

10 of those years creating and growing his own advertising, graphic design and printing business, a true testament to the hard work and dedication apparent in all his undertakings.

During his illustrious career Mr. Diefenbacher has worked as a consultant, professor, and journalist, passing his limitless knowledge on to countless others. He has held various management positions in companies such as IBM Corporation and Decision Data Corporation.

As a young man, after receiving his Bachelor and Master of Management Engineering Degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Robert served in the U.S. Navy as the Chief Engineer on a destroyer in the Atlantic and Mediterranean fleets. His heroics serving our nation as well as serving those in our community demonstrate Robert's tremendous leadership abilities and have allowed him to hold countless positions of prestige. He is the current Chairman of the West Whiteland Township Concert Series, a past President of the Rotary Club of Central Chester County, past Chair of the Chester County School to Career Partnership. He served as Chair of the Continental Committee of Paoli Presbyterian Church and is Past-Chair of the Advisory Committee of the former Penn State Technology Development Center Business Incubator.

Robert's service has not gone unnoticed by his peers, he has received the Service Award from the Exton Region Chamber of Commerce, was recognized with Thirty Awards for Excellence in the Neographics Competition of Graphics Arts Association, received a Philly Gold Award for a Consumer Magazine Advertising Campaign, a Business of the Year Award from the Exton Region Chamber of Commerce, an Outstanding Service Award from the Chester County Intermediate Unit and a Chamber Service Award from the Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry.

I ask that my colleagues join me today to commend and honor Robert H. Diefenbacher for his many years of service to our community and wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE
PASSING OF KIT GINGRICH

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my condolences to the family of Speaker Gingrich. His mother, Kit Gingrich, died Tuesday night in Harrisburg, PA, at the age of 77.

Having lost a parent myself, I know personally the pain that such a passing brings. My heart goes out to the speaker and to his siblings, who lost a loving and devoted mother. Speaker Gingrich's sister, Susan Gingrich, said nothing brought her mother more pleasure than her family. One of her proudest moments was watching her son, Newt, sworn in as speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives in January 1995.

Speaker Gingrich is from Cobb County, which is my home county, and I represent some of the areas that he formerly rep-

resented. In Cobb County and throughout Georgia, the speaker remains a beloved and revered figure for his great leadership and his contributions to our state and to our nation.

On behalf of the people of Georgia's 11th District, I want to let the Gingrich family know they're in our thoughts and prayers during their time of loss.

COMMENDING MAJORITY LEADER
TOM DELAY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the House Majority Leader, TOM DELAY, for his insightful speech yesterday at The Heritage Foundation. The Majority Leader clearly reminded us that we are a nation at war, engaged in a historic battle against enemies of freedom and liberty.

Yet, just two years after September 11th, instead of consistently working together to defeat international terrorism, some of my colleagues seem more intent on criticizing our Commander in Chief. Sadly, as Majority Leader DELAY said, "In the face of two of the swiftest, most humane, and most successful military campaigns in human history, they descend to name calling.

A political party must offer more than anger and name-calling, they must offer a positive agenda. They cannot just criticize, they must offer solutions. The American people, do not want petty partisan politics and constant nitpicking, they want safety and security from terrorism.

The Majority Leader correctly reminded us, "The United States is at war, and we want the nation—and its political parties—united behind our common mission to defeat global terror."

In conclusion, may God bless our troops.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PAYDEN
BELL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to a young man from my district. Payden Bell of Bayfield, Colorado was the victim of a terrible accident earlier this summer and has shown an amazing level of courage by persevering in the face of difficult odds. As he continues on his path toward recovery, I am honored to recognize Payden before this body of Congress.

Payden was working with the family mule when something apparently spooked the animal and it took off running. In the process, a rope got tangled around Payden's feet, dragging him for over a half-mile. Suffering from life-threatening abrasions and gashes to his body and head, Payden was released from the hospital after 18 days and is expected to make a full recovery.

One can only imagine the pain and suffering Payden experienced. Many adults would not have the will power to overcome the agony of such an injury, yet this young boy has recov-

ered so rapidly that his family believes it is nothing short of a miracle. Payden had skin grafts, stitches and was even placed in an antibiotic jacket to help him heal. Less than three weeks later, his wounds were largely healed.

Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge Payden's triumphant recovery and his courageous spirit throughout this ordeal. Payden's accident was tragic, and his determination has been remarkable. I would like to wish this young man a continued recovery and all the best in the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE FORDHAM HILL
OWNERS CORPORATION

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to the Fordham Hill Owners Corporation, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in October of 2002.

High on a hill overlooking the Harlem River in the Bronx, New York, is the Fordham Hill community. Its nine buildings are situated on 12 acres of beautiful landscaped property; lofty trees of many varieties reach skyward and the rare black furred squirrels give Fordham Hill a suburban feel.

The residents of the Fordham Hill complex are among the fortunate few to have discovered this hidden oasis; where residents enjoy the benefits of the community's close proximity to various sites such as Yankee Stadium, the Bronx Zoo, and the Bronx Botanical Garden. In addition, a wide variety of nearby services, recreational activities, dining, shopping, schools, universities, hospitals, and churches add to the quaintness of the community.

Mr. Speaker, this beautiful community was planned, designed and completed by the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States in 1950. Initially created to serve as apartments for rent, this complex was transformed by E. Thomas Williams Jr., a skilled real estate investor and entrepreneur, who in 1980 outlined a plan to convert the financially troubled apartments into co-op dwellings. Williams, determined to buy the complex, raised funds, took out loans and eventually gained ownership of 65 percent of the complex. He and members of the original co-op committee worked diligently to gain support for the conversion by convincing tenants that a major benefit of buying their apartments was an opportunity for them to accrue some equity in their property after years of paying rent. By 1982 the conversion was in place, the Fordham Hill Owners Corporation was established, and Fordham Hill became the largest privately funded cooperative complex in the city of New York.

The Fordham Hill Owners Corporation is a diverse community of people from all backgrounds and professions who take pride in the community and play an active role in preserving the quality of life at the co-op. As a result of the direct involvement of co-op members, the community is thriving and continues to add splendor to the Bronx.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the Fordham Hill Owners Corporation for maintaining a well-run corporation with a high quality of life for residents for more than twenty years.

IN HONOR OF THE HISPANIC-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF ESSEX COUNTY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hispanic-American Chamber of Commerce of Essex County for its efforts in developing and advancing the role of Hispanics in small businesses, and in enhancing the interests of Hispanics throughout Essex County and New Jersey. On September 25, 2003, the Hispanic-American Chamber of Commerce of Essex County will hold its 15th Annual Corporate Lunch and Scholarship Awards Presentation at the Newark Club in Newark, New Jersey.

The Hispanic-American Chamber of Commerce of Essex County (HACCEC) has contributed to the increased prosperity and achievement of Hispanics throughout the State by forming new partnerships with Latin America, bringing products and jobs back to New Jersey, and creating further economic development and business opportunities throughout our region. As a member of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the HACCEC has successfully brought the issues and concerns of Hispanic-owned businesses to the forefront of the national economic agenda. The Chamber is currently advancing its mission by building the first Hispanic Business Center in Essex County. This will provide the HACCEC with the resources to develop and support economic opportunities for the Hispanic community of Essex County and throughout New Jersey.

I would like to extend my gratitude and congratulations to this year's honorees: Miguel E. Rodriguez; Mario E. Moyano; Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.; Hector M. Corchado; and Anthony F. Ambrose.

Currently president of the HACCEC and former Deputy Mayor of Newark, Miguel E. Rodriguez has led a career proven in leadership and commitment to the Hispanic community. His vast community resources, marketing and management experience, and commitment to diversity have helped make the HACCEC a great resource for small businesses.

The president of American Latin Travel Agents in America, Mario E. Moyano, has been a leader in Newark for over 20 years. Born in Ecuador, he came to the United States in 1969, and by 1975, had established his own business, the Moyano Agency. He is currently the voice of over 160 travel agencies throughout the Newark area.

Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., has brought quick and impressive change to Essex County. One of his first actions as county executive was establishing the Office of Cultural Diversity and Affirmative Action to ensure adequate minority participation in county affairs. Heavily involved with the Essex County Parks system, Mr. DiVincenzo is the founder of the Newark "Small Fry" basketball program, the Rick Cerone Little League, and other recreational programs.

Newark City Councilman Hector M. Corchado has been an effective and dedicated member of his community. A longtime resident

of Newark, Councilman Corchado was elected to the City Council in 2002. Mr. Corchado began his career in the Newark Police Department over 14 years ago, where he served as a detective and sergeant in the Community Affairs Division. A natural leader in the police department, he went on to become deputy mayor of Newark before serving on the City Council.

As the chief of police for Newark, Anthony F. Ambrose, III, has served with the Newark Police Department for 17 years. Chief Ambrose rose quickly through the ranks of the Department, and has been a dedicated officer and a true public servant, always keeping the interests of the community at the forefront.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Hispanic-American Chamber of Commerce of Essex County and its honorees for playing a critical role in the success of Hispanic businesses throughout Essex County and New Jersey.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF McGUIRE MEMORIAL

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to pay tribute to an outstanding health care facility located in the district I represent in the U.S. House of Representatives. 2003 marks the 40th anniversary of McGuire Memorial, an outstanding provider of care for the multiply handicapped. McGuire was founded in 1962 by the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh through a proposal by the Felician Sisters.

I have personally visited McGuire and, as such, am familiar with the level of care and compassion that this remarkable facility offers its patients. I was inspired by my visit to McGuire and am pleased at the growth that the facility has experienced over the years.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in wishing continued success to McGuire Memorial on the celebration of its 40th Anniversary.

HONORING MAYOR WILMER JONES-HAM

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mayor Wilmer Jones-Ham as she is honored with the Woman of the Year Award by the Dr. Marie Wright Tolliver Cultural and Civic Club of Saginaw, Michigan on Sunday, October 5th.

The Dr. Marie Wright Tolliver Cultural and Civic Club is an associated club of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Incorporated. The Woman of the Year Award is named in honor of Dr. Tolliver and the work she has done over the years to improve life in the Saginaw area.

In keeping with the motto of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, "Lift-

ing as we Climb," Mayor Ham has devoted her life to her church, her family and her community. Born and raised in Saginaw, she graduated from Saginaw Valley State University with a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education and a Masters Degree in Supervision and Administration. She then returned to her roots in the Saginaw School System and taught 7th and 8th grades for 24½ years.

As a devoted proponent of Saginaw her civic involvement is extensive. As an active member of numerous organizations including the NAACP, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, SIGMA, MBS International Airport, Downtown Development Board, New Perspectives, League of Women Voters, National Education Association, Habitat for Humanity, Agape Home for Social Change, Saginaw International Mahogany Models, Boys and Girls Club, Saginaw Soul Children, Saginaw Orchestra, the Mayor's Ball and Scholarship Foundation, and Restoration Community, Mayor Ham has contributed insight, leadership, and direction to every organization fortunate to have her as a member.

Through her position as Music Minister with Tabernacle Baptist Church she has expanded the ministry and founded several organizations devoted to praising God. With her personal motto of "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13), Mayor Ham has developed the 100 Voice Boys Choir, and Women and Men in Praise. Mayor Ham also serves as a member of the Saginaw Interdenominational Ministries and the board of St. John Trinity.

Mayor Ham was married to the late Howard Leon Ham, is the mother to DeRonnie, DeToya and Darvin and the grandmother to Darvin Jr., Donovan, Dominic, Dominique, DeRhonda, and Alexis. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me today and join in congratulating Mayor Wilmer Jones-Ham as she is honored by the members of the Dr. Marie Wright Tolliver Cultural and Civic Club of Saginaw.

RECOGNIZING UNDERSHERIFF CURTIS WATSON

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to pay tribute to Undersheriff Curtis L. Watson for his thirty-three years of exemplary service in law enforcement. On October 17, 2003 Undersheriff Watson will be honored at the Hayward South Alameda County NAACP's Community Service Awards Banquet.

Undersheriff Watson is a native of Little Rock, Arkansas, and prior to beginning his career in law enforcement, he served in the United States Air Force from 1966–1970. During the past thirty-three years with the Alameda County Sheriff's Department, he has held a variety of positions. In July of 1980, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and was assigned to the Santa Rita Jail and later to the Criminal Investigation Unit. In July of 1986, he was promoted to Lieutenant and assigned to the jail system before returning to the Criminal Division as a watch commander in Patrol.

In January of 1990, Undersheriff Watson was promoted to Captain and became the