

markets and the operation of our free market system. Appointing a Special Counsel for the SEC to pursue these sensitive cases will help us start to do so right away.

#### CHAMPION OF HOUSING

### HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 18, 2002*

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great leader and a pillar of the community, Rollan Jones.

Founder and Chairman of the Board of R-Anell Housing Group in Denver, North Carolina, Rollan was known as a driving force in the manufactured housing industry until his death on May 29, 2002. His vision and his determination were contributing factors to the growth of manufactured housing in North Carolina and the Southeast. In his 46 years in the manufactured housing industry, he gained expertise in every facet of the business, from production line to Chairman of the Board.

His accomplishments as an innovator and leader in the manufactured housing industry were nationally recognized with his induction into the Hall of Fame in 1994. He was also a founding member and past President of the North Carolina Manufactured Housing Institute, James E. Lavasque Award recipient, and served on the MHI Board of Directors for ten years.

Rollan is credited with pioneering many of the manufacturing processes and technologies in use today. Noted as a champion of design, materials, workmanship and service, he established the core principles required to make R-Anell Housing Group an industry benchmark.

He will be remembered through the countless lives he touched, the friends, family and acquaintances he held so important, and his habit of lending a hand wherever it was needed. In all of his glory, through his tireless efforts in the housing industry, somehow Rollan found the time to be a FINE fisherman as well. He will be sorely missed.

#### GENERAL BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, JR.

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 18, 2002*

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of General Benjamin O. Davis Jr., who departed this life on July 4th, after a distinguished career as our country's first black Air Force general officer.

He will be remembered in history for his command of the Tuskegee Airmen—that amazing squadron that flew more than 10,000 sorties over North Africa and Europe during World War II and never lost a plane! Even more than that, his colleagues in the military recognize him as a truly great leader and warrior throughout his 34 years of uniformed service to his country. And, perhaps most of all, General Davis is known by all as an exemplary public servant and model citizen whose extraordinary success and many contributions have played a big part in turning the tide against official racism. As former Defense

Secretary William Cohen has said, he proved that blacks and whites cannot only serve together, they can succeed together.

General Davis, we salute you, Sir, for your great and distinguished service to our great nation.

#### RECOGNIZING REAR ADMIRAL ROLAND KNAPP

### HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 18, 2002*

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding naval officer, Rear Admiral Roland Knapp, from Gig Harbor, Washington. Admiral Knapp has served with considerable distinction and dedication for the past 33 years, and I would like to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to thank him for his service and his contributions to the defense of our great nation.

On July 26, Admiral Knapp will retire from the Navy after 33 years of active service, and he will leave command of the Navy's Executive Office for Aircraft Carriers here in Washington, DC.

During his tenure as Commander of the Navy's Aircraft Carriers Office, Admiral Knapp has overseen the christening of USS *Ronald Reagan*, our newest nuclear aircraft carrier, the complex refueling overhaul of the USS *Nimitz* and the contract awarding of CVN-77. He has also been responsible for all aircraft carrier acquisition and life cycle support programs the past 2½ years. During this tenure his command worked with the fleet to ensure our "in-service" carrier force was maintained at the highest possible levels of readiness. Their brilliant dedication to our force was visibly evident during the recent sustained combat-operations conducted during Operation "Enduring Freedom." In addition, Admiral Knapp has ensured the success of our aircraft carrier programs well into the future through his numerous innovative business practices as well as merging the latest technological advances into our carrier fleet.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Admiral Knapp and his wife Jean for their honorable service to our nation. I Join my colleagues in the House today in wishing them continued success and the traditional naval wish of "Fair winds and Following seas" as Admiral Knapp closes out his distinguished military career.

#### HONORING PORT CHICAGO ANNIVERSARY

### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 18, 2002*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, this week we commemorate the 58th anniversary of the July 17, 1944 disaster that caused the largest Home Front loss of life during World War II: the massive explosion at the Port Chicago Naval Magazine near Concord, California.

Fifty eight years ago this week, 320 sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, Merchant Mari-

ners, and workers were killed in the gigantic explosion of armaments being loaded aboard ships bound for the Pacific theater. Most of the men, who served as munitions loaders, were black. Commanded exclusively by white officers, they were given little training or equipment to assist them in the dangerous and ultimately fatal job of loading high explosives. For years, the exact nature of the explosives they loaded remained secret, concealing the fact that the dangers and the need for training—had been significantly underestimated.

Several days after the explosion—after they had tended the wounded and picked up the shredded remains of their colleagues—the surviving black sailors were ordered back to load more ships without any further training, and before it was even established what had caused the cataclysmic loss of life. Several hundred refused, and ultimately, 50 were tried for mutiny and convicted.

Over the past decade and a half, there has been a great movement to clear the names of these men, who were loyal, brave and dedicated sailors serving a nation that segregated them, exposed them to unreasonable dangers, and railroaded them into prison on trumped up mutiny charges. Over a half century later, the terrible mistreatment of these sailors calls out for justice.

When we began the effort to inform the American people about Port Chicago, it was an almost forgotten chapter in American military and social history. Now, a decade and a half later, there are books, articles, documentaries that have ran repeatedly on cable television, and even a full length television movie. While we have not cleansed the convictions from the records of all the men, the conviction was removed from one record because of congressionally mandated review, and Freddie Meeks, one of the few sailors remaining alive, received a full presidential pardon.

Today, the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial at the site of the explosion commemorates the men who lost their lives on July 17, 1944, and all those who served at that base. That Memorial, which I was honored to sponsor, was dedicated on the 50th anniversary of the explosion.

For those interested in learning more about this historic story, there are also numerous web pages, including:

[www.portchicagomunity.com](http://www.portchicagomunity.com);  
[www.cccoe.k12.ca.us/pc/](http://www.cccoe.k12.ca.us/pc/);  
[www.historychannel.com/exhibits/portchicago/](http://www.historychannel.com/exhibits/portchicago/);  
[www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USN/fax/PC/](http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USN/fax/PC/);  
[www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq80-1.htm](http://www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq80-1.htm);  
[www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq80-4.htm](http://www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq80-4.htm);  
[www.nps.gov/poch/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/poch/index.htm).

This year, a team of very talented young people from Bakersfield High School in Bakersfield, California produced an outstanding documentary that won the statewide History Day competition and was submitted to the national competition. I congratulate Dan Ketchell and his entire team, for their outstanding work on the Port Chicago film.

And the Port Chicago story has changed lives. I have been to many of the annual services held at the Port Chicago chapel, and have spoken with the men and women who lost parents, brothers, and other relatives in the explosion: many who never knew the full story of how their loved one perished until reading the story of Port Chicago in a news story or seeing one of the films. And then they came to the site of the explosion, perhaps saw