

HONORING COLONEL JAMES E. PALLAS III, INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2002

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American patriot who has committed his entire career in the service of the American people. Colonel James E. Pallas III, United States Air Force, is retiring from duty bringing to a close his admirable 30-year military career.

A 1970 graduate of the University of Georgia, Colonel Pallas has served his country in the extreme temperatures of the globe as director of housing and services for the Alaskan Air Command Headquarters, at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, and as food and service officer for the 43rd Combat Support Group, at Andersen AFB, Guam. During his distinguished service Colonel Pallas was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Joint Services Commendation Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, and the Humanitarian Service Medal with second device.

In his most recent assignment Colonel Pallas served as inspector general for the Defense Commissary Agency, Fort Lee, Virginia. In this position Colonel Pallas was responsible for inquiring into and reporting on matters affecting mission performance and the state of the economy, efficiency, discipline, and morale within an agency that controls the procurement, distribution and sales of a worldwide food supplier to our military and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the Representative of the citizens of Virginia's 4th District to congratulate Colonel Pallas on his magnificent career and to thank him for his long service to America. Please join me in wishing Colonel Pallas happiness for the future and thank him for his dutiful dedication to the United States of America.

IN HONOR OF THE NORTH
BETHESDA MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the students, faculty, and parents of the North Bethesda Middle School on a meaningful and exciting achievement. Over the past 6 years, the North Bethesda Middle School community has collected over 10,000 new and used books to donate to needy children in Montgomery County and throughout the greater Washington area.

This year alone, the program donated over 2,000 books to disadvantaged children in their fight against illiteracy. The school community has been recognized for their charitable efforts by the Montgomery County Sentinel and by many other local organizations. Today I add my voice to all those saying "thank you" to the North Bethesda Middle School community for all their hard work.

These students, teachers, and parents understand that excellent reading skills and a quality education are the cornerstones of a young person's upbringing and development. The students of North Bethesda have already had a profound impact on the lives of children they may not ever meet. Their pure sense of charity, compassion, and concern should inspire all of us.

As a former teacher, I believe that each one of us can have an impact on a young person's future. It is my hope that through the continuation of this successful program, and others like it, the lives of disadvantaged children around the country will be forever changed for the better.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all members of the education community to look towards this wonderful and successful effort as an example of an outstanding educational initiative. I encourage all young Americans seeking to serve their community to follow these students' lead. Again, Mr. Speaker, I congratulate everyone at North Bethesda Middle School, especially Principal Joan Carroll, and thank them all for their work on this great project.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DALE
ORENDORFF

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to pay respect at the passing of Dale Orendorff, who died unexpectedly at the age of 79. Dale became a pillar of the Montrose, Colorado community after relocating there in 1984 and, as his family mourns his loss, I think it is appropriate to remember him at this time and pay tribute to the contributions he made to Colorado throughout his life.

Dale Orendorff was born on September 7, 1922 in Columbus, Nebraska, the son of John and Loa Mabel Bernard. He spent his formative years in Central City, Nebraska, where he received his elementary schooling. One day after the historic Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Dale proudly heeded the call to defend our nation, enrolling in the United States Army Air Corps at the age of 19. His service to our nation in time of war served as a testament to the character of a man whose devotion to family and country was evident to all of those who crossed his path.

Dale was a shining example of civic-minded devotion to his community. He was a member of the Methodist Church of Montrose, as well as Elks Lodge No. 1053. An avid outdoorsman, Dale's love of fishing dated back to his youth. As he grew older, he took up the game of golf, which became one of his favorite avocations.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Dale Orendorff for his contributions to the Montrose community. His dedication to family, friends and community certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress. Although Dale has left us, his good-natured spirit lives on through the lives of those he touched. I would like to extend my thoughts and deepest sympathies to Dale's family and friends during this difficult time.

COMMENDING SUPERVISOR DON
KNABE

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2002

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Supervisor Don Knabe, who was first elected to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in November of 1996. He ran unopposed for his second term and was re-elected in March of 2000. Don is the first chief-of-staff ever elected to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

A community leader for 30 years, Don is noted for his attention to detail and ability to see the overall big picture. The strength of his grassroots support and considerable experience in local government have made him a highly regarded voice, not only at home in the fourth district, but in both Sacramento and Washington, DC.

Don is currently the chairman of the Southern California Regional Airport Authority and also represents the County of Los Angeles on the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Metrolink), the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, and the Large Urban County Caucus of the National Association of Counties (NACo). He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA). In addition to various other appointments and commissions, Don is an executive board member of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and a member of the Asian Business League and L.A. Care Board of Governors.

Before joining the U.S. Navy as a young man, Don earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Graceland University in Lamon, Iowa. Shortly after receiving his honorable discharge, he moved west to California, where he met his wife, Julie, and settled in the city of Cerritos.

Don spent 2 years as a member of the Cerritos Planning Commission before being elected to the Cerritos City Council in 1980. He served as a councilman for 8 years, including two terms as mayor, and was a leader in the development and implementation of the city's General Plan during a time of unprecedented economic expansion. Today, Cerritos is regarded as a national model of sensible growth.

Don Knabe has truly exemplified every aspect of what it entails to serve the diverse needs of the district's two million constituents. Thank you, Don, for your hard work and willingness to make such an outstanding difference in the lives of many Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF ALICIA IRMA
BONILLA

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the numerous contributions of one of my constituents, Mrs. Alicia Irma Bonilla.

Mrs. Bonilla has served the students and schools in the city of Azusa for over 40 years through countless hours of volunteer service.