

Under Admiral Davis' watch, Team Submarine has delivered two *Seawolf* class submarines and redesigned a third to expand its mission capabilities; started construction of four *Virginia* class submarines; and brought the transformational SSGN program from concept to full up-and-running program in two years time. He has also overseen the overhaul of over one-third of our submarine fleet, and directed the modernization of submarine warfare systems with economical and easily upgradeable commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS)-based units. Additionally, Admiral Davis has acted as an emissary to allied nations, most notably Australia, and he has helped forge strong relationships with friendly navies to enhance U.S. national security.

Admiral Davis began his Navy career in 1964 when he entered the U.S. Naval Academy. Upon his graduation from Annapolis in 1968, Admiral Davis entered the Naval Postgraduate School, where he earned a Master of Science degree in 1969.

Following nuclear power training, Admiral Davis held many critical assignments. He served on the USS *Pogy* (SSN 647) and the USS *Daniel Webster* (SSBN 626). He also served as the department head and post department head detailee in the Submarine Officer Assignment Office of the Bureau of Naval Personnel. He subsequently returned to sea duty as Executive Officer of the USS *Memphis* (SSN 691) and later, as Commanding Officer of the USS *Jacksonville* (SSN 699), which deployed to the Atlantic, Mediterranean, and Indian Oceans. He went on to serve as Deputy Commander of Submarine Squadron Six, during which he also served as Commanding Officer of the USS *Glendard P. Lipscomb* (SSN 685) for three months during a Mediterranean deployment.

From 1989 to 1991, Admiral Davis served as Head, Undersea, and Arctic Warfare Branch in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. Following completion of the Program Managers Course at the Defense Systems Management College in 1991, he became the Director of Advanced Submarine Research and Development. In September 1992, Admiral Davis became Program Manager of the MK48 ADCAP Advanced Capability Torpedo Program. In July 1996, Admiral Davis became Program Manager for the Undersea Weapons Program Office.

Admiral Davis was selected to Flag rank in 1996. In December 1996 he became the Director, Submarine Technology at Naval Sea Systems Command. In August 1997 he was assigned to his current post of Program Executive Office, Submarines. In October 1998 he assumed additional duties as Deputy Commander, Submarines.

Admiral Davis was promoted to Rear Admiral (Upper Half) in 1999. He has received numerous military awards including the Legion of Merit with two Gold Stars and the Meritorious Service Medal with one Gold Star.

Mr. Speaker, for 35 years the Department of the Navy, the Congress, and the American people have been well served by this dedicated naval officer. Admiral Davis has been instrumental in ensuring that the U.S. submarine force is, and will remain, the world's most preeminent submarine force in the 21st Century. Thus, he leaves an enduring legacy.

I am honored to rise today to express appreciation to Admiral Davis for his outstanding service to the nation. I also want to recognize

his wife Nancy and his daughters Kate and Tricia for their loyalty and support, which are so necessary in the life of a career naval officer.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in wishing Rear Admiral Davis "fair winds and following seas" as he concludes a most honorable and distinguished career.

TRIBUTE TO GARY WHYTE ON
BEHALF OF WHITNEY WELDON

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of 10-year-old Whitney Weldon of Westfield, New Jersey. Whitney is a wonderful, happy, and active child who was diagnosed in April 2001 with a disease called Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva (FOP).

FOP is a rare genetic disorder in which bone forms in muscles, tendons, ligaments and other connective tissues forming a second skeleton that immobilizes the joints of the body. With so few people afflicted by the disease, there is little attention being paid to this illness.

For the past fifteen months, Gary Whyte, of Mountainside, New Jersey, has been going non-stop, doing everything he can, to raise awareness and help spread news about FOP through countless efforts speaking before clubs, churches, synagogues and organizations and hosting events to raise money for the Weldon FOP Research Fund.

Mr. Speaker, I stand before you on behalf of Whitney Weldon and the 200 other Americans suffering from FOP to praise the efforts of these dedicated people who are staging a campaign to increase awareness of and find a cure for a disease that few people know about. Gary has shown that education about FOP is the first step toward working to get a cure. Little by little, with more awareness comes more action.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO BAN HOUSING DISCRIMINATION
AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE
MILITARY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call to the attention of my colleagues a bill I have introduced today to prohibit discrimination in the rental of housing to members of the armed forces.

It has been reported in the press that managers of certain apartment properties in my home state of New York have required renters to sign an affidavit stating that they are not in the military. This practice, aimed at members of the armed forces who might be called off to war, is an outrageous form of discrimination, particularly at a time when young Americans are on their way overseas to defend our country.

This legislation is meant as a deterrent to this kind of practice by any landlord or prop-

erty management company anywhere in the country. The bill would make it a federal crime to discriminate in rentals to members of the armed forces with a penalty of up to a year imprisonment.

The reason mentioned for requiring the affidavit is to relieve landlords of the potential need to seek court orders to evict military families who may have defaulted on their rent.

I have never before heard this concern raised by a landlord. But the bottom line is that discrimination against individuals or an entire class of people cannot be defended under any circumstance. In New York City, this practice is already outlawed under local anti-discrimination laws. However, there remains a glaring absence in federal and state law of the protections provided for in my bill, thus leaving members of the military in most of New York State and the rest of the country vulnerable.

At this time of crisis in our country, in which we are asking so much of our military, the governing principle should be one of shared sacrifice—and certainly not discrimination.

TRIBUTE TO LAURA KENT
DONAHUE

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Laura Kent Donahue who has dedicated her life to serving the people of western Illinois.

Laura had the privilege of serving in the same area her mother, Mary Lou Kent, represented. She began her legislative service in the State Senate in 1981.

She was appointed an Assistant Majority Leader in the Illinois State Senate in 1997 after serving as Majority Caucus Chairman for four years.

As a lawmaker, Laura secured nearly \$1 billion for road and bridge improvements in her district since 1981.

Her dedication to improving the funding process for downstate nursing homes and hospitals has earned her numerous legislative awards from the Illinois Association of Homes for the Aging, the Illinois Hospital Association, the Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities and the Illinois Healthcare Association.

She has devoted much of her time and energy toward finding a resolution to the education funding issue in Illinois.

Laura was instrumental in bringing a juvenile prison facility to Rushville, adult prison facilities to Mt. Sterling and Canton and work camps to Clayton and Pittsfield.

She is a member of the Vermont Street Methodist Church in Quincy.

She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Lincoln Club of Adams County and the PEO Chapter MK.

She graduated with a bachelor's degree from Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri.

She is respected by her colleagues from both political parties for her honesty and integrity.

Laura will be remembered as a Senator who took her responsibility as an advocate for her district seriously.

Therefore we recognize Laura Kent Donahue for her accomplishments as she

leaves the Illinois Senate and wish her success in her future endeavors.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
LIBERA PILLA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Libera Pilla—beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend to many.

For forty-nine years, Mrs. Pilla was the devoted wife of George Pilla, who died in 1978. Together they raised their two sons, Bishop Anthony Pilla and Joe Pilla. As immigrants from Italy, Mr. and Mrs. Pilla understood the importance of family, faith, and hard work. Although they were not formally educated, Mr. and Mrs. Pilla coveted the educational opportunities for their sons, and ensured that they both received an excellent education. Moreover, they instilled in their sons the value of service and compassion toward others—clearly evidenced in their sons' chosen vocations—Bishop Anthony Pilla's vocation of spiritual leader; and Joe Pilla's commitment to public service in law enforcement.

Mrs. Pilla was the light, warmth and center of the Pilla family. Mrs. Pilla was known for her deep sense of compassion and concern for others, and she consistently reached out to others with grace, kindness and dignity. Mrs. Pilla took great pride and joy in caring for her family and friends, especially through her culinary talents. She delighted many with her wonderful recipes from her Italian homeland, and enjoyed planning and preparing for family and friends during the holiday season.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Libera Pilla—a remarkable woman who, along with her dear husband George, rose above the hardships of assimilating into American culture, sculpting a wonderful life for herself and her family, filled with love, warmth, encouragement and support. Although Mrs. Pilla will be deeply missed, her life was joyously lived—and is a life worthy of celebration. I offer my deepest condolences to Mrs. Pilla's sons, Bishop Anthony Pilla and Joe Pilla; to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and to her extended family and many friends. The light and love that Mrs. Pilla so freely gave to others, especially to her family, will live on forever in the hearts of those who knew and loved her well.

HONORING GLORIA STRAIT FOR 50
YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CAPITOL HILL CLUB

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Gloria Strait for the fifty years of service, dedication, and loyalty she has given to the Capitol Hill Club.

Gloria moved from Syracuse, New York to Capitol Hill in 1952. She began her tenure at the Capitol Hill Club on February 5, 1953,

when it was located at 214 First Street. Although she was hired as a cook, she worked as a dishwasher when business was slow. For close to twenty years, Gloria cooked breakfast, lunch, and dinner for the numerous Members of Congress and guests of the Club. During this time, the majority of which was spent in the Club's second home at 75 C Street, she also supervised the kitchen, managed menus, and handled orders. When the Club moved to its current location at 300 First Street in 1972, Gloria was promoted to Purchasing Manager and took on responsibility for handling inventory and vendor relations.

Since a child in New York, Gloria has had the opportunity to meet innumerable celebrities through her involvement in the restaurant industry. And in the fifty years of her employment at Capitol Hill Club, she has met six United States presidents, one dozen governors, countless Congressmen and women, and renown business leaders. She keeps a scrapbook to remember her many friends.

Gloria has helped countless Members of Congress who were far from home to feel at home by cooking favorite meals or baking birthday cakes. It is that type of personal attention and commitment to her job that makes Gloria a vital and welcomed part of the Capitol Hill Club family. For fifty years, Gloria has brightened the Club with her youthful vigor and soaring spirit. As a member of the Club, I thank her for being a part of our extended family and look forward to seeing her in the many years to come.

BEST WISHES TO SALT RIVER
PROJECT

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate a venerable Arizona institution that celebrates this month its 100th anniversary as the nation's oldest multi-purpose reclamation project. I speak of the Salt River Project, an organization with nearly 800,000 electric customers and responsibilities for supplying water to some 1.5 million people in the Phoenix metro area.

While my own Congressional District 8 spans areas outside of SRP's service territory, one cannot live long in Arizona without learning something of the history of this unique public power and water utility. Founded on February 7, 1903, SRP marked the formalization of hopes for transforming a fierce desert into a productive agricultural area.

Eight months earlier, the Reclamation Act of 1902 had been signed into law by President Theodore Roosevelt. Critics maintained the act would be a boondoggle, saddling the federal government with useless burdens. But Roosevelt and his supporters were optimists and had faith in the American spirit of determination.

The fruits of their convictions were borne out.

A federal reclamation loan was approved to help SRP and central Arizona's landowners build a great water storage system to supplement the area's small and unreliable system of ditches and canals. By 1911, using horses, hawsers and hand-tools, workers had com-

pleted Roosevelt Dam—then the largest masonry dam in the world.

With new and dependable sources of water, farms flourished. Local towns and cities grew. More dams were built. And, by the 1930s, SRP with state enabling legislation entered into the power business to ensure repayment of its federal loan obligations.

Today, SRP ranks among the largest public power providers in the nation and an authority on water management. And, at the core of the company's culture is the same durable spirit of community partnership and involvement that was there a century ago.

Mr. Speaker, I offer best wishes to the Salt River Project as it moves ahead in its second hundred years of service—a century certain to bring many new benefits and progress.

FIREFIGHTING RESEARCH AND
COORDINATION ACT

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Firefighting Research and Coordination Act. I am proud of this legislation for what it seeks to accomplish on behalf of our Nation's firefighters. This bill has three primary objectives: support the development of voluntary consensus standards for firefighting equipment and technology, establish nationwide and State mutual aid systems for dealing with national emergencies, and authorize the National Fire Academy to train firefighters to respond to acts of terrorism and other national emergencies.

In large part, the genesis of the Firefighting Research and Coordination Act came after the September 11th attacks. After the tragic events of that day, fire departments throughout America began to grapple with new concerns over how to best train for and respond to terrorist acts. The needs of the fire service continue to grow as new threats emerge. As a result, Congress has a responsibility to assist and protect our firefighters. That is the goal of the Firefighting Research and Coordination Act.

The first objective of the bill focuses on equipment and technology standards. The bill would allow the U.S. Fire Administrator, in consultation with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Inter-Agency Board for Equipment Standardization and Inter-Operability, national voluntary consensus standards development organizations, interested Federal, State, and local agencies, and other interested parties to develop measurement techniques and testing methodologies, and support development of voluntary consensus standards through national standards development organizations, for evaluating the performance and compatibility of new fire fighting technology. Examples of new technologies include: personal protection equipment, devices for advance warning of extreme hazard, equipment for enhanced vision, and robotics and other remote-controlled devices, among others. Equipment purchased under the Assistance to Firefighters grant program must meet or exceed voluntary consensus standards.

Establishing standards for firefighting equipment and technologies will help safeguard the