

for Special Operations. He provided key support for Operation Eagle Claw, America's military response to the Iran hostage crisis. Major Citivella retired from the CIA on August 31, 1983, and was awarded the CIA's Intelligence Medal of Merit.

Major Citivella continues to be involved in the Special Operations community as an active member of the OSS Society and the Special Forces Association.

Madam Speaker, Major Citivella represents the best our Nation has to offer. He continues to serve our Nation in and out of uniform to protect our freedom and liberty as he has for the past 65 years. Please join me in saying thank you to him for his actions and his lifetime of services.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present for votes on June 9 or 10. For the information of my constituents and my colleagues, I want the RECORD to reflect how I would have voted on the following votes I missed.

On rollcall 388, on H. Res. 1255 expressing support for designation of June 2008 as National Safety Month, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 389, on H. Res. 1243 expressing the immeasurable contributions of fathers in healthy development of children, supporting responsible fatherhood, and encouraging greater involvement of fathers in the lives of their children, especially on Father's Day, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 390, on H. Res. 127 recognizing and celebrating the 50th anniversary of the entry of Alaska into the Union as the 49th State, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 391, ordering the previous question on H. Res. 1253, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 392, on agreeing to H. Res. 1253 the rule providing for consideration of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act for 2008, H.R. 6003, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 393, on H.R. 6028 the Merida Initiative to Combat Illicit Narcotics and Reduce Organized Crime Authorization Act, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 394, on H. Res. 1063 marking the 225th anniversary of the treaty of Paris of 1783, which ended the Revolutionary War, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 395, on H. Con. Res. 318 supporting the goals and ideals of the International Year of Sanitation, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall 396, on H. Con. Res. 336 honoring the sacrifices and contributions made by disabled American veterans, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EDWARDS LIFESCIENCES CORPORATION

HON. JOHN CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Edwards Lifesciences Corporation on their 50th anniversary. Edwards Lifesciences is a leader in cardiovascular disease treatments and I am proud to recognize them on this occasion.

Edwards Lifesciences Corporation traces its roots back to 1958, when Miles "Lowell" Edwards set out to build the first artificial heart. Throughout its 50-year history, the company has continued its legacy of heart valve innovation. Today, the company's line of tissue heart valves, provided under the Carpentier-Edwards brand name, have become the choice of surgeons worldwide due to their durability, performance and positive quality-of-life benefits for patients, making Edwards Lifesciences the world's number-one heart valve company.

From its success in replacement valve therapies, Edwards Lifesciences applied this experience to developing products for heart valve repair. Today, the company is one of the world's leading manufacturers of products for the surgical repair procedure—called annuloplasty—and its Carpentier-Edwards and Cosgrove-Edwards annuloplasty products are among the most sought-after by surgeons around the globe.

In addition to its heart valve therapies, the Edwards organization is credited with pioneering many other medical innovations, including the Swan-Ganz catheter, the first technology ever used for hemodynamic monitoring of critically ill patients, and the Fogarty line of embolectomy catheters, the first catheter-based technologies used to remove blood clots from the arms and legs.

In 2004, the Edwards Lifesciences Fund was established out of the company's commitment to strengthen its communities and to support advancements in cardiovascular disease awareness and knowledge. The fund has already awarded approximately \$5 million in grants to 115 charitable organizations.

I am pleased the original vision of Lowell Edwards continues today. Edwards Lifesciences is a global company with revenues exceeding \$1 billion and 5,600 employees strong, all dedicated to furthering Lowell Edwards' original vision to help clinicians, patients and their families work together as a united community fighting cardiovascular disease.

Madam Speaker I would like to congratulate Edwards Lifesciences on their 50 years.

TRIBUTE TO PETER B. RAMOS

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor a dedicated civic leader, loyal friend, loving father and husband, adoring grandfather and doting great-grandfather—Peter B. Ramos.

Born in El Paso, Texas, Pete moved to San Bernardino, California where he grew up to become a longstanding member of the community, including his participation at San Salvador Church in Colton and Sacred Heart Church in Palm Desert.

After graduating from San Bernardino High School in 1955, Pete proudly served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany until 1958. Returning to San Bernardino, Pete was hired by the San Bernardino Unified School District, remaining a devoted employee for thirty years.

In 1973, Pete was an instrumental founding member of the GENTS Organization, a community-based association whose purpose is directed at helping today's youth become tomorrow's leaders. The leadership of Pete within the GENTS Organization has contributed to its successful fundraising events, generating thousands of dollars in scholarships, donations to charitable organizations and the sponsorship of sports activities for the youth.

In addition to his service to the San Bernardino Unified School District, Pete was also a part-time employee of the San Bernardino Golf Club. An avid golf player, his fervent passion for both the sport and the community was demonstrated by all of the golf clubs he helped establish. These include the Gents Golf Association, San Bernardino County Twilight Golf League, Golf Buddies, Colton Golf Club, and San Bernardino Golf Club.

Pete was an empowering leader within the San Bernardino community, an excellent role model who set his sights on helping others have a better life. He lived by example, saying to me, "Joe, you can change life and attitudes by believing and giving others a chance."

Having always enjoyed his company on the green, he was also a strong supporter of my political endeavors. More than anything, Pete was a true friend to my family and I, especially in his great support of my sons, City Councilman Joe Baca Jr. and Jeremy Baca.

Pete is survived by his wife of 49 years, Helen Ramos, former City Councilwoman, whom he deeply loved. Pete is also survived by his daughter, Roseanne Reyes; his son, Armando; grandchildren, Raylene Soto, Leandra Soto, Bree Reyes, Michael Reyes; great-grandchild, Noelle Tavie; his sisters, Connie Hernandez, Lucy Zamora; brothers, Louis, Daniel, Joe; and many nieces, nephews and godchildren.

Let us take a moment to remember this great man and his admirable dedication to instilling positive change and leading an exemplary life, one in whose footsteps we all hope to follow. The thoughts and prayers of my wife Barbara, my family and I are with his family at this time.

God Bless Pete Ramos for love of country and mankind.

IN RECOGNITION OF SAN MATEO CITY MANAGER ARNE CROCE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my deep appreciation and gratitude for the exemplary service to the City of San Mateo by Arne Croce, who is retiring as City Manager after 18 exemplary years.

Arne Croce has consistently impressed all who worked with him in his role as City Manager. During his tenure and through his efforts, San Mateo has continued to evolve and advance. In recent years, the city has added a new train station, state-of-the-art downtown movie theater, a fully-interactive new library, and will soon cut the ribbon on a true 21st century police station. Arne also oversees a program that provides scholarships to students pursuing studies in local government. His unceasing dedication to finding fresh, innovative ideas was a powerful force in keeping San Mateo solvent and thriving during economic hardships.

Madam Speaker, Arne Croce has served not only his city, but all of California as the dean of city managers. In this role he has been a bulldog when fighting for cities and a stellar role model for anyone considering a career in municipal government.

Arne is one of our best and brightest, a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, where he earned his MBA by attending night school. He worked for the Legislative Analyst in Sacramento, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments and the City of Visalia, where he held the positions of Solid Waste Manager, Director of Transportation and Deputy City Manager. In 1984, he became City Manager of Los Altos and in 1990, assumed the same job in San Mateo.

All who know Arne regret that he is leaving, especially me, but local government's loss is the world's gain. His passion for service and commitment to helping people is not retiring. Arne wants to help teach developing countries the finer points of local government and developing citizen participation. He also plans to relocate to a village in Tanzania to work on restoring the local ecosystem with a reforestation project.

Madam Speaker, it is this dedication, this drive to act and think both locally and globally, that has earned Arne Croce such widespread respect and admiration. He will be missed in San Mateo and throughout the 12th Congressional District. Even those who've never met Arne are forever in his debt.

HONORING MONSIGNOR JOHN
BRENKLE OF NAPA COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Monsignor John Brenkle on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination. Monsignor Brenkle has been a pillar of the community in my hometown, St. Helena, California, for 25 years.

Monsignor Brenkle has had a long and distinguished career in the church. He attended St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, California, and was ordained on June 14, 1958 through the Archdiocese of San Francisco. He received his Doctorate in Canon Law from The Catholic University of America in 1962. He served as Chancellor of the Diocese in Santa Rosa until 1971, followed by two years of teaching in Zambia. He came to the Napa Valley in 1979 as Parish Administrator at Our

Lady of Perpetual Health in Calistoga before being assigned as Pastor of St. Helena Catholic Church in 1983, where he has been ever since.

Monsignor Brenkle stands out in the larger Napa Valley community as an example of the best aspects of his faith. He serves on numerous local boards, including Catholic Charities, the Board of Directors of Justin-Siena High School, Catholic Community Foundation, Community Foundation of Napa Valley, California Human Development Corporation and the St. Helena Mayor's Multi-cultural Committee.

Monsignor Brenkle never fails to answer the call for the working poor and less fortunate in our community. He is a champion for Napa Valley farm workers and low-income individuals. He was a driving force to create a successful farm worker program for day laborers, and helped establish low income housing at three major sites in the Valley. Father Brenkle also founded a Hispanic Scholarship Program which has raised tens of thousands of dollars over the years. Father Brenkle continues to be a significant advocate for worker's rights and social justice, particularly in hospitals and vineyards throughout the region.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate Monsignor John Brenkle for his 50 years of service to the Catholic Church and the people around him, and to thank him for his innumerable contributions to our community. I join all those whose lives he has touched in wishing him many more years of fulfillment.

IN TRIBUTE TO TENNYSON HIGH
SCHOOL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the fiftieth Anniversary of Tennyson High School, located in Hayward, California. On June 7th, students, staff and alumni gathered at the school to celebrate this milestone anniversary.

"Be proud to be a Tennyson Lancer" is the message educators passed along to current students at Tennyson High. "Many former students take pride and have so much respect for their alma mater and we want that to transcend into today's student," activities director Monique Walton said in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary.

Alumni were on hand for the event, which featured acknowledgements of the ten-, twenty-, thirty-, and forty-year reunions, recognition of sports championships and an alumni-versus-students skills competition.

Staff and former campus educators were also honored during the dedication ceremony for those who have made an impact on the school community. Norm Prince, a former football coach, and Victor Serrano, a former soccer coach who now serves as the school's technology coordinator, had the multi-use athletic field named after them.

Paula Banchemo, who began her teaching career at Tennyson before becoming a long-time administrator, was also honored with the school's administrative hall being named Paula Banchemo Way. Banchemo spent nearly

40 years at Tennyson High School before being transferred to another school.

Teacher Dan Morrison, who helped organize the fiftieth anniversary celebration, hopes this celebratory event will help lay the groundwork for an alumni association. The goal of the alumni association is to assist Tennyson students in fundraising for sports programs, band, and other programs.

I extend my heartiest congratulations to all who have contributed to the success of Tennyson High School since its opening in 1958 and I send my best wishes to all who continue to work for the well being of Tennyson students.

41ST ANNIVERSARY OF LOVING v.
VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a milestone in the struggle for equality and civil rights. On this day 41 years ago, the Supreme Court ruled that the United States would no longer allow race-based restrictions on marriage to deprive Americans of their rights. Today, on the anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision in *Loving v. Virginia*, we are once again reminded that America is a place of equality and freedom.

As an interracial couple, Mildred and Richard Loving challenged laws in effect in Virginia and 15 other states which prohibited interracial marriage. On June 12, 1967 the Supreme Court recognized the merits of Mr. and Mrs. Loving's claims and overturned all race-based restrictions on marriage.

The Court ruled unanimously that Virginia's prohibition against interracial marriage violated both the Due Process Clause and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. In its decision, the Court held that, "The Fourteenth Amendment requires that the freedom of choice to marry not be restricted by invidious racial discrimination. Under our Constitution, the freedom to marry, or not marry, a person of another race resides with the individual and cannot be infringed by the State."

On this day, I would like to celebrate the lives and audacity of both Mr. and Mrs. Loving, whose vision paved the way for a freer and more colorblind society in America. Richard Loving died in a car accident in 1975 and we lost Mildred Loving to pneumonia only last month. It is the courage and the spirit of the Lovings and others like them that continue to give us hope that Americans from all walks of life will be free from discrimination.

There have been recent efforts in Congress to strip the courts of jurisdiction by legislative means. This is ill-advisable and I hope the example of *Loving v. Virginia* serves as a reminder to us all that this is a precarious path. Should the Court have been stripped of jurisdiction to hear this case, as some have proposed for certain controversial issues, this landmark case would have never been possible. What was once highly controversial is now accepted as commonplace thanks to those judges who were, at the time, disparaged for being "activist judges". Today we are a better, stronger and fairer nation thanks to their jurisprudence.