA for their accomplishments over the past 11 years. Pyunic USA is an Armenian-based association that is dedicated to helping disabled individuals in Armenia.

Pyunic was founded in 1989 to provide aid to the children left disabled by the devastating Armenian earthquake of 1988. Since its inception, Pyunic has evolved into an association that supports all of the physically challenged in

Armenia. The help they provide includes individuals born with disabilities and those who were injured while defending Karabagh. Services provided by Pyunic include physical and mental rehabilitation, advocacy for the rights of the disabled, annual summer/winter camp sessions, and athletic paralympic training to all disabled children and young adults throughout Armenia.

With over 50 volunteers and only 4 staff members Pyunic's mission is to integrate the disabled into Armenia's mainstream life. The organization takes pride in their efforts to develop outstanding disabled athletes who travel worldwide to compete in several marathons and Paralympics. In 2000 Pyunic was selected as the "Best Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) of Armenia for Youth." Pyunic has created working relationships with several international nongovernmental organizations, including Save the Children International, the World Rehabilitation Foundation and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

Pyunic has five main goals: to help disabled become self-sufficient and contributing members of Armenia, and integrate them into mainstream life; to promote physical, social and psychological rehabilitation; to utilize sports to develop strong bodies and active minds; to develop skills to meet challenges of life for the disabled; to educate the public through dissemination of information on the issues of disability.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Pyunic USA for their commitment to improving the lives of the disabled. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Pyunic USA many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO WHITE KNOLL
MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the students and faculty of White Knoll Middle School in Columbia, SC, who, for a number of weeks have been raising money for a new fire truck to be presented to the New York City Fire Department in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The students and faculty of White Knoll Middle School have embarked on a project that is both uniquely appropriate and inspiring. While people all across the country sought meaningful ways to respond personally and collectively to the despicable terrorist attacks commensurate to the anguish they were feeling, the students and faculty at White Knoll Middle School committed to the purchase and "return" of a fire truck to New York City as an expression of their heartfelt empathy, faith, and resolve.

Mr. Speaker, as a former high school history teacher and devout historic preservationist, I share with you and my colleagues the discovery of an intriguing historical link. Logbooks kept at the Columbia Fire Department Museum in Columbia, SC, reveal that on June 27, 1867, two years after a Civil War fire destroyed the city, a group of New York City firefighters—former Union Soldiers—delivered a fire truck to the city of Columbia that, at the

time, was using citizen bucket brigades. The burning of Columbia left deep wounds in the South Carolina psyche, with many harboring ill will against the North for decades. However, logbooks indicate that New York firefighters and Columbians of that period 134 years ago, looked at the gift as an act of healing.

These students and their teachers are telling the citizens of New York City that Columbia remembers. The hearts of New York City firefighters reached out to Columbia 134 years ago and now the hearts of the children at White Knoll Middle are reaching out to New York. At least \$350,000 is needed for a new fire engine and they are within a few thousand dollars of reaching that figure. White Knoll Middle raised \$18,000 before their cause entitled South Carolina Remembers, grew to include key business leaders, city officials, corporations, civic organizations, and philanthropists from the Columbia area such as SCANA, SCE&G, Mayor Bob Coble and Mr. Sam Tenenbaum. They raised the funds by using word of mouth and old-fashioned techniques such as bake sales, car washes, gospel concerts, and booths at the South Carolina State Fair.

The fund raising effort continues to gain momentum as over \$330,000 has been raised to date—including a \$50,000 pledge from an anonymous donor. White Knoll Middle School's story of benevolence has caught the attention of many local and national media outlets and has been featured on CBS's "Early Show," as well as in People and Time Magazines.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to please join me in honoring White Knoll Middle School for their outstanding work as they emulate the beautiful and united fabric of America. The students and faculty of White Knoll Middle School have taught us once more that history has a way of connecting us and kindness has a way of multiplying the effects of those connections.

TRIBUTE TO THE HON. GERALD
B.H. SOLOMON

SPEECH OF

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I note the death of a former colleague and a great New Yorker, Mr. Gerald Solomon, who passed away last month.

Jerry grew up in Delmar, New York and attended Siena College and St. Lawrence University before enlisting in the Marines at the onset of the Korean War. After serving his country with honor as a member of the Armed Forces, Jerry continued working for the nation as a Member of Congress. But even as an elected representative, when you spoke with Jerry, you could easily guess his background. Like the motto says, "once a Marine, always a Marine."

First elected in 1978, Jerry and I were in the same freshman class of Congress as I too was elected that year. I got to know, and become very good friends with Jerry during the 20 years we served in the House together. He was perhaps the most ardent supporter of our nation's veterans. As the Ranking Member on

the House Veterans Affairs Committee, Jerry worked tirelessly on their behalf. In fact, it was largely through his work and dedication that the Veterans Administration was elevated to a cabinet-level department.

Jerry was a man who didn't mince words—he was fair and principled and called things as he saw them. We got along well because we were similar in many ways and agreed on a lot of things. But, sometimes, we disagreed. I never, for example, quite saw the merits of the Northeast Dairy Compact the way he did—but even when we disagreed, we disagreed like gentlemen.

It is a testament to his character as a legislator, and a reflection of his leadership, that during his final years in the House, he served as Chairman of the powerful House Rules Committee. This is particularly noteworthy because as many of you know, he was the first Republican to have that position in four decades!

When Jerry spoke, people listened. Not because he was Chairman of the Rules Committee, but simply because if he took the time to tell you something, you could bet it was worth your while to pay attention to him.

It is with a heavy heart that I say good-bye to my friend Jerry. My wife Cheryl and I would like to express our condolences to Jerry's wife Freda, their five children, six grandchildren, and brother, in this time of sorrow and sadness. They will be in our prayers.

**CELEBRATING 60TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF
OAKLAND**

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2001

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 60th Anniversary Celebration of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Oakland, California.

In 1941, the Filbert Street Boys Club merged with the East Oakland Boys Club to become the Oakland Boys Clubs. The purpose of this club was to create a fun environment while at the same time provide educational programs and services specifically tailored to the needs of young men. For many years the Oakland Boys Clubs were solely focused on providing for the well-being of boys. However, in 1989 the Board of Directors agreed that their organization should be a club that is inclusive rather than exclusive. Therefore, they extended their membership to young women. They wanted the Oakland Boys Clubs to become the Boys & Girls Clubs of Oakland which would welcome young people of all backgrounds.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Oakland have a membership of 2,400 people who are taking full advantage of the programs and services this organization has to provide. The Boys & Girls Clubs offer career development, character and leadership development, health and life skills, arts, sports, fitness and recreation opportunities. They empower young men and women to live a happier, healthier and fuller lives.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Oakland strives to instill and enhance a sense of competence, usefulness, belonging, influence and responsibility in each child. This organization is dedicated to enriching the lives of our youth.

I ask Congress to join me and the constituents of the 9th Congressional District in celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Oakland and in wishing them many more years of success and positive influence on our young leaders of tomorrow!

HONORING COMMUNITY VETERANS

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2001

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and give thanks to Latino veterans across the nation and in New York's 12th District—those brave soldiers who served in our Armed Forces during times of turmoil and crisis in our Nation's history.

Today, the Borinquen Senior Center celebrates another anniversary—close to the landmark one of a quarter of a century. Since its doors opened 24 years ago, the center has been a safehaven for hundreds of seniors and veterans in the Williamsburg, New York community. The Borinquen Center serves three meals per day to almost two hundred seniors, including veterans. It provides meals on wheels for homebound seniors, offers workshops on healthcare and other important issues, arranges activities, and provides classes such as ESL (English as a Second Language). Through its work, the center plays a very important role in the community. And as the Borinquen Center celebrates its anniversary, it will also honor—for the first time—the veterans of this country who served so bravely in our Armed Services.

Given the war against terrorism our great Nation is now waging both here and overseas, I believe we must take time to honor and give thanks to a few of our Nation's Latino veterans from the 12th District. Many of these men were young men, unaware of how war would change them when they enlisted in the Armed Forces during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. They joined the service with hopes of strengthening our nation's security, fighting for the ideals of democracy and freedom, and ensuring a more peaceful world. Although many returned home with lasting wounds, their spirit was never broken. It is important that we remember on this Veteran's Day the sacrifices they made for this country.

Therefore, it is with much appreciation that I honor the Latino veterans of my district in celebration of November 11: Luis Maldonado, 1940–1946; Angel Acevedo, 1941–1947; Jose La Fuente, 1942–1945; Herminio Rivera, 1942–1947; George Feliciano, 1947–1967; Jose Calderon, 1951–1954; Oscar Figueroa, 1951–1954; Gilberto Bonilla, 1952–1954; Isamel A. Torres, 1952–1956; Francisco Adames, 1953–1955; Felix Gonzalez, 1953–1957; Jose Rendon, 1953–1961; Fundadon V. Cancel, 1954–1958; Gerardo Torres, 1954–1959; George A. Maldonado, 1954–1956; Carlos M. Colon, 1956–1958; Augustin Perez, 1957–1959; Adolfo Rivera, 1960–1962.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MR. ELDON
H. STRODE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and memory of Eldon H. Strode and thank him for his contributions to the community of Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Eldon passed away this October at his residence in Wickenburg, Arizona.

Mr. Strode came to Colorado in 1945. He began work in the ranch industry, working the land for more than two decades. After his work in ranching, he ventured in the coal industry for thirteen years until his retirement in 1981.

Eldon was an avid sports enthusiast in the Glenwood Springs community where he was a member of the basketball and softball league. Eldon also volunteered his services as a member of the youth baseball program and as a member of the chain crew for many football games at Glenwood Springs High School. In 1980, he was honored for his contributions to the team. Mr. Strode continued his involvement in the ranch industry by volunteering his knowledge to several cattlemen associations such as the Colorado Cattlemen and the Holy Cross Cattlemen's Association.

Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that we remember Eldon H. Strode. The many people he impacted will remember his contributions and dedication. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

**INTRODUCTION OF H.R. —, THE
MERCHANT MARINE COST PAR-
ITY ACT OF 2001**

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 8, 2001

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, we are a nation of immigrants, most of whom arrived on the shores of the United States by ship. We are a country in which 95 percent of our imports from noncontiguous countries are brought to us by ship. Yet, less than one percent of our imports and exports are transported on U.S.-flag ships.

The Baltimore Sun recently published two articles that accurately described the decline of the U.S.-flag fleet. As the article states, vessels don't fly the U.S.-flag anymore "because American cargo ships are also the most expensive in the world." The first article was titled "Merchant marine's demise endangers war readiness". Not only will we not have sufficient ships to move our war materials, but we won't have enough trained sailors to operate the laid-up fleet of Government-owned ships that the Department of Defense is depending on to transport our tanks and heavy equipment when they are mobilized.

In 1991, the United States needed more than 200 cargo ships to support Operation Desert Storm. To get those vessels operating, we called up retired seamen who had sailed during World War II. Today, we have fewer ships and fewer trained personnel.