

Principal of Wilson High School in Florence, S.C. Mr. Brooks is retiring after 35 years as a public school educator. I join the citizens of Florence and the students of Wilson High School in expressing deep appreciation and gratitude to him for a lifetime of magnanimous service.

Mr. Barnes was born in Florence on January 29, 1946 to the parents of the late Allie E. Brooks, Sr. and Thelma H. Brooks. He is married to Barbara Faye Eaddy Brooks, and they are the proud parents of three children: Deanna Fredrica Brooks, Thelma Susanna Eaddy Brooks, and Allie Eugene Brooks, III and a daughter-in-law, Janelle Hargrove Brooks.

In 1964, Mr. Brooks began his formative education at Holmes Elementary School. He completed Wilson Junior High School, and graduated from Wilson High School, where he is currently serving his thirty-first year as principal. A graduate of South Carolina State University, where he earned a Bachelors of Science degree in mathematics, Mr. Brooks received a Masters of Education degree in Education Administration from the University of South Carolina. In addition, he completed an Institute on the Principal and School Improvement at Harvard University.

Mr. Brooks began his professional career as a mathematics teacher at Moore Middle School in Florence. That assignment was followed by tenure as Assistant Principal at West Florence High School before being named Principal of his Alma Mater in 1974.

Mr. Brooks is a loyal member and deacon of Savannah Grove Baptist Church in Effingham, S.C. In addition to his church leadership positions, he is an active member of the Board of Directors of the Florence Boys and Girls Club and the BB&T Bank Advisory Board. He has also been active in numerous civic organizations such as the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce and Florence West Rotary Club, and served his country honorably for more than two years as an officer in the U.S. Army.

His awards and commendations are numerous and include: Florence Civitans "Citizen of the Year" Award, "Principal of the Year for 2000 Award" by the South Carolina Association of Secondary School Principals, and South Carolina "2004-05 Principal of the Year" by the South Carolina Athletic Administrators Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Mr. Allie E. Brooks, Jr. for the immeasurable service he has rendered to our country and his community through his roles as a well loved Principal, highly honored civic leader and incomparable role model. I sincerely thank Mr. Brooks for his personal friendship and life-long commitment to helping others, and wish him a long, enjoyable retirement, and Godspeed.

HONORING HEAD START COMMUNITY PROGRAM OF MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 4, 2005

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Head Start Community Program of Morris County, New Jersey, a vibrant

organization I am proud to represent! On May 4, 2005 Head Start is celebrating its Fortieth Anniversary.

Founded in 1965, the Head Start Community Program of Morris County is a nonprofit organization serving approximately 200 low-income children between the ages of three and five and their families. Head Start's comprehensive program continues to demonstrate immense success by being instrumental in preparing children to begin school successfully. They offer a comprehensive approach to early success in school, from medical check-ups to nutritional meals.

Today, Morris County's Head Start program is stronger and more successful than ever. Eileen Jankunis, the Executive Director of the Head Start Community Program of Morris County, her staff, and core of dedicated volunteers are a testament to Head Start's accomplishments. They are ensuring our children, those who need it most, are given the same opportunities as other children to get a "Head Start" in a nurturing environment. Above all, they are demonstrating tremendous focus and dedication to providing every child with the building blocks of learning so that they can succeed in school and later in life.

Head Start is an integral part of establishing a sound foundation for our children. The continued success of Morris County's Head Start program demonstrates that, and I am honored to represent their needs in Congress. Early-childhood development is a key component of our educational system, and Morris County's program is doing a superb job of getting our kids ready for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to honor Morris County's program. I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of the Head Start Community Program of Morris County for their forty years of service! Again, I offer my praise and thanks to their dedicated trustees, administration, wonderful teachers, support staff, volunteers and active parents who work tirelessly on behalf of Head Start's children.

IN MEMORY OF PAT CIMMARUSTI

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 4, 2005

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Pat Cimmarusti, who died this past week after 87 years of service to his family, community and Nation.

I have known Pat for more than 30 years, and he has been a good friend to my wife, Janice, and me.

Pat was born in Santa Monica, California, on January 16, 1918. After service in the U.S. Army, he and Ann Smaldino married on June 7, 1942. They celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary last year.

Pat and Ann's first home together was a farm in Malibu, but as they began a family Pat opened a plumbing and contracting business and they settled in Los Angeles. In 1974, they opened an Italian grocery store and vegetable market in Hollywood with their three children. The store and market were an extension of Pat's personality. He loved to cook steak dinners and make his own spaghetti sauce.

He used to take his grandchildren to a farm in Oxnard to handpick tomatoes. The next

day, Pat arose at 4 a.m. and began making spaghetti sauce. By the time family began to arrive, the sauce was halfway done and Pat was preparing lunch for his wife, children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He had a hearty laugh, a warm smile, large brown eyes and great pride in his family.

Community was also important to Pat. He was a member of the American Legion and Elks Club in Pasadena, a member of the Los Angeles Chapter of UNICO National and a member of the Sons of Italy in America. In 2000, Pat was honored as one of the UNICO men of the year. He also was honored by Cardinal Roger Mahony.

Among the events Pat cherished in his life was meeting President Ronald Reagan and being blessed, with his family, by Pope John Paul II in Rome. He equally cherished attending every sporting event and graduation his children and grandchildren were involved in.

Pat is survived by his wife, Ann; his children and their spouses, Loretta Cimmarusti Chicoine and her husband, Richard, and Lawrence and Amalia and Ralph and Hallie Cimmarusti; grandchildren, Patti Chicoine Nelson and her husband, Marc, and Patrick, Ralph, Annie, Larry, Paula and Loretta Cimmarusti; and great-grandchildren, Lauren and Grant Nelson.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in expressing our condolences to Pat's family and in honoring his loving service to family, community and Nation.

HONORING CHRIS TOMPKINS

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 4, 2005

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chris Tompkins, a young man whose short but extraordinary life recently came to an end.

I met Chris many years ago during my first campaign for Congress. He held campaign signs for me on street corners, though the signs were nearly as big as him. I could tell then, even at such an early age, that he was a go-getter. I knew that Chris was a special young man who would achieve much. And achieve he did.

Chris served as one of my congressional pages during his junior year of high school. He went on to the University of Florida, where he enrolled in the honors program. He became the University's first Truman Scholar and later served as student body president of Florida's law school.

After law school, Chris worked as a legislative aide to a local state House member where he played an integral role in crafting the State's Y2K plan. Chris then returned to Hillsborough County to become an agricultural attorney. He was elected supervisor of the Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District and became heavily involved in Republican politics, serving as a member of the county's Republican Executive Committee for 16 years. He also volunteered his time and talents to many civic causes because he cared about the community in which he lived.

Chris was in the midst of a campaign for the Florida House of Representatives when he