

award. They roasted him by sharing stories of his nearly fifty year career. According to a friend "Jerry had a terrific sense of humor. And that he just laughed and laughed."

Jerry Milano had a reputation of being a tough, thorough and always prepared advocate for his clients. He also had a reputation of being a kind and generous man who counted among his friends one-time adversaries. Many stories have been told over the years of his many generous acts on behalf of other lawyers, friends and persons he only knew as acquaintances.

Stories have been told about some of Jerry Milano's courtroom antics. Many of the stories describe humorous, good natured acts before the bench. Some of the stories, while humorous, led to the mischievous lawyer having his wrist slapped by the presiding judge. His comic behaviors, never mean spirited, showed his quick wit and light-hearted sense of humor.

Attorney Jerry Milano, a graduate of Kent State University and Cleveland Marshall College of Law, tried cases of great notoriety. His clients, his opposing counsel, the presiding judge and jury had an opportunity to witness a professional. He defended his clients aggressively, competently, and according to the Canons of Ethics. After more than fifty (50) years of practice in Ohio, Florida and Alabama, Attorney Jerry Milano retired because of illness.

As a young assistant county prosecutor, I watched in awe, and gained valuable insight, as Attorney Milano examined a prosecution witness. As a judge I enjoyed trying cases with Jerry. He made the prosecutors do their jobs. As friends, Jerry and Rita Milano have been with me through all of my ups and downs. Thank you for your friendship.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the citizens of the 11th Congressional District, Ohio, I extend condolences to Rita, Jay and Debbie Milano on the loss of a loving family man and friend. I join the Bar in celebrating the life and times of a legal superstar.

INTRODUCTION OF THE
"REMEMBER 9/11 HEALTH ACT"

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Remember 9/11 Health Act" with Representatives SHAYS, NADLER, OWENS, RON KIND, McDERMOTT, MCCARTHY, and HINCHEY.

During the days following September 11, 2001, tens of thousands of people rushed to the World Trade Center to assist in the rescue and recovery efforts. Their mission was clear—to help the people suffering from the attack. Now, more than 3 years after the attacks, rescue and recovery workers remain sick and out of work as a direct result of their exposure to Ground Zero. To make matters worse, many sick rescue and recovery workers no longer have health care insurance due to their long-term unemployment. Despite this public health emergency, there is still no one in charge, there is no money for treatment, there is no research into its cause, the monitoring program established by Congress can only screen a fraction of those exposed to

Ground Zero and it only has been funded for a 5-year period, not the 20 years suggested by the medical community.

To remedy this problem we are reintroducing the "Remember 9/11 Health Act" (H.R. 4059 in the 108th Congress).

The "Remember 9/11 Health Act" contains four main points: Treatment, Expanded Monitoring, Research and Coordination.

I. Providing Treatment.—Modeled after a program that provides health insurance for injured volunteer forest firefighters, this bill provides federal health insurance to individuals suffering injuries and/or health problem as a result of the September 11th Terrorist Attacks. Recipients do not pay for any health care expenses, including prescription drugs and copayments. This program also includes mental health coverage.

II. Expanding Health Monitoring.—Maintains current monitoring program that is screening a limited number of rescue and recovery workers, including the separate program for the Fire Department, while expanding it to a level recommended by the public health community.

III. Research.—Directs the National Institutes of Health to conduct or support diagnostic and treatment research for health conditions that are associated with the exposure to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

IV. Coordination.—Establishes the 9/11 Health Emergency Coordinating Council under the direction of the Department of Health and Human Services for the purpose of discussing, examining, and formulating recommendations for the adequacy and coordination of the Federal Government, State government and local governments response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Providing a coordinated federal response that includes not only monitoring, but treatment and research is the right thing to do. We need to send a message to rescue and recovery workers everywhere that if you are there for us when we need you, we will also be there when you need us. Anything short of that is unfair and could jeopardize the rescue and recovery response to future national emergency.

HONORING SUSAN KIRK

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor University of Colorado Regent Susan Kirk. Regent Kirk was elected to represent the First Congressional District in 1992 and was re-elected in 1998 by an overwhelming margin. She was elected chair of the board in 1997 where she provided leadership on the creation of a Women's Studies degree and the application for transfer and conveyance of the Fitzsimmons property. Susan had served the maximum 12 years allowed when her term ended in 2004.

Regent Kirk has been a tireless champion of women's and children's rights, equal opportunity and treatment, and expanding access to higher education. Her altruistic efforts in the community are legendary. She and her husband Dick established the Susan Kirk Scholarship for female students in the Graduate School of Public Affairs. She has also been a

contributor to and advocate for the Center for Women's Health Research. Susan Kirk is a key player in many, if not most, charitable endeavors in our community.

Susan held leadership roles at the University of Colorado during both triumphs and challenging times. She has always been more interested in staying true to friendships and looking for solutions than in stirring controversy and grabbing headlines. The strength and grace of her leadership has meant a great deal to our community and is something I personally admire.

I ask my colleagues to join me recognizing my friend, Susan Kirk for her immeasurable contribution to the University of Colorado. I wish her and her husband Dick much health and happiness in their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMESON JOSEPH COLLINS UPON HIS ACHIEVEMENT OF EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent Jameson Joseph Collins of Eagle Scout troop No. 204 in Lafayette, California, as he receives the distinguished honor of the Eagle Scout rank.

The honor of Eagle Scout is given only to those young men who have demonstrated that they have fulfilled its rigorous requirements, including living by the Scout Oath and Law, rising through the Boy Scout ranks, earning 21 merit badges, serving as a leader, and planning and leading a service project for their community. This is not an honor given out lightly: this young man is becoming an Eagle Scout because he is intelligent, dedicated, and principled.

I am proud to call Jameson Joseph Collins my constituent, for he is a shining example of the promise of the next generation. Indeed, he represents the best of the young people in our country. I extend my sincere congratulations to him and his family, on this momentous occasion.

CONGRATULATING THE 2004 FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CLASS 4A STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the 2004 Florida High School Athletic Association, FHSAA, Class 4A State Football Champion Seffner Armwood High School Hawks from the 12th Congressional District of Florida.

The Hawks won their second straight State title after a hard fought victory over the Lake Gibson Braves also from 12th Congressional District. I also want to recognize the valiant efforts of the entire Lake Gibson football team, even though they came up short in this year's state championship game.

I commend the champion Seffner Armwood football team for a wonderful and magical run this year. The people of Florida and Hillsborough County are proud of you. You have all demonstrated that hard work, perseverance and unity are the foundation of success.

I applaud both Seffner Armwood and runner-ups Lake Gibson's football coaching staff for their commitment and dedication to their players and for proving that hard work, sportsmanship and determination pay off.

I salute the Seffner Armwood High School students, teachers, coaches and the entire football team on their achievement as once again victors of the Class 4A State championship football game.

THE OJITO WILDERNESS ACT

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Ojito Wilderness Act. This bill designates the Ojito Wilderness Study Area, an area totaling approximately 11,000 acres, as a permanent wilderness area to be protected pursuant to the 1964 Wilderness Act. The bill also provides for the purchase and transfer of adjacent Bureau of Land Management, BLM, lands, contiguous to the established boundaries of the Pueblo of Zia, by the Pueblo. This land, an area totaling approximately 13,000, will then be taken into trust and held for the benefit for the Pueblo by the Secretary of the Interior, and would subsequently be managed by the Pueblo in perpetuity as wilderness.

This bipartisan, bicameral legislation is the result of true collaboration among many people in New Mexico. Very similar versions of this bill were introduced, deliberated on, and passed unanimously in both the House and the Senate during the 108th Congress. This is truly a compromise bill, and I look forward to its swift passage in the House. I am proud to say that in New Mexico most of the people I meet recognize how vitally important it is to protect natural areas, to encourage the sustainable use of our State's natural resources, and to honor the role of land in the lives of Native Americans. As this Ojito legislation demonstrates, with creativity and cooperation we can find mutually compatible solutions for all of these necessities.

This proposal has been under consideration for many years. In 1991, Manuel Lujan, the Secretary of the Interior in the former President Bush's cabinet, recommended the Ojito area to Congress for wilderness designation. The BLM has evaluated this area and found it qualifies for full wilderness status and protection.

The legislation has the explicit support of the Governor of New Mexico, the counties of Sandoval and Bernalillo, individual members of State government including our State Land Commissioner Patrick Lyons, the Pueblo of Zia and its members, the adjacent private land owners and individuals who graze their cattle on the land, numerous environmental groups, mineral extraction companies in the region, and business owners and private citizens living and working nearby.

The Ojito Wilderness Study Area is characterized by pristine and dramatic landforms and rock structures, and by several rare plant populations that are indigenous to the area. This area is also recognized for its high density of cultural and archeological sites, including sites that have religious significance to Pueblo Indians.

In particular, this legislation is important to the Pueblo of Zia. The Pueblo's reservation lands currently lie in two noncontiguous sections. Zia has made a concerted effort over many years to adjoin its reservation lands. This legislation will help make this long-standing goal a reality. The Pueblo has consistently and openly worked in cooperation with other interested parties to reach a mutually satisfactory arrangement for the protection of these important lands as undeveloped open space with continued public access. And, in an additional gesture of good faith, the Pueblo has waived its sovereign immunity from suit for matters arising under the provisions of this bill.

Considering the above, I believe this bill does the right thing by ensuring the preservation, protection, and public accessibility of this special area of New Mexico for future generations of Americans. Allow me to express a special thanks to my cosponsor in the House, Representative HEATHER WILSON, and to the members of the New Mexico delegation in the Senate.

ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 2004 11TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, every year, more high school seniors from the 11th Congressional District trade in varsity jackets for navy pea coats, Air Force flight suits, and Army brass buckles than most other districts in the country. But this is nothing new—our area has repeatedly sent an above average portion of its sons and daughters to the nation's military academies for decades.

This fact should not come as a surprise. The educational excellence of area schools is well known and has long been a magnet for families looking for the best environment in which to raise their children. Our graduates are skilled not only in mathematics, science, and social studies, but also have solid backgrounds in sports, debate teams, and other extracurricular activities. This diverse upbringing makes military academy recruiters sit up and take note—indeed, many recruiters know our towns and schools by name.

Since the 1830s, Members of Congress have enjoyed meeting, talking with, and nominating these superb young people to our military academies. But how did this process evolve? In 1843, when West Point was the sole academy, Congress ratified the nominating process and became directly involved in the makeup of our military's leadership. This was not an act of an imperial Congress bent on controlling every aspect of Government. Rather, the procedure still used today was, and is, a further check and balance in our democracy. It was originally designed to weaken

and divide political coloration in the officer corps, provide geographical balance to our armed services, and to make the officer corps more resilient to unfettered nepotism and handicapped European armies.

In 1854, Representative Gerritt Smith of New York added a new component to the academy nomination process—the academy review board. This was the first time a Member of Congress appointed prominent citizens from his district to screen applicants and assist with the serious duty of nominating candidates for academy admission. Today, I am honored to continue this wise tradition in my service to the 11th Congressional District.

The Academy Review Board is composed of six local citizens who have shown exemplary service to New Jersey, to their communities, and to the continued excellence of education in our area—many are veterans. Though from diverse backgrounds and professions, they all share a common dedication that the best qualified and motivated graduates attend our academies. And, as true for most volunteer panels, their service goes largely unnoticed.

I would like to take a moment to recognize these men and women and thank them publicly for participating in this important panel. Being on the board requires hard work and an objective mind. Members have the responsibility of interviewing upwards of 50 outstanding high school seniors every year in the academy review process.

The nomination process follows a general timetable. High school seniors mail personal information directly to the Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy once they become interested in attending. Information includes academic achievement, college entry test scores, and other activities. At this time, they also inform my office of their desire to be nominated.

The academies then assess the applicants, rank them based on the data supplied, and return the files to my office with their notations. In late November, our Academy Review Board interviews all of the applicants over the course of 2 days. They assess a student's qualifications and analyze character, desire to serve, and other talents that may be hidden on paper.

This year the board interviewed over 40 applicants. Nominations included 10 to the Naval Academy, 11 to the Military Academy, 4 to the Merchant Marine Academy and 4 to the Air Force Academy—the Coast Guard Academy does not use the congressional nomination process. The recommendations are then forwarded to the academies by January 31, where recruiters reviewed files and notified applicants and my office of their final decision on admission.

As these highly motivated and talented young men and women go through the academy nominating process, never let us forget the sacrifice they are preparing to make: to defend our country and protect our citizens. This holds especially true at a time when our nation is fighting the war against terrorism. Whether it is in Afghanistan, Iraq, or other hot spots around the world, no doubt we are constantly reminded that wars are fought by the young. And, while our military missions are both important and dangerous, it is reassuring to know that we continue to put America's best and brightest in command.