

Woman Citizen of the Year" from Florida International University and the "Community Headliner Award."

The life of Dr. Tabares-Fernandez is an inspiration to us all. I am certain that her children, Pepita, Raul, Jr., Aurelio, Patricia, Cesareo, Maria, Juan, Sheila, Jose, and Ximena, are proud of her as well.

Her professional choices, as well as the projects she has enthusiastically undertaken in her free time, reveal Dr. Tabares-Fernandez's life to be one of tireless public service. Her numerous contributions have helped to make our community the extraordinary multicultural metropolis that it is today. As a result, Dr. Tabares-Fernandez has earned herself a very special place in the rich Cuban-American history of South Florida. Dr. Ofelia Tabares-Fernandez is a true humanitarian whose work has permanently impacted our community in a wonderful way.

RECOGNIZING COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR GEORGE Q. CRISOSTOMO

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2007*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize CSM George Q. Crisostomo on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Army after 28 years of service.

Command Sergeant Major Crisostomo has served our country with distinction both in peacetime and wartime. His exemplary service includes assignments as a Drill Sergeant at Fort Benning, Georgia, and as a Senior ROTC Instructor in Puerto Rico. He served his first combat tour in support of Operation Desert Storm as a Platoon Sergeant while assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 17th Infantry (RAKASSAN), 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Most recently, Command Sergeant Major Crisostomo served a combat tour in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a Command Sergeant Major with the 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

Throughout his Army career, Command Sergeant Major Crisostomo distinguished himself as a leader, serving in positions where soldiers relied upon him for guidance, experience, and knowledge. In addition to his leadership assignments in combat and service as an instructor, Command Sergeant Major Crisostomo has served as a Scout Team Leader, Squad Leader, Platoon Sergeant, Company First Sergeant, and Battalion Command Sergeant Major. He was a "soldier's soldier."

Command Sergeant Major Crisostomo's exemplary service earned him numerous awards and military decorations including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with one Oak Leaf Cluster and the Meritorious Service Medal. He also earned the Expert and Combat Infantryman badges. Command Sergeant Major Crisostomo received the Korea National Defense Service Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal, the Iraqi Campaign Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

I wish to recognize the sacrifices and support of Command Sergeant Major Crisostomo's

family, especially his wife, Claire. I also recognize the positive influence that he has had in preparing his children for their futures. His daughter, Jenna Lynn, is now a senior at the University of Arizona, and his son, SGT Joshua D. Crisostomo, is following in his footsteps and is currently serving in Iraq with the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, New York.

On behalf of the people of Guam and a grateful Nation, we congratulate Command Sergeant Major Crisostomo and his family as he retires from the United States Army, and we wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

MR. AMIGO 2006

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2007*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I wish today to commend the 2006 "Mr. Amigo," Lucero Hoganza León, chosen recently by the Mr. Amigo Association of Brownsville, TX, and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, in Mexico. Like Cher, Ms. León is popularly known only as "Lucero" among her many fans in the U.S. and Mexico. Each year the Mr. Amigo Association honors a Mexican citizen with the title of "Mr. Amigo," and that person acts as a goodwill ambassador between our two countries.

The Mr. Amigo Award began in 1964 as an annual tribute to an outstanding Mexican citizen who has made a lasting contribution during the previous year to international solidarity and goodwill. "Mr. Amigo" presides over the annual Charro Days Festival.

The Charro Days Festival is a pre-Lenten event, much like Mardi Gras in New Orleans, held in Brownsville and Matamoros. Charro Days festivities last for several days; this year they will be February 25–28 and will include parades and appearances by Lucero. Charro Days is an opportunity to enjoy the unique border culture of the Rio Grande Valley area.

As Mr. Amigo 2005, Lucero will head the international parade of Brownsville Charro Days and Matamoros Fiestas Mexicanas festivities.

During Charro Days, South Texans celebrate the food, music, dances, and traditions of both the United States and Mexico. The United States-Mexican border has a unique, blended history of cowboys, bandits, lawmen, farmers, fishermen, oil riggers, soldiers, scientists, entrepreneurs, and teachers.

The border has its own language and customs. On both sides of the border, there is a deep sense of history, much of which the border has seen from the front row. We have seen war and peace; we have known prosperity and bad times. Charro Days is a time for all of us to reflect on our rich history, to remember our past and to celebrate our future.

Lucero was chosen for this honor based on her accomplishments as an entertainer and her efforts for people with disabilities. Her philanthropic career started in December 1997 when she hosted 27 uninterrupted hours of a telethon to raise money for a rehabilitation center for the handicapped.

While Lucero has won many awards as an entertainer, she has also been named the recipient of the 2002 Double Eagle Leadership

Award. She has recorded 20 albums, including "Ocho Quince," and starred in 6 telenovelas in her career. Currently, she stars in the acclaimed telenovela "Alborada." She co-hosted the seventh annual Latin Grammy Awards in early 2006.

During difficult times in our world, the Mr. Amigo concept unites sister cities on both sides of the border and sends a message that we are neighbors, and mends that trust, understand, and respect each other. We share a language, customs and during Charro Days, we take time to celebrate our distinctive culture.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Lucero, the 2006 Mr. Amigo, as well as the cities of Brownsville and Matamoros, for their dedication to international goodwill between the United States and Mexico.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH TERWILLIGER

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2007*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Elizabeth Terwilliger, one of Marin County's most beloved heroines, an environmentalist who instilled a love of nature in children of all ages. "Mrs. T.," as she was known to all, died on November 27, 2006, at the age of 97.

Her enthusiastic and interactive teaching style made learning about nature especially entertaining and instructive for children and adults alike. This included President Reagan who, along with an audience at a White House Volunteer Action Award ceremony, flapped his arms like "Mr. Vulture" under her guidance. Her irresistible style ranged from mimicking animal behaviors to demonstrations with taxidermied animals, some of which had come via her own freezer. In her trademark straw hat, she led field trips until she was 85, where her call of "Something special!" alerted eager participants to yet another marvel of the natural world.

Mrs. T's long-time passion for the environment had burgeoned when she started hiking to avoid housework in the 1960s. From that, she became committed to inspire the people of the Bay Area to care for the natural world as she did. "People take care of what they love," she claimed.

This mission began with including other housewives, and then their children, on her hikes, as well as leading field trips for her children's schools and clubs. By the late 60s, she was leading volunteer trips 5 days a week for teachers and wildlife organizations and, in 1970, created Terwilliger Nature Guides with other volunteers. In 1975, the Elizabeth Terwilliger Nature Education Foundation was formed; it later merged with the California Center for Wildlife and became WildCare, an organization which today teaches 40,000 Bay Area school children annually.

"WildCare is honored to follow directly in Mrs. T's adventurous footsteps," said Executive Director Karen J. Wilson. "We are all fortunate that her enthusiasm and energy will live on in the generations of children she has inspired. To underscore her Bay Area legacy, WildCare recently named our San Rafael facility in her honor—we have become the Terwilliger WildCare Center."

She was also a tireless advocate for the environment and open space. Her mark is everywhere in Marin County from the establishment of the Butterfly Grove at Muir Beach to creation of countywide bike paths to preservation of Angel Island and countless other conservation efforts.

Born in Hawaii in 1909, Elizabeth Terwilliger attended the University of Hawaii, and then came to the mainland to earn a master's degree at Columbia University and a nursing degree at Stanford. She met her future husband Calvin, an orthopedic surgeon, at Stanford, and they married in 1939. They moved to Marin in 1946. Calvin passed away in 1990. She is survived by their daughter Lynn Ellen, their son John, and grandsons Dana, Ryan, and Sean.

Elizabeth Terwilliger earned numerous well-deserved accolades and awards, but her true legacy is the contagious passion she inspired in children and adults. Everywhere we see people living her watchword, "This is my country. Wherever I go, I will leave it more beautiful than I found it."

Madam Speaker, Mrs. T. truly left this country beautiful, and we thank and honor her for her for it.

ARMY SPECIALIST JOHN PAUL BARTA: SOUTH TEXAN LOST IN IRAQ

### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2007*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, since this House last met before Christmas, another South Texan from my Congressional District has fallen in battle in Iraq, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this life lost in the service of our Nation.

Army SPC John Paul Barta, 25, was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division out of Ft. Hood, Texas. He never saw Christmas Eve; he was killed in Buhriz, Iraq, about 30 miles north of Baghdad, during combat operations on Dec. 23.

Madam Speaker, each time we lose a soldier—a member of our American family—we lose a little piece of ourselves. Each time, it is just unbearable. Let me tell you more about this noble patriot who gave the last full measure of devotion to the nation he loved.

An exceptional athlete, Specialist Barta was remembered as a well-mannered and respectful young man. He attended Flour Bluff High School in Corpus Christi, excelling on both the baseball and football fields.

Throughout his 4-year teenage athletic career, coaches and teammates in both sports knew him as a go-to player who came through even when the odds were long. This star baseball player also gently mentored his teammates. From time to time he was known as a perfectionist.

And while he was a natural competitor depended upon by teammates for the big play, he confided to a friend months ago about the ever-present fear of serving in Iraq. He was humble and he was competitive; precisely the type of person you'd want to wear the sacred uniform of the United States.

Specialist Barta is survived by his wife, Eun Ji, of Killeen; his mother, Laurie Barta, broth-

ers Josh and Billy Ray Barta, and grandparents Adolph Barta, of Corpus Christi, and Jackie and Larry Blake of Milton, FL.

Everyone in the greater South Texas community will miss him, but nobody will miss him like his family. We mourn with this family; we lift up our broken hearts in gratitude to his family, and we all want to see the end of the war in Iraq.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House to join me in honoring Army SPC John Paul Barta and his service on behalf of the United States and to offer our thanks and our deepest sympathy to the family of this warrior, who gave the last full measure of devotion to our Nation and the United States Army.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONTGOMERY ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2007*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to the 70th Anniversary of the Montgomery Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in Montgomery, Alabama. With nearly 425 members, this chapter remains focused and committed to public service and education in the community.

The Montgomery Alumnae Chapter was founded in 1937 on the campus of Alabama State University. Members will gather on Saturday, January 13, 2007, to observe the anniversary event with a luncheon and rededication ceremony. Throughout the decades, Delta Sigma Theta has been and remains committed to what is known as the Sororities Five Point Programmatic Thrust: Economic Development, Educational Development, Political Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health and International Awareness and Involvement.

I salute these women and their commitment to philanthropy and wish them the best on this milestone in their chapter. Congratulations to the Montgomery Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta on their 70th Anniversary.

IN MEMORY OF JAMES ROITER SCRIVNER

### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 9, 2007*

Mr. SKELTON of Missouri. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Mr. James (Jim) Roiter Scrivner of Versailles, MO.

Mr. Scrivner was born in Stover, MO, on May 4, 1926, son of James Oscar and Adelia B. "Della" Roiter Scrivner. He graduated from Stover High School in 1943 and went on to serve his country in World War II with the United States Navy as a surgical technician. He came back to Missouri and attended Central Methodist College, graduating in 1949. In

October 1950, he graduated as valedictorian from the Kansas City College of Mortuary Service in Kansas City, Kansas.

Mr. Scrivner married Bertha M. "Honey" Guenther on September 3, 1949. They were blessed with three wonderful daughters and two granddaughters.

Mr. Scrivner and his wife established the Scrivner Funeral Home in Versailles in January of 1952 and opened additional funeral homes in Stover and Russellville. In 1984, Mr. Scrivner's daughter and son-in-law became partners in the family business and in 2004 assumed full ownership from Jim and Honey.

Along with his successful business, Mr. Scrivner was very active in his community and church. He served as mayor of Versailles from 1972–1979. In 1972 he received the "Certificate of Appreciation" from the Missouri Municipal League and in 1981 was the recipient of an Economic Development Award from the Missouri Division of Commerce and Industrial Development. Mr. Scrivner was also very active with the Versailles Chamber of Commerce, the Morgan County Fair Board, the Versailles Lions Club, and local politics. For the last 10 years, he has served as a volunteer with the Capital Region Medical Center in Jefferson City. In addition, Jim was a member of the Versailles United Methodist Church.

Madam Speaker, James Roiter Scrivner was a valuable leader in his church and community and a very dear friend. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife Honey; his three daughters, Mona, Sherry, and Jamie; and his two grandchildren.

### RULES OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 5, 2007*

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the measures before the House today that will restore civility and fiscal responsibility to our work. These changes to the existing House rules are essential if we are to carry out the American people's wish that we govern wisely, effectively, and in a bipartisan way.

With the votes before us today, Democrats who now find ourselves in the majority are reaching out to the other side of the aisle to assure them that we will not treat you as we were treated while we were in the minority. Through these changes we will make sure that 15-minute votes are not held open for three hours while votes are bought through arm twisting and legislative favors; that conference committees will be open to Republicans as well as Democrats; and that conference agreements cannot be circumvented through the addition of new language after they have been signed. Today we vote for the honesty and openness demanded of us by our constituents and expected in a civil, democratic society.

Today we also vote for fiscal responsibility. For five long years now, this Congress has approved, and the President has signed, budget, spending, and tax bills that have turned an enormous surplus into staggering deficit, adding tremendous burden to our children and grandchildren.