their lynching it is important that we hold up to our youth and to the world these examples of three ''greatest'' American men.

THE ANGELS CRIED

The day Chaney, Schwerner and Goodman died
Was a day the angels cried:
Heroes who laid down their lives,
Courage recorded for eternal archives.
Medals of honor belong to the brave
Who take no lives but struggle to save
The credo of justice for all;
Build them a three person Memorial Wall.
Suicide bombers look down and see
True martyrs who won great glory
In the war for ideals
Fought past Mississippi cotton fields;
Three sacrificed the full measure of devotion,
Murder of enemies is an obsolete notion,
Love is a weapon of overwhelming emotion.
Sound the trumpet again and again
Appreciate the sacrifice of three greatest American men.
The day Chaney, Schwerner and Goodman died
Was a day angels in heaven cried.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PETUNIA FESTIVAL

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I have the great honor and privilege of representing the city of Dixon, Illinois. Dixon encompasses all that is good in America. It's a place that puts a great emphasis on the importance of family and friendship. Mom-and-Pop businesses are often passed down from generation to generation and its citizens continue to honor traditions from years past. For that reason, I rise today to recognize one of these long and celebrated traditions—the 40th anniversary of the Petunia Festival.

In 1830, Father John Dixon purchased land in the western parts of Illinois and soon began ferrying people across the Rock River to settle the area that would later be named after its founder. Unfortunately, in the 1950s a combination of Dutch Elm disease and major highway expansion resulted in the removal of all trees along the community's major roadways.

Nonetheless, in 1960, a small group of residents, better known as the Dixon Men's Garden Club, grew tired of the arid landscape and planted 4,000 petunias along South Galena Avenue to enhance the aesthetic beauty of the small Midwestern town. The following year, the Garden Club planted 6,000 more petunias, this time along North Galena Avenue.

Each year since, the residents of Dixon pay tribute to the Dixon Men's Garden Club by planting and caring for 24,000 petunia plants, which now extend along all major streets throughout the town.

In recent years, Dixon has received much attention for their annual Petunia Festival celebration. In fact, in 1999, the 91st General Assembly of Illinois passed a resolution declaring the city of Dixon, Illinois, the ''Petunia Capital of Illinois.'' In addition, the fun-spirited festival has earned the town national recognition and is often referred to as the ''Petunia City'' by passing travelers.

Once again, I want to congratulate the city of Dixon as it celebrates its 40th anniversary of the Petunia Festival and wish its citizens, and my constituents, all the best in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO LCDR BRUCE D. CLEMONS, UNITED STATES NAVY

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lieutenant Commander Bruce D. Clemons who leaves his active duty assignment with the United States Navy this month after seven years of service to our Nation and to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Dr. Clemons' last assignment in the Navy was as the Senior Medical Officer at the Office of the Attending Physician here in the United States Capitol. In that position, he has provided invaluable medical assistance to my colleagues and me in the House and Senate, to the members of our staffs, and to the hundreds of thousands of visitors. All who came into contact with Dr. Clemons will agree that he served with an unmatched level of commitment and professionalism.

This dedication to duty and service yielded many honors for Dr. Clemons. These include the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medical, the Navy Unit Commendation, and the National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star. Perhaps the honor that best reflects his medical ability and coolness under pressure is the U.S. Public Health Service Crisis Response Award that he recently received for his work in responding to the Anthrax bioterrorism attacks on the United States Capitol. His immediate actions in the face of grave, unknown danger prevented the potential loss of life and serious illness for those exposed to the deadly Anthrax spores. In addition to providing medical care, he helped develop a comprehensive plan to deal with the crisis both in the short and long-term, and he calmly provided valuable information to members and staff who were or may have been exposed to these toxins.

Mr. Speaker, Bruce Clemons has been an outstanding sailor, doctor, and friend. My colleagues in the House appreciate his service to the Navy and to the United States Congress. We will greatly miss Bruce and want to wish him and his wife Catherine and their two children Abigail and William all the best as they continue Bruce's medical career in central Virginia.

IN HONOR OF DONALD J. CAMPBELL, RETIRING DIRECTOR OF NASA GLENN RESEARCH CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Donald J. Campbell—admired and respected businessman, community leader, and friend and mentor to countless—upon his retirement following 10 years of exemplary service as the Director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Glenn Research Center at Lewis Field in Cleveland, Ohio.

Under his tenure as Director, Mr. Campbell carried out the mission of the NASA Glenn Research Center with great focus, vision, and dedication. He easily garnered the admiration of the entire staff at NASA Glenn. Moreover, Mr. Campbell forged strong partnerships with local and national business leaders, political leaders, and educational institutions, including historically black colleges and universities. These unbreakable bonds that radiate outward from NASA Glenn Research Center inspire countless young adults to follow their dreams of exploring careers in aeronautics, elevate our community's interest and understanding of aeronautics, and serve to support and enhance numerous educational opportunities for students within our community. As the only African American NASA Center Director during his tenure, Mr. Campbell served as an inspiration to numerous young Americans to remain focused on their academic and professional dreams, despite barriers or challenges along the way.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Mr. Campbell continues to take an active role within our community. He is a member of the board of directors of the American Red Cross and is a member of the Kent State University Aeronautics Division Advisory Board. Mr. Campbell has been honored numerous times for his significant career in public service, including the Affirmative Action Award from the Ohio Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, and the Technical Excellence in Government and Engineer Award from the National Technical Association.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Mr. Donald J. Campbell, as we recognize his significant contribution to NASA Glenn Research center and to our entire community. His work, expertise and dedication has enhanced and fortified the cornerstone of technology within our region. More importantly, it has served to provide tangible educational opportunities and limitless dreams of possibility for the young people of our community. I extend best wishes of peace, health and happiness to Mr. Campbell and his family, today, and throughout all of his future endeavors.

HONORING THE WHARTON FIRE DEPARTMENT OF MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Wharton Fire Department, in Wharton, Morris County, New Jersey, a patriotic community I am proud to represent! On June 5, 2004 the good citizens of Wharton celebrated the Fire Company's Centennial Anniversary with special festivities and a parade.

For one hundred years, the Wharton Fire Department has been protecting and serving the residents of their community. Established by the collective efforts of the property owners in the Borough of Wharton, the ordinance ''to

provide for, establish and regulate a fire department in the Borough of Wharton'' was declared law by Mayor Harry J. Williams on February 15, 1904. The ordinance designated a Chief, First Assistant Chief and Second Assistant Chief. It also called for the formation of three companies: the Active Hose Company with twenty members, the Independent Hook and Ladder Company with forty members, and the Board of Fire Wardens composed of twenty members. A list of names were read and approved on April 4, 1904. Charles Hance was the first Chief of the Wharton Fire Department, Robert Oram was approved as the first Assistant Chief and John McKenna was approved as the Second Assistant Chief.

To get started, the Wharton Fire Department borrowed two two-wheeled, hand drawn hose carriages from first Assistant Chief Robert Oram. Soon after, the Fire Department ordered a hose cart and a hand drawn hook and ladder truck. Several other hose carts and horse-drawn ladder trucks were purchased until the first gasoline-motorized piece of equipment, an ''REO'' fire truck, was purchased and put into use in 1916.

The first means of alerting the firemen to an emergency was by striking large locomotive rims located in several sections of town. Then, in December 1904, an 8-inch steam whistle was installed at the Hurd Mine. After the mine was closed, the whistle was transferred to the furnace and then to the Gunther Silk Mill, This trusty steam whistle was used until 1918 when a manually controlled electric siren was installed in a cupola atop the Borough Hall. In 1929, the first of 19 fire alarm boxes were installed on street corners across the Borough. In the 1950's, additional electronic sirens were installed as the population of the town increased: Today, every Saturday at noon, the fire alarm system is tested by the four sirens still in use. But the Department is dispatched, by home radio receivers and personal pagers.

To commemorate the Wharton Fire Department's 100th Anniversary, the Borough hosted fire companies from all over New Jersey and the surrounding area on June 5, 2004. The Wharton Fire Department has always been known for its marching ability and its drill team, and first marched in August of 1907 in nearby Hackettstown. The Department won its first prize in 1908 and today over 200 trophies adorn the walls of their firehouse.

The Wharton Fire Department has grown over the years to meet the changing demands of the town and to incorporate the newest firefighting and lifesaving technologies. From its charter members to its current roster, the membership of the Wharton Fire Department has over the last century dedicated itself to the safety and welfare of Wharton's good citizens. Wharton's firefighters, dedicated public servants, past and present, are to be commended for a job well done.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the volunteers of the Wharton Fire Department on the celebration of 100 years of a rich history in the protection of one of New Jersey's finest municipalities.

HONORING THE FIREFIGHTERS WHO SAVED LAKE ARROWHEAD

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to call attention to the federal, state and local firefighters whose bravery and quick thinking saved thousands of homes and many lives in the San Bernardino Mountains of California last year. Representatives of these community heroes are in town this week for well-deserved national recognition from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and I would like to add my voice to the acclaim they are receiving.

My colleagues have heard me say many times on this floor that we are facing a terrible crisis in our Southern California forests. Years of drought have weakened the trees, and allowed the pine bark beetle to attack and kill millions of them—leaving hundreds of acres ready to burn at any time. More than 100,000 of my constituents live among these trees, and their lives and safety are at risk until we remove these dead and dying trees.

In October last year, the disaster we feared struck California—and struck and struck again. Within days, fires were consuming tens of thousands of acres in San Bernardino, Los Angeles, San Diego and Ventura counties. In my district, a fire started in the foothills and spread to 100 acres within ten minutes. In less than an hour, it became clear that nearby communities would need to be evacuated. By nightfall the Old Fire consumed over 4,000 acres of land. It destroyed 400 homes and was responsible for two fatalities before the day was out. Ultimately, nearly 1,000 homes were lost.

As dawn arrived on October 26, Fire Incident Commander Norm Walker was contemplating the distinct possibility of the worst-case scenario: fire reaching the 40,000 homes in the Lake Arrowhead community. Mandatory evacuations of all of the mountain communities began. Resources were stretched to the absolute maximum, due to other fires burning throughout the state.

The San Bernardino Mountains rise steeply to 10,000 feet above the city, and running along the face of the mountains between 5,000 feet and 7,000 feet is the famous Rim of the World Highway, State Route 18. This is also the last point where the fire could be stopped before roaring into the millions of dead trees in and around our mountain communities. By evening on October 26, the main fire crossed Highway 18, and the order was given to begin backfiring along the highway across the mountain rim to the east. The northeast winds were predicted to shift, which would push the flames north across Highway 18 and directly into the community of Lake Arrowhead.

Four highly trained firefighters in a unified command, Randy Clauson (USFS), Jim Ahearn (USFS), George Corley (San Bernardino County Fire), and Bill Bagnell (Crest Forest Fire) initiated the difficult, strenuous firing operation at 9:00 pm using limited personnel. Except for radio communication, these four on-the-scene chiefs were largely on their own. Every member of their teams faced the possibility of being caught by 100-foot walls of flame that were sweeping up the mountains. But they stayed the course for the next two days—and the success of their operation is evidenced by the fact that nearly all of the mountain homes were spared.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt in my mind the heroic, exhausting efforts of these four individuals over the course of three days resulted in saving thousands of homes and billions of dollars of infrastructure around Lake Arrowhead. Anyone who has seen photos of the conditions along Highway 18 during the height of the fire is in awe of the courage and fortitude of these firefighters, and mountain residents will be forever grateful for saving their homes.

In honor of those efforts, the fire chiefs on Friday will receive the U.S. Department of Agriculture Honor Award for heroism and emergency response. I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating them on this recognition, and thanking them for representing the highest level of bravery and resourcefulness in defending and saving our communities.

SYMPATHIES TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF LANCE CORPORAL PEDRO CONTRERAS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Lance Corporal Pedro Contreras.

Lance Cpl. Contreras was a constituent of the 29th District of Texas, and a true hero, who died on June 21, 2004 while serving his country in the Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

Pedro Contreras joined the Marine Corps on May 7, 2001, five years after graduating from Galena Park High School.

Lance Cpl. Contreras was a rifleman assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force based in Camp Pendleton, California, where he earned several honors, including the National Defense Service Medal and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

Pedro Contreras leaves behind his two parents, Jose and Angela Contreras, and three brothers.

I know his parents, family and friends are devastated by this loss, but they should be proud of the great man Pedro Contreras had become and that he died a hero while serving his country.

His loss will be felt by all of our community, and I ask that you remember the Contreras family in your thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER A. RHODEN, USN

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to an outstanding Naval Officer, Commander Chris