

Whereas, Michael Zvolensky has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Michael Zvolensky must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with Troop 358 and the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Michael Zvolensky as he receives the Eagle Scout Award.

100TH BIRTHDAY OF MRS. HELEN
SNELL CHEEL

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 100th birthday of Mrs. Helen Snell Cheel of Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ. Mrs. Cheel is the daughter of the late Honorable Bertrand H. Snell, minority leader of the House of Representatives from 1931–1938 and Congressman for 24 years from the 31st District of New York. Mrs. Cheel is also the great aunt of my Connecticut staff member, Elizabeth J. Buell.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Cheel is a remarkable, independent woman. Her friendships, keen intellect, sense of humor, infectious laugh, unwavering generosity and ability to live in the present have served her well for 100 years. At a time when few women attended college, Mrs. Cheel earned a B.S. in Music Education from Columbia University. She married the late Harold W. Cheel, an engineer, successful architect and developer of Cheelcroft in Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Cheel has been recognized on many occasions for her lifelong philanthropic endeavors and her community service. She has been a standard-bearer, true friend and proud supporter of Clarkson University in Potsdam, NY, the Emma Willard School in Troy, NY, and the Valley Hospital in Ridge-wood, NJ. She has served on the boards of many local and regional organizations and institutions. I wish to recognize Mrs. Cheel and congratulate her on her 100th birthday.

ALAMEDA CORRIDOR REPAYS
FEDERAL LOAN AHEAD OF
SCHEDULE

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, last Thursday, the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (ACTH) paid, in full, the balance of the federal loan that financed construction of improved access for cargo container traffic from the Port of Los Angeles and Long Beach. I congratulate the Authority for retiring this debt 28 years ahead of schedule.

Approved by Congress as part of the 1997 Transportation Appropriations Act, the loan provided crucial support for the \$2.4 billion construction project. Together, the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach comprise the largest port complex in the United States, han-

dling more than 40 percent of the Nation's imports. Last year, for example, the Port of Los Angeles, which I represent in part, handled more than 7.1 million cargo containers a 17½-percent increase over the previous year.

Moving these containers safely and efficiently from both ports to points east is a Herculean task. The Alameda Corridor, which opened in April 2002 on time and within budget, comprises railroad and highway improvements and, in particular, a 20-mile grade-separated rail line that relieves congestion and mitigates the impact of cargo container movement on neighboring communities.

Financing of the Alameda Corridor would not have succeeded if it were not for the persuasive bipartisan efforts of the entire Los Angeles congressional delegation. On many occasions, I joined then-Representative Steve Horn, who represented the Port of Long Beach, Representatives JERRY LEWIS and LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD and the late-Representative Julian Dixon, key members of the appropriations committee, and my colleagues JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD and DAVID DRIER, in pressing for enactment of the federal loan at key points in the legislative process.

I also want to praise Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta for his leadership as Secretary and as both the chairman and ranking member of the House Public and Transportation Committee during his tenure in the House. His unfailing support of this project has not gone unnoticed or unappreciated.

Mr. Speaker, with cargo volume forecasted to dramatically increase as a result of the worldwide economic recovery, the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are poised to take advantage of increased trade from the Pacific Rim. The Alameda Corridor project demonstrated the constructive roles both the federal and local governments can play in meeting the needs of expensive, complex but nonetheless important projects for moving containers to markets overseas and elsewhere. Indeed, plans are already underway to extend the Corridor eastward—a plan I strongly support and which will further enhance the economy of southern California and the Nation.

My congratulations to the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, and to all the individuals and local officials who supported this project, for a job well done.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
DANIEL THOMPSON, POET LAUREATE OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Daniel Thompson, Poet Laureate of Cuyahoga County, OH. Daniel Thompson passed away last week after a 2-year battle with cancer. Through his words as a poet and his deeds as a tireless advocate for the homeless, the hungry, and people on the streets, Daniel Thompson set an example for his community.

Daniel's public readings were held as often in jazz clubs, junkyards, and jailhouses as they were in bookstores, cafes, and other ordinary venues. His poetry, often humorous and

playful, conveyed messages about our times and inspired our thoughts and actions. He was a frequent contributor to the "Homeless Grapevine," Cleveland's monthly street newspaper sold by homeless vendors. His poem, "A New Beatitude," was published in the March–April 2004 issue of the Grapevine:

Walking to starlight

In a dark season:

I hear a new beatitude, America

Listen

Blessed are the homeless

For they shall inherit the street

The sidewalks, the bushes

The cold, cold ground

Whatever falls from heaven

Pennies of rain, of snow

Any spare change of weather

Day-old manna

The donut and the hole

The donut, the hole in the sock

In the sole of the shoe

And in the cold, cold ground

And O I almost forgot, America

This, too, from you

The cold eye of the stranger . . .

But it was not just Daniel's words, but also his deeds that will be missed. He frequently brought food and water to Cleveland's homeless and he petitioned city and county officials to install public drinking fountains for people living on the streets. He marched with Martin Luther King in Chicago and as a freedom rider in the deep south in the early 1960s where he was targeted by an angry mob in North Carolina in 1961.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and remembrance of Daniel Thompson. Like other poets hailing from Cleveland such as Langston Hughes, Hart Crane, and d.a. levy, Daniel has a place in our community's literary history. And as a citizen, Daniel Thompson will long be remembered for his advocacy, sympathy, and soul. But his presence on Cleveland's streets will be sorely missed.

HONORING THE AMERICAN LUNG
ASSOCIATION ON ITS 100 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the American Lung Association on the occasion of its 100th year anniversary. Over the past century, the American Lung Association has played a vital role in protecting public health and shaping public policy in this country and worldwide. We all live in a safer and healthier world thanks to the diligent efforts of the American Lung Association and its many staff and volunteers.

The American Lung Association developed the Nation's very first public health campaign, and it has been on the forefront of public health ever since. I have had the great privilege of working closely with representatives of the American Lung Association for more than 20 years, and I have seen first hand their role in shaping national policy to improve public health. As the former chair of the Health and Environment Subcommittee, I frequently heard testimony from American Lung Association witnesses who provided important information regarding a wide range of health issues—ranging from the devastating health effects of