

Student quality at UCSD is at a record high under the guidance of Bob Dynes. Student enrollment has grown 25% since 1996 and quality of life has remained among the highest in the University of California system. This year, UCSD received close to 44,000 applications for admissions, the second-highest rate in the system. An accomplishment he is surely proud of is the one-year retention rate of 94% of all first year students.

Bob set high standards for himself and his administration as well as innovative ways to meet them. This is the truly the sign of someone who is a special leader. I am not just saying this because I am his friend; others see this quality in him as well. Bob has recently been named the 18th president of the University of California system by the UC Board of Regents. He was selected from a national pool of more than 300 candidates. His recommendation was made by a Regental selection committee that was assisted by advisory committees of faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

I would also like to thank Bob for his service to the 50th District of California. He and his administration worked hard to ensure that my staff was well informed of the University's accomplishments, and a variety of issues and challenges they have faced over the course of his term. This University is an important part of my Congressional District and is important to all San Diegans. I could not be happier with the leadership Bob has provided.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Robert Dynes on this occasion of his tenure as Chancellor of the University of California at San Diego for his dedication to education and his continued role in enriching the lives of students across the country. I thank him for his service and wish him continued success in the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "SEPTEMBER 11TH VICTIM COMPENSATION FUND EXTENSION ACT OF 2003"

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Extension Act of 2003," legislation that extends the deadline for filing a claim with the September 11 Victim Compensation Fund to December 31, 2004. I am joined by Reps. NADLER, SCOTT of Virginia, JACKSON LEE, MEEHAN, DELAHUNT, WEINER, SCHIFF, LANGEVIN, SCOTT of Georgia, CARSON of Indiana, SANDERS, CROWLEY and MORAN.

The current deadline for applying for compensation from the Victims Fund is rapidly approaching, but it has become apparent that many families need more time. Thus far, just under a third of eligible families have applied to the Fund for compensation—only about 1,282 death claims and 1,050 injury claims have been filed so far by victim families, according to the Department of Justice.

Ken Feinberg, the Special Master for the Fund, is doing his best to get victims families to understand their rights. Recently, he has even taken out extensive advertisements in a number of newspapers and created a series of

informational meetings and claim assistance sites to assist victims' families to file for compensation with the Victims Fund instead of filing a lawsuit against the airlines industry. These efforts should be commended.

In light of this reality, however, we believe it is appropriate to extend the deadline for filing applications to the Victims Fund to December 31, 2004—an extension of just over a year. This extension would give grieving families additional time to mourn those who were lost and to overcome the emotional challenges of filing paperwork with the Victims Fund. Several September 11 victims support groups all agree that such an extension would provide some relief during these dark days for victims' families, as they endure the grieving process.

As we continue to reflect upon the tragedy of September 11th, victims' families have many burdens. They do not need this arbitrary deadline confronting them between September 11 and the year-end holidays. This is something we can do now for victims of September 11. We strongly encourage our colleagues to support the "September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Extension Act of 2003."

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES BRENNAN

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, our home community of Toledo and the state of Ohio lost a champion citizen and patriot with the passing of James Brennan, who passed from this life on August 11, 2003 at the age of 77.

Born in Chicago, Jim attended Drake University on a football scholarship. He left to join the Army, but upon his return from service, he attended the University of Chicago. While in Chicago, he began his lifelong career in politics in 1955. Two years later, Jim moved to Toledo and established himself as a businessman. He grew Freeman Material Handling, now Brennan Industrial Truck Inc, into a viable business, which he was able to pass down to his children. While a prominent successful business leader, Jim extended himself to the broader community, and served on Ottawa Hills Village Council from 1975 to 1979. He followed this service with three tenures as the chair of the Lucas County Republican Party. His chairmanship was marked by strong leadership, civility, honesty and cooperation across party lines, with his vision always directed toward the betterment of our region. In addition to his county chairmanship, Jim also served at the grassroots level as a precinct committeeman, state central committeeman, and convention delegate.

Jim did not limit his civic-mindedness to business and politics. He was a member of the Ohio Board of Regents and trustee of Defiance College. He served on the boards of the Salvation Army, Goodwill Industries, and St. Vincent Hospital and was president of the Toledo Opera Association. All the while Jim Brennan was first and foremost a devoted family man and caring father and grandfather. A good and kind man beneath a brusque exterior, Jim lent his talents to many endeavors, and our community will miss his wit, energy, bluster, intelligence, and devotion. He helped

build the character and ethic of our community.

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to Jim's children James Jr, Christine, Kate, and Amy, his brother Robert, and his grandchildren. May they find some comfort in the gift of his life and their cherished memories. Jim Brennan will be missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF WANDA RYAN'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE EDUCATION FIELD

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker. I rise before you today in recognition of Ms. Wanda Ryan who has taught for 40 years with perfect attendance at the George Washington School located in Camden, New Jersey, in my District. Ms. Ryan is a shining example of what educators of today should be.

Ms. Ryan had only one leave of absence to give birth, 28 years ago, to her daughter. She went home from work one day and called her doctor with labor pains. The doctor admitted her to the hospital that evening and she gave birth to her daughter. She took a six week maternity leave of absence.

Barring the birth of her daughter, Ms. Ryan has not missed a day of school in her 40 years of teaching 1st grade at the George Washington School. Ms. Ryan has acted as a teacher-mentor over the years, providing wisdom and knowledge to share with her fellow educators. For Mr. Malcolm Adler, Principal at George Washington, Ms. Ryan serves as an exemplar through which he instills the values of dedication and service in new teachers.

There are no plans for retirement in Ms. Ryan's future. Her continued passion and dedication have recently earned her outstanding evaluations from her supervisor and Principal. Ms. Ryan is also well respected by her colleagues at George Washington who last year voted her "Teacher of the Year."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ms. Wanda Ryan on her dedicated service to the public school system, the George Washington School, the City of Camden, and the 1st Congressional District of New Jersey.

TRIBUTE TO THE DELAWARE VOLUNTEER FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION AND THE LADIES' AUXILIARY LED BY PRESIDENTS JASPER LAKEY AND PAT MCCALL ON THEIR NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today as a member of the Congressional Fire Service Caucus to honor and pay tribute to leaders and foundations in the firefighting community—The Delaware Volunteer Fireman's Association and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Delaware Volunteer Fireman's Association. The members of both organizations are outstanding, dedicated and caring Delawareans

who make great sacrifices for the well-being and safety of our great State. On behalf of myself and the citizens of the First State, I would like to honor these outstanding organizations and extend to them our congratulations on serving Delaware.

Today, I recognize the Delaware Volunteer Fireman's Association and the Ladies' Auxiliary for more than just the peace-of-mind that they bring us. I recognize the groups for being leaders in the community and pillars of strength and dedication. Family, friends and fellow firefighters should take a moment to truly appreciate the world of difference the Volunteer Fireman's Association and its Ladies' Auxiliary have made.

In addition to the stature of the two organizations, their respective presidents also deserve our highest regard. President Jasper Lakey of the Delaware Volunteer Fireman's Association has served the Delaware City Fire Company for 54 years. In that time, beside the great feats and tireless dedication, he has served as Chief of the Delaware City Fire Company, Chief at the Texaco Refinery in Delaware City, President of the New Castle County Volunteer Fireman's Association and he served for 12 years as a member of the Delaware State Fire Prevention Committee. His undertakings and accomplishments are almost unmatched by anyone in his field.

Pat McCall presides over the Ladies' Auxiliary and in this capacity she has served the organization extremely well. President McCall is a 47 year member of the Christiana Fire Company Ladies' Auxiliary and her husband Jim has served the Company for 43 years. He was also President of the Delaware Volunteer Fireman's Association in 1979. The prestige of Mrs. McCall's family, of course, does not end there. Her two granddaughters are now members of the Auxiliary and they have reached a tremendous milestone of 5 generations serving the Christiana Fire Company.

With the leadership of Presidents Lakey and McCall, the Volunteer Fireman and the Ladies Auxiliary are certain to continue the great traditions of the volunteer firefighting community.

Once again, I thank the Delaware Volunteer Fireman's Association and the Ladies' Auxiliary for the service they have provided Delaware over their many years. Their commitment to fighting fires and saving lives has earned them a permanent place in Delaware's fire service history.

IN RECOGNITION OF ELEANOR
KAHLE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, September 2003 brings with it the 25th anniversary of the Eleanor M. Kahle Senior Center in our district. Starting life as the West Toledo Senior Center, it was renamed in 1995 upon the passing of its founder and guiding light, Mrs. Eleanor Kahle of Toledo, who passed from this life at the age of 78 years young on August 13, 1995.

In fact, a recognition of the senior center's milestone cannot be made without a tribute to its original inspiration: Eleanor Kahle, Polish-American by heritage, began her life on Sep-

tember 10, 1916, in what was then the small community of Sylvania outside of the city of Toledo. At the time of her death, she had become a citizen of the world. In all of the careers of her life—widowed wife and mother of six children, pastoral associate in the Roman Catholic Church, executive director of the West Toledo Senior Center, and elected official in the city of Toledo—Eleanor Kahle forged new ground. She delighted in the achievements of her sons and family. A devoted woman of the church, she became the first woman to serve as a pastoral associate, and essentially rose to the highest-ranking woman in the U.S. Roman Catholic Church at that time. In 1987, at the age of 70 when most people would not dream of making such a major change in their life, Eleanor Kahle began her stellar political career as an elected official, winning a seat on Toledo's city council, and eventually was elected the city's vice mayor. This work led to her involvement in Sister Cities International. Eleanor Kahle was a woman who drank deeply from life's cup. She was always planning, always working toward unmet horizons.

In 1977, at the suggestion of Eleanor Kahle, a group of people in West Toledo got together to determine the needs of the area's 17,000 seniors. Representatives from fourteen different service and church groups "passed the hat" and collected \$12.47. On September 12, 1978, thirty founders ratified a Constitution, and West Toledo Senior People Inc. was born. They began to plan a center dedicated to meeting the needs of seniors in the neighborhoods of West Toledo. Under the Older Americans Act, such "multi-purpose centers" offered nutritional meals, learning opportunities, invigorating activities, and supportive services to elders in communities all across our Nation. Despite tremendous opposition, West Toledo Senior People doggedly pursued the creation of a senior citizens center. That dream became a reality in 1979 with the birth of the thriving West Toledo Senior Center in the renovated Willys Park Shelter House. Over the following year, 620 volunteers put in nearly 5,000 hours to make the shelter house the home of the West Toledo Senior Center. Eleanor Kahle was the center's first director, leading its growth until her retirement in 1993. Today that center stands, hundreds of seniors strong, housed in a large, expanded, pleasant building, as a true legacy to its founding members.

Immediately, the West Toledo Senior Center made its reputation as an active, involved, savvy group of people dedicated to making life better not only for themselves but seniors as a whole and our community at large. For many years the West Toledo Senior Center was the largest in Toledo. Its members include people from every walk of life, multiple generations, and all corners of West Toledo. It is truly a neighborhood center, and all who enter are immediately swept up into activity, delight, and camaraderie. The center has weathered difficult times as well, as founding members and original activists aged, passed on, and a new crop of leaders emerged to direct the center in the 21st century. Even as its founders pass into memory, the Eleanor M. Kahle Senior Center retains their light, and it continues to be a beacon in our community.

I join with the center's long time members and friends as we look back on a fruitful first 25 years, remembering old friends, special

times, and inspiring moments. Yet, none will rest on the center's history nor the accomplishment of those who brought it to life, nurtured it, saw it through growing pains, and guide it into maturity. Rather, we cherish the first quarter century and look forward toward the bright horizon of tomorrow.

HONORING THE LANSING CITY
RESCUE MISSION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lansing City Rescue Mission for its service and devotion to the less fortunate people in my district. For over ninety years, the City Rescue Mission has been providing warm meals, warm beds and warm hearts to the people of Lansing who are unable to provide for themselves.

The Lansing City Rescue Mission opened its doors in November of 1911 and while finances were tight, the mission still managed to provide warm clothing to the needy and wholesome meals to the hungry. During the depression, the mission opened a soup line to serve the many hungry men and women who were without job, or a home. After several location changes, the mission settled in its present location in 1949. That same year, the mission was incorporated and a board of directors was selected. Throughout the 1950's, the newly incorporated mission continued to expand; and by 1960 the mission could sleep thirty-seven and feed forty-two. Today, the Lansing City Rescue Mission continues to serve the Lansing area with distinction. The mission has grown to 12 separate buildings and serves almost 1,500 needy individuals each year. In 2002, the mission provided almost 19,000 clean beds and over 53,000 nutritious meals.

In 2002, President Bush asked all Americans to devote themselves to the cause of community service and volunteerism. Mr. Speaker, The Lansing City Rescue Mission has been answering this call to service since 1911; and thanks to generous donations and hardworking volunteers, the Lansing City Rescue Mission will continue to serve for many years to come. On behalf of my constituents and the nearly 1,500 people served by the mission every year, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Lansing City Rescue Mission.

REGARDING THE SITUATION IN
CAMBODIA

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2003

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, this summer Cambodia held an important national election and the world is watching to see how its results are implemented under the Cambodian constitution.

Uniquely, the Cambodian constitution requires a two-thirds super majority in the National Assembly in order to form a government. In the national elections that were held