

makes an outstanding arrest while confronting an armed and dangerous perpetrator. This year a Commendation for Heroism will be awarded to the following people: Officer Evelyn Carlin; Det. Wayne Matthews.

The Commendation for Merit is given to an officer who has demonstrated intelligent and valuable police service. This year the Commendation for Merit will be awarded to the following people: Det. Bret Johnson; Inspector Dave McClintock; Sr. Investigator Patricia Taulane; Police Officer Thomas Jeffers; Patrolman Kevin Koykka; Sgt. Paul Sims; Ptlm. William Hawkins, Jr.; Ptlm. Sean Plasket; Ptlm. Howard Dawson, IV; Ptlm. Don Stone; Ptlm. Thomas Farrell; Sr. Investigator C. DeCristofor; Investigator Edgardo Perez; Investigator Carlos Plaza; Det. Angel Ramos; Sr. Inv. Martin Wolf; Inv. James Bruno; Det. Eric White; Det. Sgt. Michael Basileo; Sr. Inv. Ron Moten; Inv. Miguel Rubert; Inv. Felix Martinez; Sr. Inv. Steve Settles; Det. Thomas Kalick; Sr. Inv. Diane Wilson; Det. Wayne Matthews; Sr. Inv. John Greer; Det. Edward Fallon; Det. Sgt. Christopher Leone; Inv. Michael Dougherty; Inv. Matthew McKeown; Inv. James Pisano; Inv. Robert McCross; Inv. Fawn Ackerman; Inv. Catherine Fisher; Inv. Jim Dougherty; Sgt. W. Mahan; Inv. John Ellis; Det. Scott Beasley; Det. Michael Meyers; Sgt. Frank Gagliardi; Ptlm. Michael Williams; Ptlm. Keith Barrett; Sgt. Neil Larson; Inv. Amy Jewusiak; Inv. Mike Molle; P/O Gary Badger; P/O Timothy Tedesco; P/O Robert Kempf; Off. J. Valsquez; Off. Parrish Powers; Off. Robert Chew; Off. Michael Fosler; Det. Kirk Williams.

A Letter of Commendation is awarded to an officer in recognition of police service, who is exceptional, and has served beyond the requirements of routine duty. This year a Letter of Commendation will be awarded to the following people: Inv. Janene Bahr; Det. Ken Nelson; Sr. Inv. Brian DeCosmo; Ptlm. William Lyons; Ptlm. Thomas Harchaw; Ptlm. Sean McGann; Inv. William Rummel.

A Citizen's Commendation may be awarded to any person who provides a significant contribution to the public safety through a specific act of outstanding courage, without regard for personal safety, which results in the saving of a life or the futile attempt to save a life. This year a Citizen's Commendation will be awarded to the following people: Ngoc V. Lee; Tracey Evans; Kim Belcher; Greg Parkill; Diane Schiavone-Loudon; Carlton Loudon; James Davies.

A Unit Citation is to be presented to any local, State of Federal Law Enforcement Unit, Agency, Department, Strike Force, etc. for outstanding performance and accomplishments made in the public interest. This year a Unit Citation will be awarded to the Camden Anticrime Partnership.

The Prosecutor's Service Award is given to any law enforcement personnel (officer or civilian) who, by personal dedication, thoroughness, competence, and a cooperative spirit, significantly facilitated the work of the Camden County Prosecutor's Office in the efficient and productive administration of justice. This year the Prosecutor's Service Award will be given to the following people: Timothy Kohlmyer; Sr. Inv. Kenneth Curcio; Asst. Pros. Mark Chase. Two special presentations will be made to Helmrich's Towing and Father Michael Manion for their support of the Prosecutor's Office and Camden County law enforcement.

The recipients of the 2005 Prosecutors' Office Awards have all demonstrated a strong

commitment to advancing law enforcement in their community. All of these men and women have committed themselves to improve the quality of life for county residents by attacking crime at every level. I thank all those who have helped to create a safer America by their commitment to law enforcement, and encourage my colleagues to support them in the U.S. Congress. Together we can continue to create better and safer communities throughout the country.

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#### A SALUTE TO KATIE BROWNELL

### HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 26, 2005*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute a young girl who is in a league of her own—Kate Brownell. Katie is a shy 11-year-old girl of few words.

But when she gets on the baseball field she lets her pitching do the talking. And she rocks!

Brownell is the only girl in the Oakfield, Alabama Little League baseball program. She threw a perfect game for the Dodgers in an 11–0 victory over the Yankees. How dominant was she? Katie struck out all 18 batters she faced, yielding no more than two balls to any batter, in a six inning victory. Katie accomplished something league officials can't remember anyone—boy or girl—ever doing.

Brownell is not just good at pitching; she is also great at the plate. Katie's batting average is .714. When I first read her story I was so excited and inspired by this young girl's feat. I was so impressed that I wanted to be sure to come down to the floor and recognize her.

She exemplifies what you can achieve regardless of gender. Young women like Katie also serve to remind us that we can pretty much do everything men can, and sometimes better.

#### ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE VISION PRESERVATION ACT OF 2005

### HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 26, 2005*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Vision Preservation Act of 2005. I am proud to introduce this legislation today along with my fellow co-chairs of the Congressional Vision Caucus: Representative ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, Representative DAVID PRICE and Representative PAT TIBERI. The four of us created the Congressional Vision Caucus in 2003 to increase education and awareness of vision problems among Members of Congress and their staff. The Vision Caucus has been fortunate to have the support of Prevent Blindness America and many other vision organizations in these efforts.

In 2004, Prevent Blindness America joined with the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the American Optometric Association, Lighthouse International and the National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research to put together an action plan to address vision problems. The legislation we introduce today is a legislative response to the recommendations outlined in that action plan.

Currently, an estimated 80 million people in the United States have a potentially blinding eye disease, 3 million have low vision, 1.1 million are legally blind, and 200,000 are more severely visually impaired. In my state of Texas alone, more than 370,000 people suffer from diabetic retinopathy. At least 90,000 Texans over 50 live with AMD. And cataracts affect more than 1.2 million people in my state.

Despite evidence that half of all blindness can be prevented, the number of Americans who suffer vision loss is expected to double by 2030 unless more effective prevention and treatment efforts can be implemented. The Vision Preservation Act will enhance current prevention and treatment efforts by focusing increased attention on vision research, expanding current federal vision programs, developing vision screening standards and providing for vision rehabilitation services under Medicare.