

Education. In 1980, Mrs. Kawaratani received her Adult Education Designated Subjects Credential from the University of California State College.

Mrs. Kawaratani began her career teaching at Barber's Point Elementary School in Hawaii. Upon graduation from Columbia Teacher's College, Lilian moved to Monterey Park and began teaching at Euclid Ave. Elementary School in East Los Angeles. After taking time off to raise her children, Lilian returned to teaching for the Alhambra School District's Adult Education ESL program until she retired in 1999.

Lilian has demonstrated a strong commitment to community service. Lilian was a Board Member and Coordinator for the United Methodist Pre-School's Mother Helpers Program. She has held various positions for the PTA, served on the GATE Advisory Board, and volunteered as a Brownie and Girl Scout Leader. Mrs. Kawaratani has also held various offices at the California Council of Adult Education, where in 1988 she was awarded the CALCO Award for Excellence in Teaching. Lilian also serves as the Membership Chair for the Friends of Monterey Park Library Board.

Most notably, Lilian is admired for her volunteer work with the Monterey Park Library's LAMP (Literacy for All of Monterey Park) Citizenship Classes. Following her retirement, Lilian was invited to help teach Citizenship Classes for the library for two hours per week. Lilian's passion for teaching was made apparent as she spent up to eight hours a day at the library and often met one-on-one with adult learners to further prepare them for their citizenship tests and interviews. Her efforts have directly helped 50 to 100 students annually become proud new American citizens. As Lilian enters her eighth year of teaching for LAMP, she has seen over 700 students attain U.S. Citizenship and has devoted thousands of hours of service.

In addition to her many professional and personal accomplishments, Mrs. Kawaratani is a wife and mother of four children and enjoys spending time with her grandchildren.

Mrs. Kawaratani's devotion to her career and her long-time commitment to the prosperity of our community serves as a true inspiration to us all. I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an extraordinary woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Lilian Kawaratani.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN CHACON, SR.

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor and remember a great community activist, role model, loving father, husband, and grandfather, John Chacon, Sr.

John was born in El Paso, Texas, on July 6, 1935, but he called California home, as he resided in Ventura County for over 63 years.

John graduated from Oxnard High School in 1955. In 1957, John married the love of his life, Frances "Pancha" Castro, with whom he shared 50 years of happy marriage.

Professionally, John worked over 25 years for W.B. Post and Nick Wargo Construction Companies. He was a lead paving foreman for

19 of those 25 years. At the age of 52 John retired, but he remained active in the community, particularly with his labor union. He was an active member of Laborers Local 585 for 46 years.

John's accomplishments in the community are too many to list here, but some of his most notable include: membership in Los Compadres del Rio, membership in the Rio Mesa High School Boosters Club, and a founding, charter membership in the Mexican-American Golf Association.

John's passions included golfing, gardening, camping at Lake Cachuma, backyard barbecues with family and friends, and listening to mariachi music.

John was well-known throughout the community for cooking his famous "tripas" and his secret salsa recipe. He made friends everywhere he went, and could never go anywhere in the community without someone recognizing him.

On March 4, 2007, John passed away from a sudden illness. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Frances; son, John Jr.; daughters, Rosemary and Barbara; grandchildren, Jennifer, Vincent, Francesca and Analisa; and his four sisters.

Let us pay tribute to John for the man he was and the example he set for all of us to follow. His dedication to family and friends, and his love for his community was evidenced in all that he did.

Although he is no longer with us, John's legacy and spirit will continue to live on through the lives of everyone he has touched.

Madam Speaker, let us pay our respects to John Chacon, Sr. He will always have a place in our hearts for everything he gave to his loved ones and community.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE OF WENDY MILLER

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Wendy Miller of Jamison, Pennsylvania for her dedication to our soldiers overseas. Her efforts have brought hope to many soldiers serving in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as here at home.

For the past three years, Ms. Miller, working through the program Anysoldier, has collected various supplies, clothes, and treats from family, friends, and neighbors. Each year she collects a thousand homemade valentines and hundreds of homemade cards and letters from area children. She then ships the packages to the units requesting supplies on anysoldier.com.

Ms. Miller has shipped 130 boxes already, and plans to ship another 100 in the next month. She has taken the initiative to organize volunteers in four other neighborhoods to help collect the donations. The project has been so successful that she plans to send at least 500 boxes by the end of the year.

Her hard work has not gone unappreciated. In fact, Madam Speaker, Ms. Miller has received letters from soldiers, thanking her for the supplies, for the hope each shipment gives

them, and for the reminder that they are not forgotten. The generosity of the hundreds of residents who participate in this project is overwhelming, and the devotion of Ms. Miller is incredible.

One letter of thanks from a soldier serving in Afghanistan reads "Your care package got our soldiers smiling after a long day." Madam Speaker, as a veteran of the Iraq war, I rise today on behalf of American soldiers to thank Wendy Miller and her neighbors for their unending dedication and generosity.

IN THE GAME OF LIFE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, in tribute of slain Marine Jimmy Regan, Albert Carey Caswell, United States Capitol Tour Guide, penned the following poem:

"In the game of life,
There's only what's wrong or right!
For there are only the very few, who shall so
shine there so who . . . are so very
bright!

"For only one thing so counts,
For only one score so adds up, that which so
amounts . . .

For it's all about what we've so said and
done, and what is really true . . . as so
to be won!

"For there are no second chances!
In these our short minutes, upon this earth
. . . as our time here so advances . . .

Our goal! All in what we've said and done, for
whom we've so bled . . . to take our
valiant stances!

"Whether, upon fields of green . . .
Or on oh so heroic battlefields of honor
seen . . .

Jimmy, was always the one! A brave heart!
As a leader of men, time and time
again!

"A Marine's Marine,
A brave heart who once so lived, who so gal-
lantly chose to give . . .

Facing death, with only his magnificent
courage left . . . his heart of a lion
seen could not be checked!

"Fast breaking in the game of life, writing
his book of sacrifice . . .

To this our world he so gave, but never took
. . . no mistaking around him the earth
so shook!

Strength in Honor . . . was his great life's
measure, in each and every step he ever
took!

"For so few of us shall ever be such a treas-
ure,

For so few of us such magnificence, as a hero
to their Country shall be so measured!

Such Splendid Splendor, was Jimmy . . .
who to our Lord's heart brought such
pleasure!

"For in the minutes and the hours,
Of our lives upon this earth we give now,
upon all others which so shower!

Are our gifts of Freedom and Peace, in our
Lord's eye's hold such power!

"To Make a Difference With It All,
To be a champion in life! As what Jimmy so
lived for and died, as for what he saw!

Could we, would we . . . ever such the
strength so find, to stand as tall as him
in time?

"In the game of life,

Every moment is important, and so sacred until our final nights!

For such valor and sacrifice . . . our Lord God, Jimmy you up to Heaven has called!

“For life is not a game, As each day and night, are so precious the moments we’re alive to claim. And Freedom is not free, only bought and paid for by America’s greatest of all names!”

In honor of a Real American Hero, Jimmy Regan . . . God Bless you, my Son, and may your family find peace!

INTRODUCING THE STOP TUBERCULOSIS NOW ACT OF 2007

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Stop Tuberculosis Now Act of 2007.

As a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I know all too well how necessary comprehensive international tuberculosis control is. It is remarkable in this day and age, with treatment available, that TB is the biggest infectious killer of young women in the world. In fact, TB kills more women than all causes of maternal mortality. As you know, TB is also the leading killer of people with AIDS. TB accounts for more than one quarter of all preventable adult deaths in developing countries.

I strongly believe that the global community, with the United States in the lead, must do more to adequately address this disease by investing in quality TB control programs, using the groundbreaking Global Plan to Stop TB as a guide. It is for that reason that I am introducing the Stop TB Now Act which will make the appropriate investments towards achieving the goals of the Global Plan. My bill calls for a U.S. investment of \$400 million for international TB control in FY08 and \$550 million in FY09.

I believe that if we don’t make bold—and wise—investments in international TB control, not only will we fail to save millions of lives and miss out on the many accompanying benefits of controlling this killer, but also that this disease will become far more difficult and costly to treat.

Extremely Drug Resistant TB highlights this danger. It has been found on six continents, is a growing epidemic in southern Africa, and is already reported to be here in the United States. Regular (non drug-resistant) TB is curable with drugs that cost just \$16 in most developing countries. Cases of drug-resistant TB, however, can cost thousands of dollars to cure, with treatment that is far more difficult for patients and practitioners. Drug-resistant TB is a manmade problem and is caused by poor TB treatment. We have the power to prevent drug-resistant TB and the power to treat and control regular TB, and yet we have not chosen to do so.

Madam Speaker, the adoption of the Stop TB Now Act of 2007 would have a profound effect on our efforts to improve global tuberculosis control. I ask my colleagues to cosponsor this bill today.

HONORING WAYNE HALE

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize Mr. Wayne Hale, Manager of the Space Shuttle Program at the NASA Johnson Space Center in Texas’s 22nd Congressional District, for winning the 2007 National Air and Space Museum Trophy for Current Achievement. Wayne was honored on March 7, 2007 for the Shuttle’s STS–121 mission, which along with subsequent Shuttle flights got the Shuttle program back on track after the tragic *Columbia* loss.

For decades, America’s space program has represented our greatest advances in science and technological innovation. Individuals like Wayne Hale are why NASA remains the global leader in expanding space exploration. Such ambitions are essential to growing our economy. They are essential to the technology used in all facets of everyday life. They are essential to inspiring our Nation’s youth to go into math and science fields. And they are essential to fulfill the American spirit that our forbears passed on to us, to seek out and explore new frontiers.

The National Air and Space Museum trophy recognizes such achievements involving the management or execution of a scientific or technological project, a distinguished career of service in air and space technology, or a significant contribution in chronicling the history of air and space technology. Wayne Hale certainly fits this bill and brings great distinction to this award.

My congratulations to Wayne and his fine team of colleagues and professionals at NASA. Wayne’s dedication to furthering our reach and exploration into space inspires our best and brightest to continue the most exciting endeavors in human history.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE DEMOCRATS

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Pennsylvania Democrats for being named the “2006 Chapter of the Year” by the Pennsylvania Federation of College Democrats.

For those who say all young people are apathetic, I say, look at the Penn Democrats. They are inspiring proof to the contrary. Their hard work and dedication make them admirable examples—models not just to their fellow students or to other Democrats, but to all of us who seek to improve our communities through civic engagement and public service.

The Penn Democrats are to be commended for their continued outward focus. Not content to exist merely as a self-contained committee of like-minded people, they maintain an active presence on the University of Pennsylvania campus and work to encourage other students to become politically active. When voter turn-

out on campus grew by 280 percent between the 2000 and 2004 elections, the increase was due in large part to the efforts of the Penn Democrats, who ran a nonpartisan voter registration drive and successfully lobbied the City of Philadelphia to create six additional polling places convenient to the Penn campus. They ran a strong Get-Out-The-Vote effort in 2006 as well, and election day turnout among Penn students more than tripled that of the previous midterm elections, in 2002.

Their involvement in the larger community beyond the University is as laudable as their on-campus involvement, and is perhaps more extraordinary among college organizations. The Penn Democrats have worked hard to place students in local political offices. Through the organization’s efforts in 2005, nine Penn students joined Philadelphia’s 27th Ward Democratic Committee, and 20 more served as Inspectors or Judges of Elections.

The passion, energy, and focus of these students have made the Penn Democrats a respected institution on campus, in the local community, and in state and national politics. Politicians and candidates value invitations to speak at their events, not because they simply want good “photo ops,” but because they know that the Penn Democrats play a meaningful role in politics and in the community.

I applaud the University of Pennsylvania College Democrats for their well-deserved recognition as Chapter of the Year.

IN OUR SEARCH FOR THE TRUTH

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, in tribute of slain reporter David Bloom, Albert Carey Caswell, United States Tour Guide, penned the following poem:

“In our search for the truth, in a reporters quest
Running on that edge, which so separates the
greats . . . which so leads us to the
best
With precious life on the line, all within
these their most heroic moments there
in time . . . while, courageously facing
death
“For in these their greatest gifts they give
Here within these, our shortest of all life-
times we live
As shall so here upon this earth, shall so
surely show our worth . . . as shall so
surely carry on, and forever with us
live
“David Bloom
A man for so whom, within this his short
lifetime . . . in our hearts, now so
largely looms
As a true and great lesson to us all, of when
greatness comes to call . . . of when,
within these our short lives a heart so
blooms
“Such a man of class, such a man of style
Such a man as a friend, you’d but wished
you’d known all the while . . . as why,
within our hearts we now carry him
the while
“Ah . . . and through that camera’s eye, as
we could so see . . . his wonderful
warmth, his great humanity . . . that
he carried with him the miles
“For he was such a man of integrity, one of
such splendid grace