

and housing drove his work with the APM. Jesus was a pioneer in his efforts to help Philadelphia's poorest citizens advocating the use of economic development tools to fight racism, create equal opportunity for Latinos, and to generate change.

His founding of the APM is an accomplishment that will continue to have a positive impact into the future. Jesus headed this organization for 33 years and his indefatigable labors in building it from a two person office on Germantown Avenue to the largest non-profit development corporation in Pennsylvania is to be admired. His work directly saved countless lives and his contribution will continue to provide hope to thousands more. In tribute to a wonderful father, husband, and pillar of the Puerto Rican Community, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to honor him and all of his accomplishments.

THE LOSS OF SGT. MOISES
JAZMIN

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sorrow that I rise to recognize the loss of a brave soldier in Iraq, Sergeant Moises Jazmin, a Rhode Island resident who served his country with dignity and honor. I join his family and the people of Rhode Island in mourning this great loss.

Sergeant Jazmin grew up in Providence, RI, and attended Central High School until he enlisted in the Army at the age of 17. He is remembered as a committed and loving member of his tight-knit family.

Sergeant Jazmin was serving in Iraq in the 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade of the 4th Infantry Division. On Sunday, August 27, he was on patrol when an improvised explosive device detonated near their Bradley Fighting Vehicle. The blast killed him and three other soldiers in his unit.

This loss causes us to reflect on the bravery demonstrated by our men and women in uniform as they carry out their obligations in the face of danger. When Sergeant Jazmin's nation called him to duty, he answered without hesitation. We will remember him as a patriot who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

Sergeant Jazmin is survived by his parents, Leon and Rosa, and many other friends and family members. May we keep his loved ones in our thoughts and prayers as they endure this difficult period. We will also continue to hope for the safe and speedy return of all of our troops serving throughout the world.

JACK HARDIN DAY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of "Jack Hardin Day" which was cele-

brated in many towns in my District recently. No one is more deserving of this honor than the man for which the day was named—a man who has served southern West Virginia, both as a journalist and as a community activist, for more than 50 years.

Jack Hardin is an icon, an institution, to the people of Huntington, WV., and beyond. It was fitting then, that on Jack Hardin Day, also Jack's 80th birthday, the members of the community came together for a good-natured roasting of their favorite son. It is also fitting that the proceeds of this roast went to an important charity—the Hospitality House of Huntington. Jack wouldn't have had it any other way.

While I was unable to attend the roast of my friend Jack Hardin, I would have loved to have been there to hear the tales, the teasing and what I am sure was a good amount of praise for a man who has become a role model to so many.

Jack Hardin is a moral man, a family man, and southern West Virginia is lucky to have him. I thank Jack for his contributions to our area over the years and commend the community of Huntington and Jack's family for coming together to put together a celebration worthy of such a man.

May this be the first of many "Jack Hardin Days."

9/11 FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, this week we mark the fifth anniversary of the tragic and unprecedented events of September 11, 2001. On this fateful day, we lost not only thousands of our fellow citizens, but a piece of our innocence as well.

On behalf of my constituents of the 37th District of California, I affirm that we will not forget those who lost their lives on that dreadful day. We offer our heartfelt prayers to the families of the victims, and assure them that time has not dulled our deepest sympathies. We shall never fully recover from the loss of so many of our best and bravest and brightest.

This attack on our homeland showed us that great vigilance and effort are required to prevent terrorists from realizing their murderous aims. This important lesson was paid for dearly, and we owe it to all those who lost their lives to continue to work to protect our country from another attack.

In particular, I am acutely aware of the need to secure our Nation's ports, as my District is adjacent to the Port of Long Beach and the Port of Los Angeles, which are among our Nation's busiest. Some 95 percent of American trade enters the U.S. through 1 of 361 sea-ports on board over 8,500 foreign vessels and makes more than 55,000 port calls per year, which total worth is nearly \$1 trillion. It is our duty to protect America's ports which remain highly vulnerable targets. In fact, over 52 percent of all waterborne cargo moves through the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles

alone. Securing these and the rest of America's ports as well as the economic contributions they make must remain a top priority for each of us.

As such, I am pleased that Congress is finally working on a bipartisan basis to address this gaping hole in our security. I am a proud supporter of the SAFE Port Act, which would appropriate a dedicated stream of port security funding. I look forward to continuing to work on this important issue with my colleagues from both sides of the aisle.

I appeal to all Members of Congress to work toward these goals in the spirit of unity that we felt so poignantly 5 years ago in the wake of the terrorist attacks. This is really the greatest honor we could offer the victims of that day.

THE LOSS OF LANCE CORPORAL
ERIC VALDEPEÑAS

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sorrow that I rise to recognize the loss of a brave Marine in Iraq, Lance Corporal Eric Valdepeñas, who served his country with dignity and honor. I join his family and the people of Rhode Island and Massachusetts in mourning this great loss.

Lance Corporal Valdepeñas, a resident of Seekonk, Massachusetts, was a graduate of Bishop Hendricken High School in Warwick, Rhode Island, my own alma mater. He was an honors student and co-captain of the school's championship lacrosse team. He is remembered by his teachers and classmates as having tremendous energy and an exceptional character. After high school, he attended the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and was pursuing an engineering degree when his Marine Reserve unit was called up in December 2005.

Lance Corporal Valdepeñas served with the 1st Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division. He demonstrated the same commitment and positive attitude in Iraq that his family and friends knew well, and he earned numerous military awards, including the Purple Heart. On September 4, while on patrol in al Anbar province, an improvised explosive device detonated next to his vehicle, killing him and two other Marines.

This loss causes us to reflect on the bravery demonstrated by our men and women in uniform as they carry out their obligations in the face of danger. When Lance Corporal Valdepeñas's nation called him to duty, he answered without hesitation. We will remember him as a patriot who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

He is survived by his parents, Jesus and Ann-Marie, and seven siblings Marie Drury, Karen Ing, Nora Lough, and Teresa, Edna-Anne, Neil, and Sean Valdepeñas. They will remember his great love for his family, his loyalty and his kindness. May we keep them and other friends and family in our thoughts and prayers as they endure this difficult period. We will also continue to hope for the safe and speedy return of all of our troops serving throughout the world.