

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to the families and friends of these four courageous soldiers. These men shared a dedication to the ideals that have made this country great. Their bravery and patriotism makes us all proud, and we will never forget their sacrifice.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SAM
SUPLIZIO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to stand before this body of Congress to honor a man known as Colorado's "Mr. Baseball." Sam Suplizio of Grand Junction, Colorado has spent his life playing, coaching, and promoting the game. As he retires from his position as Director and Chairman of the National Junior College World Series, I would like to pay tribute to this outstanding leader.

Fifty years ago, Sam was one of the top amateur baseball players in the nation. Following a brilliant collegiate career in which he became the University of New Mexico's first All-American baseball player, the New York Yankees signed Sam and quickly labeled him as their top prospect. As a minor leaguer in 1955, Sam hit more home runs than Roger Maris, and the next year the Yankees called him up to the big leagues. Unfortunately, only three days after joining the team, Sam suffered a career-ending injury while sliding into second base.

Despite the setback, Sam rebounded to become a professional scout, coach, and manager with the California Angels and Milwaukee Brewers. He coached superstars Paul Molitor, Robin Yount, and Bo Jackson, participated in selecting members of the U.S. Olympic Baseball Team, and earned a World Series Ring in 1982 with the Brewers.

While his association with professional baseball lasted 50 years, Sam always took the time to give back to the community. In addition to four decades of leadership with the Junior College World Series, thousands of little leaguers, high school, and college players in Colorado benefited from the free clinics Sam frequently conducted. As co-chairman of the Colorado Baseball Commission, Sam led the effort to bring the Rockies to Colorado and was instrumental in the building of Coors Field. He was so effective in that role that Colorado's Governor appointed him to help build a new stadium for the Denver Broncos as well.

Mr. Speaker, athletics teach our young people important life lessons about dedication, sacrifice, and teamwork, and I am proud to pay tribute to a man who has spent five decades imparting these values to our youth. Sam is a true public servant who has done so much for the game of baseball and the state of Colorado, and I am proud to honor him before this body of Congress today.

THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FOUNDING OF ST. PETERSBURG

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, in just a few days President Bush and President Putin, as well as leaders from a number of other countries from around the world, will meet in St. Petersburg, Russia for meetings on contemporary international political and economic issues. But at the same time, these world leaders will join in the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the founding of St. Petersburg. This significant milestone gives us an opportunity to reflect on the history and the significance of this key Russian metropolis.

The city was known as Petrograd during World War One and as Leningrad during the Soviet era, but from its very founding the extraordinary city of St. Petersburg has stood for Russia's Western-facing hopes and dreams. Russian Czar Peter the Great, St. Petersburg's founder, saw clearly that Russia's future lay in engagement with Europe, and believed that the creation of a Russian city with a distinctly European orientation was critical to Russia's development.

St. Petersburg was constructed as Peter's new capital despite the gravest of difficulties, a city that generations of Russians would toil to transform from a swampy wilderness into Europe's "Venice of the North." The effort to create St. Petersburg drew upon the Russian traditions of sacrifice and fortitude that the world would see and respect during World War Two in our common struggle against European fascism.

Since its founding in 1703, St. Petersburg has embodied Russian dreams of all their country could become. Under Catherine the Great the city became one of the grandest centers of science, culture and art in Europe, with European and Russian traditions converging to produce a uniquely Russian style of social and urban development.

St. Petersburg's Hermitage museum is one of the largest and most respected art museums in the world. Catherine the Great founded it to house Russia's collection of many of the world's most precious artistic masterpieces. Russia's intellectual class, rising at that time, also centered in St. Petersburg, attracted by the spirit of liberal development and progress.

Mr. Speaker, St. Petersburg under Catherine the Great firmly made claim to its reputation as a European city of substance, and Russians had and continue to have reason to be proud of all that St. Petersburg represents in Russian society.

The Soviet era again brought great hardships to the people of St. Petersburg, but without the benefit of the freedoms and hope that had originally been the cornerstone of St. Petersburg's appeal. As the center of Russian intellectual activity, it should be no surprise that Stalin's crackdown on artists and thinkers hit St. Petersburg particularly hard. To have lived in the heart of Russian intellectual life, the city of Pushkin and Dostoyevsky, and then to watch the forces of repression and intolerance take hold must have been incredibly painful to bear.

Yet the strength and fortitude of the people of St. Petersburg would before long be on dis-

play for the world once again, as Hitler's armies encircled the city in September 1941. Thus began a siege and blockade of the city that lasted over 2½ years.

Yet never did this city of nearly three million, including hundreds of thousands of children, even contemplate surrender to Hitler and his abhorrent regime. The treasures of the Hermitage museum were hidden in basements, protected by sandbags, and university students continued to go to school and even to be awarded their degrees. The famous Russian composer Dmitry Shostakovich wrote his seventh "Leningrad" symphony during the siege and it was performed in the embattled city.

Mr. Speaker, this spirit of defiance and strength played a key part in the allied victory over fascism, and earned for Russia the respect of the free world.

St. Petersburg has now retaken its original name, one of the first decisions made by popular vote among residents in 1991. The city has also undergone a massive renovation project in preparation for this remarkable milestone, to restore to its buildings their original grandeur and dust off the cobwebs of Soviet neglect once and for all. One of Russia's true national treasures, St. Petersburg is among the country's most important cultural, industrial, tourist, transport and scientific centers.

Today, Mr. Speaker, as in the 300 years of struggle that now lie behind St. Petersburg, the city represents Russia's sense of optimism, its hopes and dreams for its future, and its firm belief that prosperity and national development lie in a strengthened commitment to its relationship with the West.

It is in America's national interest to support this relationship, to give meaning to Russian hopes and dreams, and to see St. Petersburg continue to emerge as a freedom-loving and democratic example to post-Communist societies everywhere. I invite my colleagues to support Russian transition by doing everything possible to achieve these goals, and by promoting the peaceful integration of Russia into the community of free and democratic peoples.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and respect that I applaud the people of St. Petersburg as the city begins its fourth century on Russia's political, social and intellectual frontier. There is a history of sacrifice and of devotion to the principle of intellectual freedom.

St. Petersburg's tradition of academic debate and intellectual freedom is also America's tradition, and Americans look forward to continuing to share with Russia in this vital and productive institution. I invite my colleagues in Congress to join me in congratulating the citizens of St. Petersburg and the people of all Russia on the 300th birthday of this extraordinary city.

RECOGNITION OF CLARA SONSINI

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Clara Sonsini of Jefferson County, Illinois. Clara was recently inducted into the Senior Saints Hall of Fame of Jefferson County.

Clara received this honor for her lifelong service to others. At the onset of World War II she left home and traveled to San Francisco to work for the government in homeland security. Later, Clara and her husband, Dan, moved to Mt. Vernon where they raised three children. Upon their high school graduation she began work at a local nursing home as a nurse's aid and eventually as activity director. Clara's other numerous community activities include Girl Scout Leader, Cub Scout Den Mother, YMCA volunteer, grade school home-room leader, president of the PTA, and American Cancer Society and Red Cross volunteer. She remains vigorously involved with the St. Mary's/Good Samaritan Regional Health Center Auxiliary.

I want to congratulate and thank Clara for all she has done and will continue to do for the people in her community. She is a saint to all who know her and is deserving of this prestigious honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF USO OF
METROPOLITAN NEW YORK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to USO of Metropolitan New York on the occasion of their 37th Annual Luncheon. This year, the USO is honoring Lorraine Bracco as Entertainer of the Year and Patricia Fili-Krushel, Vice President of Administration at AOL Time Warner, as Woman of the Year. Both women have made outstanding contributions to the New York City community.

The USO, founded in 1941 in response to a request by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, is dedicated to providing morale, welfare and recreation type services to uniformed military Personnel. They remain committed to extending a "touch of home" to military members through numerous programs and activities. The USO currently operates throughout the United States and overseas in 121 centers worldwide.

Lorraine Bracco, perhaps best known for her portrayal of psychiatrist Dr. Jennifer Melfi on the HBO hit series "the Sopranos", has earned multiple Emmy, Golden Globe, and Screen Actors Guild Award nominations for Best Actress in a Drama. Ms. Bracco was also nominated for an Academy Award for her performance in the movie "Goodfellas". A student at Stella Adler and the Actors Studio in New York City, Ms. Bracco made her American feature film debut in the 1987 Ridley Scott's thriller, "Someone to Watch Over Me." In addition to extensive film and television credits, Ms. Bracco is a member of the Board of Directors of the environmental organization Riverkeeper, which serves to safeguard the Hudson River, its tributaries and the watershed of New York City against environmental violations by tracking down and stopping polluters. She is also a member of the Board of New York Council for the Humanities.

Patricia Fili-Krushel is the Executive Vice President of Administration of AOL Time Warner. In this role, Ms. Fili-Krushel works closely with AOL Time Warner's senior management team. Her responsibilities include human resources, employee development and growth,

compensation and benefits, as well as security. Before joining AOL Time Warner, Ms. Fili-Krushel was President of the ABC Television network from 1998 to 2000 and was responsible for improving the ABC television ranking from number 3 to number 1. In 1996, she received the prestigious Vision Award for her contributions to the arts. In 1998, Ms. Fili-Krushel was featured by Fortune Magazine among its "50 Most Powerful Women" and in 1999, she received the Women's Project and Productions' Women of Achievement award. Ms. Fili-Krushel currently sits on the Board of Directors for Second Stage Theater, the Board of the Central Park Conservancy, the Board of Center for Communication and was recently named to Mayor Bloomberg's Commission on Women's Issues as Co-Chair of the Child Care initiative. She has made outstanding contributions to the field of communications as well as to improving the New York City community through numerous community service organizations.

In recognition of these outstanding contributions, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the USO of Metropolitan New York on the occasion of their 37th Annual Luncheon as well as in honoring Lorraine Bracco and Patricia Fili-Krushel for their efforts in improving the New York City community.

HONORING MARVIN DAVIES

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Marvin Davies, a longtime civil rights leader in Florida, who lost his life to cancer last month.

Davies began his battle for equality at an early age. By the time he was a college student at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Davies was participating in protests with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and boycotts in Tallahassee, St. Augustine and Montgomery, Alabama. Chosen as Student of the Year, he graduated from FAMU ranked second in his class.

At age 32, Davies was offered the position of Field Secretary for Florida's NAACP. He served Florida's 138 NAACP branches for seven years and became a leader in the fight for equal opportunities for all Americans in employment, schools, hospitals and all other public places.

Later, Davies served as a special assistant and advisor to Senator BOB GRAHAM during his terms as Florida Governor and U.S. Senator, and worked as the state coordinator of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Foundation. Throughout his entire career, Davies was a public voice for minorities and improving the lives of young people in minority communities.

However, the people of St. Petersburg will remember him best for his work in our community. In 1968, Davies returned to St. Petersburg in support of city sanitation workers who were on strike for better wages and benefits. He served on the Coalition of African-American Leadership, created following the St. Petersburg city riots in 1996, as well as the Citizens Advisory Commission, appointed by the Clinton Administration to oversee the Federal assistance to the city after the civil unrest.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay area, I extend my deepest sympathies to Marvin Davies' family and friends. His life work will never be forgotten.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KRISTOPHER
ENTZ

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I honor the life and memory of an outstanding young man from my district. Kristopher Entz, a 17-year-old student from Center, Colorado passed away recently. As his family and friends mourn their loss, I would like to pay tribute to the memory of Kristopher before this body of Congress and this nation.

Kristopher was a well-rounded, perpetually happy, all-American teenager, liked and admired by all. His sense of humor and penchant for pranks made him one of the most popular students at Sangre de Cristo High School. He was an outstanding student, as evidenced by his membership in the National Honor Society and his participation in Knowledge Bowl, an extra-curricular academic competition. Kristopher excelled in athletics as well, and was a terrific football player who also liked snowboarding, golf, and lifting weights.

Kristopher is survived by his parents Mike and Rhonda, his older sister Brynna, and a loving extended family, and my thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time. Kristopher's good-natured spirit will live on in the many lives he has touched in the San Luis Valley. His love, laughter, and dedication to his family, friends, school, and community will be greatly missed.

A TRIBUTE TO MIKE
JENDRZEJCZYK

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2003

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express my fundamental sadness over the sudden and tragic death of my good friend and fellow human rights defender, Mike Jendrzejczyk. Mike died unexpectedly on May 1 in Washington, D.C., at the age of 53. I would also like to take this opportunity to express the condolences of the entire Chamber to Mike's wife, Janet. I thank Mike for his indefatigable efforts in the defense of human rights, which was his service not only to this country but the entire world community. Mike's death leaves a void in the human rights community that we will continue to feel.

Mr. Speaker, we all knew Mike as the Washington Director of Human Rights Watch for the Asia division. In this capacity, Mike has worked with many of my colleagues and our staffs. In his 13 years with Human Rights Watch, all of us have relied on his expert opinions, his professional insights, and his undying commitment to human rights, which was an inspiration to all of us. His testimonies were a fixture of all committee proceedings dealing with Asia, as well as the Congressional