

The Cathedral Choir School of Delaware boasts an impressive list of alumni, many having been elected to leadership positions at their academic institutions and in their communities. The former Chief Justice of the Delaware Supreme Court is an example of a distinguished alumnus from the group.

I congratulate and thank the Cathedral Choir School of Delaware for their contributions to the State of Delaware and to our country. Many children who have participated in the program as well as music lovers owe the group a sincere debt of gratitude, and I am pleased to be able to vocalize their appreciation. I am thrilled that a group from my home State has been honored with such an illustrious award and I wish them many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DONALD FOX

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 8, 2006*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Donald Fox on his retirement from the National Park Service. Mr. Fox retired as a career appointee in the position of Landscape Architect and Pacific West Region, PWR, accessibility coordinator for the National Park Service.

Mr. Donald Fox's expertise in landscape architecture and accessibility compliance in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, AGA, Accessibility Guidelines enabled his success as landscape architect and Pacific West Region, PWR, accessibility coordinator. His service to the Department of the Interior began in 1965 with his first temporary appointment and culminated in his permanent career appointment in January of 1971. Additionally, Mr. Fox served his country faithfully as a dedicated member of the United States Army before beginning his career with the National Park Service.

Mr. Fox worked for over 38 years in the National Park Service and had a long and distinguished career that was mostly spent in the service of preserving one of our country's most dramatic and beautiful National Parks. His efforts to make Yosemite accessible to all will be appreciated for decades to come by those who visit this great American landmark.

RECOGNIZING DAVID J. SHENK UPON BEING NAMED TOWN OF BOSTON "DEMOCRAT OF THE YEAR"

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 8, 2006*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to recognize David J. Shenk, a man who is being recognized as town of Boston 2006 "Democrat of the Year" for his selfless dedication to his community and his country.

Mr. Shenk currently serves as the Boston town clerk, a position he first won by just three votes in 1991, at the young age of 21.

For the last 14 years Mr. Shenk has served his community well, securing 14 records man-

agement grants, streamlining efficiencies in town government, and establishing a foundation which provides grants to local nonprofit organizations.

Mr. Shenk's allegiance to his hometown is only rivaled by his commitment to this great Nation. Enlisted in the United States Army Reserve in 1988, he has served in Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom. A health care specialist in the 1982nd Forward Surgical Team, his decorations include three Army Achievement Medals and an Army Commendation Medal.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for this opportunity to recognize David Shenk, a man I am proud to have as a colleague in Western New York government, a friend and a public servant deserving of the title "Democrat of the Year."

IN MEMORY OF FORT WORTH POLICE OFFICER HENRY "HANK" NAVA

### HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 8, 2006*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a courageous police officer from my district who was slain on December 1, 2005. Fort Worth Police Officer Henry "Hank" Nava died from a gunshot wound to the head that he received on November 29 while searching for a man who was wanted by police. His loving family and many of his fellow officers were at his side when he died.

Officer Nava was a remarkable officer of the peace who was admired both by fellow officers and citizens of Fort Worth. Officer Nava, a native of central Texas, began his career in law enforcement in 1988 as an Austin, TX, park police officer. He became a Fort Worth police officer in 1992 and in the ensuing 13 years worked tirelessly to protect the citizens of Fort Worth. Officer Nava worked for the Plano, TX, police department for a brief period in 1999 but soon returned because he missed Fort Worth.

During his career, Officer Nava served as a Fort Worth patrol officer, a neighborhood patrol officer, a school resource officer and, for the last 2½ years of his career, as a member of the North Division Crime Response Team. Officer Nava quickly earned the reputation of a hard working officer who always had a smile and the officer who wore the Oakley sunglasses. Often, after his shift ended, Officer Nava would take one more call for help. He mentored young people through the Police Department Explorer Scout program. His desire to help others was exemplified when he and several members of the Fort Worth Police Department traveled to New Orleans to deliver relief supplies to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Officer Nava was devoted to his wife, Teresa, and his children Kayleigh, 9, and Justin, 4. He was an outstanding and loving husband as well as a friend to Teresa. Because of his love for his wife, he always took time from his work to be with her whether it was on their yearly cruise or a call home. His last call to Teresa came just minutes before he entered the home where he was fatally shot. His children were the joy of his life. He showered them with his love and attention, as only a

proud father can do. Whether it was having fun around the family backyard pool or participating in an activity, Officer Nava always made certain his children had his full attention and that the moment was special for them.

Officer Nava's commitment to law enforcement, his deep love for his family and his pride in Fort Worth made him an outstanding Fort Worth police officer and citizen. I am proud to honor Officer Henry "Hank" Nava for his services to Fort Worth and its citizens. He will not be forgotten.

HONORING THE LATE HUGH THOMPSON, JR.

### HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 8, 2006*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a man who will long be remembered for devotion to his country, his community, and his family. Hugh Thompson, Jr. of Lafayette, Louisiana, passed away after a brief illness on January 6, 2006, at the age of 62.

Born in Atlanta, Hugh joined the Navy in 1961 and left 3 years later. He continued his military service in 1966 by joining the Army and becoming a helicopter pilot. Upon completion of training, Thompson was deployed to serve in Vietnam. In 1968, he volunteered for duty that involved flying over Vietnamese forests to draw enemy fire and pinpoint the location of enemy troops.

It was on March 16, 1968, that Thompson and his crew; door-gunner Lawrence Colburn and crew chief Glenn Andreotta, came upon U.S. ground troops opening fire on Vietnamese civilians in and around the village of My Lai. After Thompson landed his helicopter in the line of fire between American troops and fleeing Vietnamese civilians, Colburn and Andreotta provided cover as he went forward to confront the leader of the U.S. forces. Thompson later coaxed civilians out of a bunker so they could be evacuated, and then landed his helicopter again to pick up a wounded child they transported to a hospital. Thompson would later say: "These people were looking at me for help and there was no way I could turn my back on them."

By the end of his tour of duty, Hugh Thompson had been hit eight times by enemy fire and lost five helicopters in combat. He left Vietnam after a combat crash broke his back, and was awarded both a Purple Heart and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

In 1998, the Army honored Thompson and his crew for their bravery at My Lai with the prestigious Soldier's Medal, the highest award for bravery not involving conflict with an enemy. "It was the ability to do the right thing even at the risk of their personal safety that guided these soldiers to do what they did," Army Maj. Gen. Michael Ackerman said at the 1998 ceremony. The three "set the standard for all soldiers to follow."

Following his service in the military, Hugh was a devoted servant in Lafayette as a Veteran's Service Officer with the Louisiana Department of Veteran's Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has lost a true hero, and the State of Louisiana has lost a devoted leader and dear friend. I want convey my heartfelt sympathy to the Thompson