

she continues to use her time to serve education-related organizations, proving that her advocacy for young people did not end with her retirement.

She is a graduate of Tempe Leadership Class XVI and is the president of the Tempe High School District Education Foundation, vice-president of the Tempe Impact Education Foundation and is active on the Tempe City Council's Education, Technology and Economic Development Committee.

A community's quality of life is determined by many factors, such as the policies set by city government and the programs available to its citizens. However, I believe that a community rises and falls on the shoulders of its citizens, and the contributions they make to that community. Sharon exemplifies this commitment and raises the bar for everyone around her. I am proud to call Sharon Doyle a friend, and I commend her on her continued service to the young people of our community.

Sharon, congratulations on a job well done. Keep up the good work!

IN HONOR OF FIFTY YEARS OF
PUBLIC SERVICE BY THE TWIN
CITIES NORTH CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the members and leadership of the Twin Cities North Chamber of Commerce. This weekend, the more than 500 corporate citizens of the Twin Cities North area that make up the Chamber, will celebrate their 50th anniversary at their Glitz & Glamour Gala.

The northern suburbs of the Twin Cities are vibrant, growing communities with state-of-the-art health care, high quality education, affordable housing, and an abundance of opportunities for recreational enjoyment. The Twin Cities North Chamber of Commerce is a big part of what makes this region such an attractive place to live, work, and raise a family.

By helping local business and community leaders work together to fill gaps in community needs and grow the local economy, the chamber ensures that the area enjoys all the benefits of a bustling metropolis while maintaining its small-town feel. On a drive through the neighborhoods and business districts of Arden Hills, Blaine, Columbia Heights, Fridley, Little Canada, Mounds View, New Brighton, Roseville, Shoreview, and Spring Lake Park, one truly feels surrounded by the best of all worlds.

I commend the members of the Twin Cities North Chamber of Commerce for their dedication to strengthening their local economy and improving their home communities. And I commend the leadership of the chamber under the guiding hand of Chairman of the Board Doug McNurlin for their dedication to their neighbors and their commitment to the core mission of the chamber of commerce.

RECOGNIZING PEACE CORPS VOL-
UNTEERS FROM MARYLAND'S
THIRD DISTRICT

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2008

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peace Corps volunteers from my district: Jessica Ayd, Laura Burke, Gwyneth Caverly, Christopher Chapman, Erin Dahan, Aaron Degrafenreidt, Colin Doyle, Craig Edmonds, Jennifer Forster, Mark Gormley, John Gudger, Jonathan Katz, Oluseyi Lawoyin, Anne Lilly, Robi Marbury, William Marbury, Martha Moiforay, Anna Moyer, Hannah Stocks, and Sheena Washington.

I'd like to thank them for their terrific work in countries far and wide, and for helping make America's image abroad stronger at a time when we need it most. Additionally, I'd like to congratulate the Peace Corps on its 47th anniversary. Our country has truly been enriched by the experiences of the Peace Corps volunteers.

CONGRATULATIONS FOR DR.
MARWAN SABBAGH

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Marwan Sabbagh, a nationally renowned neurologist who has dedicated his career to finding a cure for Alzheimer's disease. As the founder and director of clinical research at Sun Health Research Institute's Cleo Roberts Center for Clinical Research, Dr. Sabbagh is working to develop new tools and treatment options for those who have been diagnosed with this tragic disease.

Dr. Sabbagh and the Sun Health Research Institute are partners in the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium. This Consortium is a leading model for statewide research centers that build upon the strengths of participating institutions. As a member of the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's disease, I am proud of the groundbreaking research and education that is being done in my home state of Arizona.

Later this week, I will join Dr. Sabbagh as he celebrates the release of his latest book, "The Alzheimer's Answer". This book provides readers with the latest facts about the disease, real tips for prevention, and information on current diagnosis and treatment options. As we continue to learn more about the crisis this disease presents, reducing our risk and promoting wellness is more important than ever.

Madam Speaker, in addition to Dr. Sabbagh's work with the Sun Health Research Institute, he is also a scientist in the Department of Neurology at Mayo Clinic Scottsdale and serves as an adjunct professor at Midwestern University and Arizona State University. Through his work at these leading research institutions, Dr. Sabbagh is a leading investigator for several national Alzheimer's treatment trials, including Alzheimer vaccine studies.

Dr. Sabbagh currently resides in Scottsdale with his wife Ida and their two sons, Habib and Elias. The work that Dr. Sabbagh has done, and continues to do, will greatly benefit our nation. I am proud of his accomplishments and congratulate him on his book release.

A TRIBUTE TO LOUIS B. BURGELIN

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2008

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today and invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Louis B. Burgelin, of Vallejo, California, for his many accomplishments and contributions to our community. Louis has provided remarkable leadership to countless organizations during his lifetime and the good citizens of our community have been the beneficiaries.

Louis Brosnahan Burgelin was born in Vallejo, California, on January 20, 1916, to Otto and Frances Burgelin. One of three children, Lou started his education at St. Vincent's Elementary School at the tender age of 4. During his years at Vallejo High School he studied hard but also spent a good deal of time playing football and tennis and perfecting his ability as a track sprinter. Following his high school graduation in 1932, Lou entered UC Berkeley for 2 years of study before transferring to the Mare Island Naval Shipyard Apprentice School. Lou graduated as a Marine Machinist and began an illustrious career. Quickly rising to management positions, Lou's leadership was instrumental in the success of several of our country's shipyards. At Hunter's Point in San Francisco, Lou served as both Head Progressman, and Labor Relations Superintendent. During his time at Mare Island in Vallejo, he served as Chief Progressman, Workload and Scheduling Manager, as well as the Production Equipment and Construction Manager. At Norfolk Naval Shipyard Lou was the Production Control Manager.

After retiring from the Federal Service in 1972, Lou served for 19 years as the Executive Secretary of the Armed Services Committee of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce. He participated in the acquisition of more than \$200 million in project authorizations for Mare Island. He was also instrumental in maintaining the dredging operations so necessary for shipyard operations.

Over the years, Lou Burgelin has also donated his time and talent to countless professional and community organizations. He is a Charter member of the Naval Civilian Manager's Association and served as both local and national President. He also served as President of the Navy Yard Association of Mare Island and the Council of Naval Employee Groups, representing all of the employees of the West Coast Naval Shipyards. He has been elected National Vice President of the Retirement Federation of Civil Service Employees, the first Chairman of the Combined Federal Campaign for Napa and Solano Counties, the first Chairman of the Vallejo Senior Citizens Council and the President of the Vallejo-Napa United Way. Lou has served as President of the Vallejo Chapter 16 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) and he is a long-standing member of the Vallejo Salvation Army.

Among his many civic activities, Lou is an active member of the Vallejo Elks Club having served as Exalted Ruler, a National Officer, and as the Elks National Ritual Judge, has served as Foreman of the Solano Grand Jury and is one of the founders of the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum.

Lou has received a Public Service Medal from the Navy's Chief of Naval Operations, the prestigious "Others" designation from the Salvation Army, and the Man of the Year award presented by the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce.

And it pleases me to report that Lou Bergelin is still active in the community. He serves on the Vallejo Council of the Navy League, he's Secretary of the Tobacco Fund Advisory Board for Solano County, Treasurer for the Salvation Army, volunteers at St. Vincent's Church, Past Big SIR and Chaplain for Branch 88 and he is National Legislative Chair for Vallejo NARFE. Lou has been happily married to Betty Greenwell Bergelin for almost 69 years. They have three children, three grandchildren and five great-grand children.

Madam Speaker, recognition of Mr. Bergelin's devotion to his family, his community, and his country, it is my honor to recognize him today.

TRIBUTE TO RACHEL BASSETTE
NOEL

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2008

Ms. DeGETTE. Madam Speaker. I rise to honor the extraordinary life and exceptional accomplishments of Rachel Bassette Noel. This remarkable public servant merits our recognition and esteem as her leadership, service and lifelong devotion to civil liberty and equal opportunity has done much to advance the lives of our people.

Rachel Noel has been celebrated as "a pioneer for equity," "a woman of valor," and "a magnificent rebel." She demanded the dignity due to all people. She sought to unfetter the great potential of our children and she did her part, in no small measure, to tear down the walls of segregation and remove the barriers to equal education. Although many individuals have made notable contributions to our community and state, few have left a legacy of progress as has Rachel Noel.

Rachel Noel was born 1918 in Hampton, Virginia—in the segregated South. Her father, A.W.E. Bassette, was a lawyer and her mother was a teacher. They instilled in her the value and importance of a good education and Rachel Noel went on to graduate with a bachelor's degree from Hampton Institute (now Hampton University) and earned a master's degree in sociology from Fisk University. After World War II, she and her husband, Dr. Edmond F. Noel, moved west and settled in Denver in 1950. As in the segregated South, they encountered discrimination and racial bias in Denver. Dr. Noel practiced medicine in the Five Points community and was the first African American surgeon in Colorado, yet he was denied operating room privileges in every city hospital except the Jewish hospital, General Rose (now Rose Medical Center). Rachel Noel also encountered many closed doors in

Denver before taking a job with the Denver Human Rights Commission.

The couple persevered and by the time Rachel Noel won election to the Board of the Denver Public Schools (DPS) in 1965, she was already recognized for her work on behalf of children. She became the first African American to serve on the DPS Board and the first African American woman elected to public office in Colorado. Three years into her term, she introduced the famous Noel Resolution which called for the superintendent to develop a plan to integrate the Denver Public Schools. The resolution was precipitated by the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Rachel Noel noted that "when King died, rhetoric no longer seemed adequate." Her resolution brought death threats and after much community opposition, it passed in 1970. The United States Supreme Court eventually affirmed the intent of her resolution in its landmark decision of 1973, *Keyes v. Denver School District No. 1*, calling for mandatory desegregation of Denver's public schools, including busing for racial balance. The Denver Post noted that "the citizenry at large would debate the best means for achieving equality and opportunity for all its students—but that goal itself would never again be called into question." I would simply add that Rachel Noel's endeavors raised the bar. She moved the public policy debate in our community and this country from simply opening segregated schools to achieving a new balance—a new equity—in public education that did not previously exist. But extending the benefits of equal education to those who had been denied it was more than just enforcing laws. It was about redeeming lost futures and creating opportunity so that all young people could make the most of their lives and share in our prosperity.

Rachel Noel joined the faculty of Metropolitan State College in 1969. She taught sociology and African American studies and served as chair of the African American Studies Department from 1971 to 1980. In 1976, Governor Richard Lamm appointed Rachel Noel to serve on the University of Colorado Board of Regents and she was subsequently elected statewide in 1978 to become the first African American elected to the Board of Regents and serve as chair of the board. She also chaired Mayor Federico Pena's Black Advisory Council; served as a Commissioner of Denver Housing Authority; served on the Advisory Board of the United States Civil Rights Commission; served on Mayor Wellington Webb's Black Advisory Committee; and served as a member of the Chancellor's Advisory Committee for Health Sciences at the University of Colorado at Boulder and Denver. She was also an active member of Shorter Community African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Links and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

In 1981, Rachel Noel was honored with the establishment of the Rachel B. Noel Distinguished Professorship to foster multiculturalism, diversity and academic excellence at Metropolitan State College. She was the recipient of numerous accolades and awards including: the Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award in 1990; induction into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame in 1996; the Wiley A. Branton Award from the National Bar Association in 2001; the Anti-Defamation League's Civil Rights Award in 2004; and the Honorary Doctor of Public Service degree

from the University of Denver. In 2002, the Denver Public Schools named a middle school in Northeast Denver in her honor, the Rachel B. Noel Middle School.

Rachel Noel was an unrelenting advocate for the causes that elevate the human condition and she served all of us with eminent distinction. She saw great opportunity for progress and seized it. She had the courage to tell us that we were not keeping faith with our nation's ideals and that we needed to move forward. Moreover, she knew that we as Americans have an enormous capacity to do better and that we have a moral obligation to do so. Truly, we are all diminished by the passing of this remarkable person.

Rachel Noel lived a life that is rich in consequence and we are better and stronger due to her labors on our behalf. Our thoughts and prayers are with her daughter Angie, her son Buddy and her entire family. Please join me in paying tribute to the life of Rachel B. Noel, a distinguished public servant and advocate for civil liberty.

CONGRATULATING FIRE CHIEF
JOE FLORENTINO OF LITTLE
ELM, TEXAS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Little Elm, Texas Fire Chief Joe Florentino. Chief Florentino was recently appointed to the position as the first-ever State Coordinator of the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System.

Chief Florentino was unanimously selected to fill the post for his work-related qualifications and his leadership abilities by representatives from fourteen fire-related statewide agencies. He originally applied to be one of the 24 regional coordinators, and was surprised by his appointment to State Coordinator. Although he recognizes the challenges that go hand in hand with being the first individual to hold this position, Chief Florentino is optimistic about the road that lies ahead.

The Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System, as an annex to Texas' emergency management plan, sets guidelines for responding to fire-related catastrophes that require more assistance than an area can provide. Chief Florentino will serve as the point of contact between those areas in need of support and the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System. Advocates of the program recognize the fact that Texas is on the forefront of this type of intrastate aid system, and hope that its successful implementation will lead to a similar nationwide system in the future.

I extend my sincerest congratulations to Chief Florentino on this appointment and commend his dedication and desire to help his community and state. It is an honor to represent such a service-oriented citizen in the 26th District of Texas, and I know his commitment will serve as an example to others.