

the Salvation Army, local churches, and the public.

I commend Sandy for being an outstanding citizen and a dedicated asset to her county and her state. The citizens of Lewis County will forever be indebted to Sandy for her tireless dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Sandy King for her life long commitment to the community of Lewis County. She works tirelessly to give so much that she is truly the Citizen of the Year.

IN RECOGNITION OF SANDRA  
BRIDGES NEWKIRK

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay tribute to Sandra Bridges Newkirk, who has devoted her life to her work and service in Lee County, Alabama. After 40 years with Auburn University's Department of Health and Human Performance, Mrs. Newkirk is anticipating retirement on May 15, 2006.

Mrs. Newkirk has accomplished much at Auburn University and is wholly deserving to be recognized for contributing to some of the University's firsts. As the first volleyball coach, the first intramural director, and the first Women's Athletic Director at Auburn, she has proven to be a monumental supporter of health and wellness. Mrs. Newkirk advanced women's sport programs in Alabama and worked to elevate such programs to a competitive basis. The Department of Health and Human Performance is sure to miss her as one of its professors.

In addition to her dedication to Auburn University, Sandra Bridges Newkirk has also contributed greatly to the Lee County community, including her service as a mediator with the Lee County Court System for adults.

I salute Mrs. Newkirk for her contributions to Auburn University, Lee County, and for the betterment of the entire State of Alabama.

IN HONOR OF JAMES A.  
TUCCARONE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of James A. Tucciarone, upon his retirement that follows an exemplary, thirty-six year career with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), throughout Ohio, Michigan and Illinois.

In 1971, Mr. Tucciarone began his career as an FAA air traffic controller at the Akron-Canton control tower, and later served as Manager of the Akron Municipal Air Traffic Control Tower, Akron-Canton Air Traffic Control Tower and the Columbus Air Traffic Control Tower. He was called upon to serve as Manager of the Cleveland Center, and as Sectional Supervisor of the Operations Branch at the Great Lakes Regional Office in Des Plaines, IL. Mr. Tucciarone also worked as Assistant Air Traf-

fic Manager at Cleveland and Detroit Metro Towers, and also at the Cleveland Air Route Traffic Control Center. In every place he worked, Mr. Tucciarone's integrity, expertise and focus on flight safety never wavered.

Mr. Tucciarone's boundless enthusiasm, energy, kind heart and steadfast integrity frame both his personal and professional life. Aside from his numerous accomplishments in the field of aviation, Mr. Tucciarone is an active member of his community. He is a member of the Board of Directors and Advisory Board for "Kids in Flight," a non-profit organization whose mission is to use aviation as a tool of empowerment for seriously ill children and their families. He is a member of numerous civic agencies and also volunteers his time coaching and umpiring youth basketball and softball teams.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, recognition and gratitude of Mr. James A. Tucciarone, upon his retirement from the FAA that follows thirty-six years of outstanding service and accomplishment. His dedication, expertise, leadership, and energy, focused on excellence and safety in aviation, also extends outward into the community, where he offers his time and talent to children and their families who struggle daily with illness, uplifting their lives to a place where hopes and dreams take flight. I wish Mr. Tucciarone and his family an abundance of health, peace and happiness as his journey begins from here.

CONGRATULATING MICHAEL  
BUTERA, ESQ., ON A SUCCESS-  
FUL TERM AS PRESIDENT OF  
THE WILKES-BARRE LAW AND  
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Attorney Michael Butera, immediate past president of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Attorney Butera performed in an exemplary manner by providing leadership and direction to a proud and prestigious organization founded 156 years ago on June 18, 1850.

A graduate of the University of Scranton and Temple University School of Law, Attorney Butera has been in the private practice of law since 1976 in Pittston, Pennsylvania.

He is also active with the Pennsylvania Bar Association, the American Bar Association, Northeastern Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association and the Pennsylvania Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. Attorney Butera served on the Wyoming Area School Board for six years. He also served as president of the board of Luzerne Intermediate Unit 18, president of the board of the Greater Pittston YMCA and was vice president of the Third Legislative District for the Luzerne County Democrat Party. He is also a charter member of the St. Martin Society.

The Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association was located in the county Court House located on Wilkes-Barre's Public Square from 1859 to 1909 when it was moved to the sec-

ond floor of the current county Court House at 200 N. River Street in Wilkes-Barre.

The Law Library contains over 20,000 volumes of law books, reports and journals. The Law Library also operates the Luzerne Legal Register, the law journal of Luzerne County and the official reporter of the decisions of the Court of Common Pleas of Luzerne County. A lawyer referral service is also operated out of the law library for people who need a lawyer but do not know whom to contact.

The Law and Library Association also operates a charitable foundation that supports charitable and humanitarian projects throughout Luzerne County. It is intended to enhance the public's understanding and appreciation of the legal system in Luzerne County, ensure access to legal information and representation to all members of the Luzerne County community and foster good relations between members of the Bar, Judiciary and the public.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Attorney Butera on a job well done. His devotion to community service is reflected in his tireless pursuit of excellence on behalf of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVER-  
SARY OF THE FRESNO METRO-  
POLITAN FLOOD CONTROL DIS-  
TRICT

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District for reaching a momentous milestone—its 50th anniversary.

Over 50 years ago, the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District was created in order to regulate flooding that had plagued the community for over 80 years. From the outset, the Flood Control District committed itself to managing the flood, storm, surface and ground water resources of the area with the goal of preventing property damage and personal injury as a result of floods. The agency works to conserve such waters for local, domestic and agricultural use. In addition, it seeks to maximize the public use and benefit of the District's programs and infrastructure. This has resulted in the use of ponding basins for recreational purposes such as soccer fields, baseball diamonds and parks. The district has generated 22 recreational sites, including the Sloan Johnson Oso de Oro Lake Park in Fresno, which serves to accommodate disabled children. This recreational facility has received numerous awards, including the Innovations in American Government Award from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

With such a mission in mind, the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District has established infrastructure projects and completed systems in Fresno and its surrounding areas. These projects, valued at over \$600,000,000, include 149 ponding basins, 57 pumping plants, 513 miles of pipeline, three dams, seven flood detention basins, two major stream diversion channels, 145 miles of natural streams and eight river outfalls.

In addition to the creation of these infrastructure projects, the Fresno Metropolitan

Flood Control District has worked resolutely for over 50 years to create programs such as "Clean Storm Water" that seek to educate the community on the importance of water resource management and the prevention of pollution to help protect and preserve groundwater supplies for the future. Moreover, many of its policies on outsourcing construction, professional services and maintenance of certain facilities have not only helped the flooding problems, but also have created countless local jobs as well.

The Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District has had long standing and effective working partnerships with State and Federal agencies such as the California Department of Water Resources and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The agency and its partners have created a successful model for cooperative interagency planning, management, and execution of local public works projects among the Fresno Irrigation District, County of Fresno, City of Fresno and the City of Clovis. Moreover, it has greatly enhanced the safety and quality of life in the Fresno and Clovis areas.

For all its efforts, I would like to commend the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District. The organization has tirelessly worked to meet the flood control, drainage and water resource management needs of its constituency; while adhering to high standards of performance, environmental sensitivity, economic efficiency and maximization of public benefit. On this special occasion I would like to extend congratulations to the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District on its milestone 50th Anniversary.

RECOGNITION OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER TWO CHRISTOPHER B. DONALDSON

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Chief Warrant Officer Two Christopher B. Donaldson who was recently killed in a helicopter crash during combat operations fighting for freedom in Kunar Province, Afghanistan.

Donaldson was a 28-year-old from Effingham, Illinois and was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 10th Aviation Regiment, 10th Mountain Division out of Fort Drum, New York. He was a 1995 graduate from Effingham High School in Effingham, IL. His awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Air Assault Badge and the Army Aviator Badge.

Donaldson paid the ultimate sacrifice for his country. He is survived by his mother, Lynne Donaldson of Effingham; his father, William Donaldson of Beecher City and many other family, friends and loved ones. I am proud of the service this young man gave to his country and the service his fellow troops perform everyday. Not enough can be said about Chief Warrant Officer Two Donaldson. It is soldiers like him that are risking their lives day in and

day out to ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy. God bless them and may God continue to bless America.

TRIBUTE TO OWOSSO MASONIC LODGE

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise tomorrow, Friday, May 12, 2006, to congratulate all the members of the Owosso Masonic Lodge as they celebrate the 150th anniversary since the founding of the lodge.

Since its establishment, the lodge has built a storied tradition of service and charity. This tradition of support to the residents of Michigan continues today through activities including the Special Olympics and support for the local police and fire departments and youth programs. The Owosso Masonic Lodge should be proud of their accomplishments, and I commend their dedication to the community for the last 150 years.

On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Michigan, I applaud the Owosso Masonic Lodge for this outstanding achievement.

HONORING MR. LINDSLEY FRENETTE

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of an extraordinary man who has dedicated his life to serving and bettering his community.

Mr. Lindsley Frenette started his public service career in 1953, when he began serving as Doyle Township Supervisor. For 13 years, he served in that capacity before he was elected Schoolcraft County Board Commissioner in 1966.

Not only has Mr. Frenette made his community a better place through 52 years of involvement with local government, but he has spent decades working to improve mental health in Michigan.

As a co-founder of the Schoolcraft County Community Mental Health program and its successor agency, the Hiawatha Community Mental Health Authority, he has helped to provide mental health services to many people who would otherwise not have had access to them. In addition to creating these agencies Mr. Frenette helped grow and sustain them, spending 33 years on the Schoolcraft County Mental Health Board.

Mr. Frenette also spent many years on the Legislative Committee for the Michigan Association of County Mental Health Boards. In that capacity he played a key role educating state and federal legislators about the importance of mental health. My own father spent a number of years serving alongside Mr. Frenette on the Mental Health Board and he had nothing but good things to say about Mr. Frenette and his dedication.

By all reports, Mr. Frenette is not only a devoted public servant, but a genuinely kind person who is concerned about the welfare of his fellow citizens.

Together he and his wife Guerda raised seven children and saw the arrival of many grandchildren.

On Friday, Lindsley Frenette will be honored by friends, family and colleagues for his 33 years of service as a Community Mental Health Board member. While he is not retiring, the people closest to him decided it was time to come together and pay tribute to Mr. Frenette.

Mr. Speaker, that recognition is truly deserved. I join Mr. Frenette's friends and family in wishing him and his family all the best, in saluting him for his years of service and in wishing him the best for his many future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO EDDY ARNOLD

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to take a moment today to honor Eddy Arnold on his 88th birthday.

I'm fortunate enough to call him a friend and neighbor, but like so many Americans, I'm also a fan of his wonderful musical talent.

Raised on a Tennessee farm, the "Tennessee Plowboy" started playing guitar at ten and he's been entertaining us all ever since.

He shattered the country and pop charts with 28 number one hits. And he proved that a beautiful song never gets old with hits like "You Don't Know Me."

Eddy's songs spanned 5 decades. Whether you saw him at the Grand Ole Opry, watched Eddy Arnold Time on television, or heard one of his songs just the other day on the radio—there's no mistaking that Eddy Arnold is an American icon and we wish him all the best on his birthday.

TRIBUTE TO STUDENTS FROM SADDLE BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

**HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 11, 2006*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate four outstanding students from Saddle Brook Middle School in my district: Ursula Kapinos, Heather Kuehnle, Ashley LaRose, and Kasia Truszkowska. This team of girls was recently named the national winners of the Christopher Columbus Awards competition, a science and technology program for middle school students, for their invention called the Auto-MAT-ic. As the winners of the competition, the girls received a \$25,000 award to further develop their prize winning invention.

The dedication that Ursula, Heather, Ashley, and Kasia have demonstrated to this project is a true testament to the excellent work that is being done in New Jersey public schools. After learning that 1.6 million senior citizens are treated in emergency rooms for injuries caused by falls in the home and that