

does not further jeopardize the health of our oceans in any way.

IN TRIBUTE TO STAFF SGT. JESSE WILLIAMS OF SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA WHO WAS KILLED IN IRAQ

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2007*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to observe the death of Staff Sergeant Jesse Williams of Santa Rosa, California. Jesse was a fine man and a fine soldier, and he leaves behind a loving family bowed but not broken by the loss of a father, husband, and son.

Sgt. Williams was serving his second tour with the 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division at the time of his death during combat operations in Baqubah, in eastern Iraq.

Before and during his tours in Iraq, Sgt. Williams had served in the army with distinction, earning numerous accolades and awards. During his first tour in Iraq from 2003–2004 he earned a Purple Heart after being injured in an explosive attack. Then, just three weeks before his death, Sgt. Williams proved his uncommon character and valor when he jumped in to rescue two fellow soldiers who were trapped in a flaming vehicle ignited by an insurgent attack. For his heroism he is currently being considered for a Bronze Star.

Sgt. Williams was known to friends and family for his sense of humor and love of life. As a younger man, he found discipline and his calling when he joined the Boy Scouts. In less than 2 years he had completed all the requirements to become an Eagle Scout, indicating the highest level of achievement. During a leave from the Army, he returned to Santa Rosa and spoke to the City Council in favor of establishing a memorial for Sonoma County's Iraq veterans. At the time, he made a strong impression with his words; now his name will be one of those featured on the memorial.

Sgt. Williams leaves behind his wife Sonya, and an 11-month old daughter Amaya. Amaya was 5 weeks old when Sgt. Williams was deployed to Iraq for his second tour of duty. His father, Herb Williams, resides in Santa Rosa as well.

On Monday the community of Santa Rosa paused to acknowledge their fallen soldier as hundreds of policemen, firefighters and members of the community took to bridges and overpasses with signs and flags while his casket was brought back into the city. Yesterday, almost one thousand people gathered for a memorial service paying tribute to his life.

Madam Speaker, at this time I ask that my colleagues join me in rising to pay tribute to Staff Sergeant Jesse Williams, who gave his life for his country. I know that his family is immensely proud of his service, and we are all in his debt.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD, MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2007*

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today with a heavy heart. The passing of the Honorable JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD is being felt by all who knew her, and all who were touched by her career in public service. I want to extend my condolences to her family, friends and constituents in California's 37th District for their great loss.

In fact, we all have lost something in the Chairwoman's passing. For me, I lost a colleague, but my wife Annette and I also have lost a neighbor and friend.

Much has been said in these past days about what she meant to California and to the Congress as a whole. When she won her first election to the City Council of Carson, California, she committed herself to more than two decades of public service. As the first African-American woman to chair a committee here in the House, she was a trailblazer. And as the so-called "Mayor of Capitol Hill" she was charged with ensuring the smooth operation of the people's House, while overseeing the biggest expansion of the Capitol complex as the Capitol Visitors Center nears completion.

Madam Speaker, many of us are so busy that we don't have time to really get to know one another. Seeing JUANITA every morning on my way to the office was an extraordinary way to start off my day, and in the evening we would compare notes on our way home. I will truly miss seeing her and am heart broken by her untimely passing.

Congress has lost a singularly able and warm person whose contributions to the greater good for her District, the people of California, the country as a whole, and African-American women will live on. Our prayers are with her family as we all mourn the passing of Chairwoman JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD.

HONORING ROGER DENNIS ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2007*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Roger Dennis who is retiring as Provost of Rutgers University. Roger has been a member of the Camden Campus community in Camden, New Jersey for almost a quarter of a century, and I consider him a dear friend.

Roger has greatly contributed to the reputation of excellence at Rutgers University. Serving as Provost since 1997, he fostered exciting developments in the City of Camden and the Southern New Jersey region. Among these initiatives are the Rutgers-Camden Technology Campus, the Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs, and the first doctoral program in children's studies to be of-

fered on the Camden Campus. He has also spearheaded several ongoing improvements to the existing campus.

Madam Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Roger Dennis for his outstanding years of service to Rutgers University and the City of Camden. Roger has been a trusted friend and I thank him for his support and advice over the years. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING UNITED WAY OF BUCKS COUNTY

**HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2007*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an organization dedicated to improving volunteer service, United Way of Bucks County. The selfless work of the volunteers of United Way has made us a stronger community in countless ways.

For more than 50 years, United Way has been devoted to improving the community at large through the use of social services and volunteer projects. Upon its founding in 1952, it was known as "The Bucks County United Services Foundation." Since then, it has exceeded its own expectations, surpassing its own fundraising goals and touching more lives than was originally thought possible.

Today, United Way of Bucks County strives to spread its impact to the greatest number of people. Funding is distributed to three fundamental categories: ages and life stages, promoting self-sufficiency, and building a healthy community. The services of the organization extend to one in three Bucks County residents, and have forever changed the lives of many.

Madam Speaker, simply put, the work done by United Way of Bucks County touches the lives of thousands of families. The generosity of its members reminds us of the basic giving spirit of Americans. The inner strength and compassion of humanity is exemplified in these outstanding volunteers.

The work of United Way of Bucks County has provided scholarships for daycare and camps, dignity for the elderly, stability and friendship for those who need it most and employment and training for the developmentally disabled. Most importantly, however, they have offered hope and extended a hand to those who most need help.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to congratulate, thank and honor United Way of Bucks County for years of philanthropic contributions to society and for making our community stronger.

NINETY-SECOND COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2007*

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I join today with many of my colleagues in remembering the victims of the Armenian Genocide.