

1975. In the years that followed, he held every administrative and Fire Line office within the company. In 1995, he became company chief and is credited with initiating many positive changes in the operation of the company, especially in areas of firefighter/fire officer training, firefighter safety, development of fire officer qualifications and training programs for apparatus drivers. He also wrote the first Standard Operating Guideline Manual adopted by the fire company and developed a "Fire Department/Police Department Interface Program" to promote better cooperation between the two agencies. Chief Manerchia led his company to 4 consecutive Pennsylvania State Championships as the "Best Appearing Marching Unit" in the Pennsylvania State Firemen's Convention Parade.

In 1999, Joe rose to the rank of Borough Fire Chief, a position he would hold through 2005 which made him the longest serving Borough Fire Chief in the history of the department. At that time, the Marcus Hook Fire Department was comprised of the Marcus Hook Fire Company No. 1 and the Viscose Fire Company No. 2. As Borough Fire Chief he provided the leadership that would eventually consolidate the two local fire companies into one organization. In the year 2000, he was instrumental in developing a plan that led to the replacement of the fire department's aging aerial ladder truck with a new 75 Foot Quint. Again under his chairmanship, the State spotlight was cast on Marcus Hook as the Fire Department hosted the Pennsylvania State Firemen's Convention in September 2003, a first for the fire department and the borough.

The Chief has attended local, State and nationally accredited fire, hazardous materials and command training classes. He is the graduate of several National Fire Academy on campus programs as well as programs at the University of Texas A&M and the University of Nevada at Reno. Joe holds Pro-Board Certification as a Fire Instructor and as an Industrial Firefighter and is a Pennsylvania certified Emergency Medical Technician and Vehicle Rescue Technician. He is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, International Association of Fire Service Instructors and is on the board of directors of the local chapter of the American Red Cross.

Currently Chief Manerchia is working on a degree in Emergency Management and accreditation as a "Chief Fire Officer Designate" through the International Association of Fire Chiefs. He continues to lecture locally and regionally on fire company consolidations and chairs a committee charged with consolidating three fire companies in two municipalities. Joe is still active with the Marcus Hook Fire Department and is a member of the Emergency Management Committee of the Borough of Marcus Hook.

On January 21, 2006, Chief Joseph M. Manerchia was recognized for his 7 years as Borough Fire Chief as well as his 30 years of service to the community and the Fire Department at a banquet held in his honor hosted by the Marcus Hook Fire Department and the Borough of Marcus Hook. During his 30 years of service, he certainly has earned this recognition, and I call upon all of my colleagues to join me in applauding his leadership in both his Department and community. While his service will not soon be forgotten and his boots will not soon be filled, the high standards he has set for his department will

strengthen fire service for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO ROY STURGES

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Roy Alonzo Sturges, a deputy in La Salle County which is in the 28th district of Texas, who served bravely in Southern Texas as a Chief Jailor

Mr. Speaker, La Salle County commissioners voted unanimously in November to support the naming of the county detention center in Cotulla, Texas, the Roy Alonzo Sturges Law Enforcement Center, for his efforts to foil an attempted escape by a prisoner.

On April 27, 1973, Mr. Sturges thwarted the attempt by a county prisoner but was injured in the process. Records indicate that Mr. Sturges was struck by the inmate with a wooden board, but the jailor was still able to get a door locked to stop the escape. After Mr. Sturges and his wife, who came to his aid after hearing the scuffle, secured the jail, they drove to the local sheriff's office. On the way, he reportedly suffered a fatal heart attack.

Roy Alonzo Sturges was memorialized in Texas in 1994 as a fallen law enforcement officer. La Salle County is honored to have had such an outstanding gentleman serve the people of the 28th district.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute to Roy Alonzo Sturges.

IN MEMORY OF LEO C. STUVER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give tribute to Mr. Leo C. Stuver from the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for his lifelong contributions to his community and to his fellow citizens.

Born in Maricopa County, Arizona on July 8, 1917, Mr. Stuver attended Mexia High School and later spent 2 years at Westminster College in Tehuacana and later attended Sam Houston State University on a football scholarship where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees.

Mr. Stuver started his 41-year career in education in the Dodge School District serving as superintendent. He served several school districts as a principal, and was a superintendent and Teague and Hillsboro school districts before settling down in the Lewisville Independent School District, LISD, in July 1969.

Mr. Stuver was a critical aide in the expansion of the LISD. Not only did he serve his community through basic administrative duties, but he also predicted the needs of the district and was proactive in finding solutions to issues facing the school district. His leadership is admired, and the local auditorium was named in his honor as a small token of appreciation compared to his contributions.

It was my honor to know Mr. Leo Stuver. I extend my sympathies to his family and

friends. I hope the dedication and success of this man may serve as inspiration to all who seek their dreams to serve their communities and fellow man.

CONGRATULATING PITTSTON
MAYOR MICHAEL LOMBARDO ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS TESTI-
MONIAL DINNER AND ROAST

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Michael Lombardo, mayor of the city of Pittston, in Luzerne County, PA, and senior vice president and chief operating officer of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry as he is honored by his friends and colleagues at a testimonial dinner.

Mayor Lombardo is widely respected for epitomizing what an elected official should be: committed, decisive, dedicated, and visionary.

Under Mayor Lombardo's leadership, the city of Pittston has been improved in many ways to enhance the quality of life for its residents and visitors alike.

As a senior member of the management team at the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, Mayor Lombardo has been able to apply the skills learned as a mayor of a single city in ways that touch the lives of citizens from many towns in a positive manner.

Mayor Lombardo is a former educator in the Pittston Area School District. In that capacity he encouraged many young men and women to aspire to great things and to always search for ways to contribute to the greater community.

Mayor Lombardo has been actively involved in the community for many years. He is a board member at the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, the Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Pittston YMCA and at College Misericordia's Insalaco Center. He is a member of the Council of Delegates at the NEPA Alliance, the Pennsylvania League of Cities Policy Council, the Knights of Columbus and the Wyoming Valley Watershed Coalition Steering Committee for the Riverfest Project.

He is co-chairperson of the American Cancer Society Relay for Life in the Pittston area and the Pittston Tomato Festival. He is also vice president of the Pittston City Festival Association.

Mayor Lombardo has received awards for his community service from the Pennsylvania Library Association and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce Community Partnership. He was named Greater Pittston Person of the Year in 2000.

On a personal note, I would like to say that I have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to work with Mike over the years. Whenever I helped him obtain Federal money for the city of Pittston, I knew that it would be spent wisely and for the long-term benefit of the people of Pittston. I look forward to continuing to work with him as he serves in his new capacity.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mayor Michael Lombardo for setting a fine example for others to emulate.