

On the occasion of these twin anniversaries—the somber but proud commemoration of the beginning of the Korean War, and the forward-looking commemoration of the signing of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement—I ask my colleagues to join with me to salute our veterans and to celebrate the strong and enduring friendship and alliance between the good people of the Republic of Korea and the United States.

IN HONOR OF THE ST. JOHN'S
COUNCIL NO. 1345 KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS OF DUMONT-BERGEN-
FIELD CENTENNIAL

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the Knights of Columbus of Dumont-Bergenfield St. John's Council, No. 1345 on their Centennial Rededication. St. John's Council No. 1345 is the fourth largest council out of 300 councils in my home State of New Jersey.

Chartered on June 28, 1908, this council has been serving our community while faithfully upholding the Knights' founding principles of charity, unity, and fraternity. As a fraternal and charitable organization, part of the world's largest lay Catholic organization, the St. John's Council No. 1345 has given over \$1.2 million dollars and has provided over five hundred thousand hours in service to those in need. This group is to be commended for providing 100 years of funding and manpower not just locally in northern New Jersey, but also in service to charitable activities nationally and globally.

As the St. John's Council No. 1345 gathers to mark their centennial year, I rise in tribute and to say thank you for their contribution to making north Jersey such a fine place to live, work, and raise a family.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROPERTY
MITIGATION ASSISTANCE ACT
OF 2008

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I would like to introduce legislation to help minimize the hardship of home and business owners who are most at-risk prepare for the next, inevitable natural disaster. As people from the gulf coast and those States bordering the Atlantic Ocean are only too well aware, this year's hurricane season officially began in recent days. Once again this year, weather experts are predicting several severe storms. While the reasons for the increased number of storms remains a subject of much argument and debate, their disastrous results lie beyond dispute.

A better way exists, however, and that way is prevention. "Prevention," when it comes to storm damage, takes many forms. At-risk home and business owners can take preventive measures by "hardening" their homes and

other structures against preventable storm damage. They can strengthen their roofs, install storm shutters, elevate their electrical systems and even construct "safe rooms" within their homes.

The "Property Mitigation Assistance Act of 2008," would establish a homeowner mitigation loan program within the Federal Emergency Management Agency to promote pre-disaster property mitigation measures. The bill would provide for grants of at least \$500,000 to States based on the State's risk of natural disaster, and would authorize \$200 million for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2014 for the homeowner mitigation loan program.

Although, the challenge to rebuild in the aftermath of a natural disaster remains, there must be legislation in place to assist homeowners and businesses that are located in areas that are at risk and subject to repeated hazards or natural disasters. I urge my colleagues to carefully consider The Property Mitigation Assistance Act of 2008 and enact this legislation into law.

IN TRIBUTE TO J.D. POWER III

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. GALLEGLY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to J.D. "Dave" Power III, who is retiring from the day-to-day operations of the company he founded 40 years ago, a company that revolutionized market research.

Dave Power's plunge into entrepreneurship was sparked by dissatisfaction with the way businesses then conducted market research. Armed with an MBA from Pennsylvania University's Wharton School of Business, Power went to work with big-name automotive and advertising agencies as a financial analyst and market researcher. Over the years, he became disillusioned with the quality of work he was asked to provide, likening it to "torturing the data until it confessed" instead of delving into customers' real opinions.

In 1968, Dave Power launched his company with his wife, Julie, in a rented apartment in Los Angeles. It began to take off when Power talked himself into an impromptu meeting with a visiting Japanese executive. That meeting led to a collaboration with Toyota that continues unabated today. Using research focused on how potential customers perceived Toyota, Power and Toyota built a business model that changed that perception for Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A.

As Toyota began hiring internal marketers, Power began conducting smaller, independent and self-funded studies on individual products. By that time, Dave, Julie and their family were operating out of their family home in Calabasas, California. Julie's role was to tabulate data from the surveys. One survey had gone out to owners of Mazda's new Wankel rotary engine. Those owner surveys showed a problem with the engine's O-ring, which was causing the engines to self-destruct after 30,000 miles. Julie showed the findings to Dave, Dave shared it with the 14 auto manufacturers who subscribed to his surveys, and one subscriber leaked it to the Wall Street Journal.

J.D. Power was on his way to becoming a household name, and Mazda joined the growing legions of industries as a subscriber. Today, nearly every major global manufacturer is a J.D. Power and Associates client and the company provides research, analysis and consulting for a wide range of global industries with offices throughout the world.

Madam Speaker, J.D. Power and Associates has made the "voice of the customer" a force to be listened to within industries around the world, providing benefits for consumers and businesses alike. While Dave has stepped away from the day-to-day operations of the firm, he will continue to be the face of J.D. Power and Associates. I know my colleagues will join me in wishing Dave and Julie well in their semi-retirement and thank Dave for building better relationships between customers and companies, resulting in positive results for both.

TRIBUTE TO JAY LINDAHL AND
MARTHA SPARKS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize volunteer firefighter Jay Lindahl of Ogden, Iowa and Martha Sparks of Boone, Iowa for their swift and heroic actions that saved a fellow Iowan's life.

While eating lunch at a restaurant in Ames, Iowa, a fellow patron began choking on her food. Martha quickly approached the distressed patron and administered the Heimlich maneuver. When it appeared as if the Heimlich wasn't working, Jay came over to the scene. He noticed the patron's color leaving her face and lack of pulse. Jay then began administering oxygen while Martha administered chest compressions. Within moments, the woman was breathing on her own and regained consciousness.

Without Martha and Jay's alertness and quick actions, this woman would possibly not be with us today. It is heroic acts like this that make this nation and its people second to none.

Martha and Jay's unselfish actions go above and beyond what we are asked of in our everyday lives, and I commend Jay Lindahl and Martha Sparks for their noble deed. I am honored to represent them both in the United States Congress, and I know my colleagues join me in recognizing their heroic actions and wishing them health and happiness in the future.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF CHARLES
SEBES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance and honor of Charles Sebes, a beloved figure in Cleveland area politics and a loving husband, father, and grandfather. This past June we gathered to celebrate Chuck's retirement as Parma Democratic City Ward Leader.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Charles Sebes, upon the occasion of his retirement after twenty years of service as the Parma Democratic City Ward Leader. His unwavering dedication to the Party, to his community, and to the rights of working men and women is framed by honor and integrity.

Chuck has spent hundreds of hours volunteering on numerous political campaigns and causes throughout his life. During the past 30 years, Chuck has taken an active role in organizing the Northern Ohio Labor Day Parade. As Secretary of Parma Southwest Cope, Chuck has chaired the reverse raffle committee for the past twenty-five years. He has also been the Chairman of Parma's Democratic Steak Roast for twenty years. Chuck's devotion and enthusiasm consistently inspire those around him and has made all of these events successful.

During his twenty-two years of employment with the National Tool Company, Chuck served as President of the United Steel Workers of America, Local 4827. Governor Richard Celeste appointed Chuck to the Ohio Regional Board of Review for Worker's Compensation. In 1991, Martin Vittardi, Clerk of Parma Municipal Court, appointed Chuck to be the Chief Deputy Clerk of Court. His friendship is coveted not only by myself and Marty, but by numerous individuals whose lives have been touched by his energetic spirit, kindness and loyalty.

As Chief Deputy and Supervisor, his colleagues and staff know him to be a man who is passionate about all aspects of his life. They respect Chuck for his fairness and for being a man of his word. He believes that patience is a virtue and was reassuring that a task would get done, never hesitating to become part of the solution. They appreciate Chuck for always looking out for their best interest, fighting for what they deserve and for being valued by him. His reputation for being a prankster and for his colorful way of telling a joke is legendary. Chuck is a wise and generous man, and he is a true friend to the people in his life.

Evelyn, his wife of 52 years, and their wonderful family have sustained Chuck with a lifetime of support. Joe, Jim, Janet and Joyce, have blessed them with seven grandchildren. Chuck and Evelyn's children and grandchildren continue to be their pride and joy.

CONGRATULATING DR. LORI ARVISO ALVORD ON HER INDUCTION TO THE AMERICAN INDIAN HALL OF HONOR AT MOUNT KEARSAGE IN WARNER, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

HON. PAUL W. HODES

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. HODES. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Dr. Lori Arviso Alvord, the world's first female Navajo surgeon, on being inducted into the American Indian Hall of Honor at Mount Kearsage in Warner, New Hampshire. Her selection is a testament to her hard work and dedication to the field of medicine.

Dr. Alvord grew up in Crownpoint, New Mexico, a small town where many families had

no water or electricity. Yet her tenacity and hard work allowed her to follow her dream of becoming a surgeon. She is now affiliated with Dartmouth-Hitchcock, one of America's most prestigious hospitals, located in Lebanon, New Hampshire. Congratulations Dr. Alvord on your induction to the American Indian Hall of Honor.

RECOGNIZING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DISASTER RECOVERY AND RELIEF EFFORTS IN DECATUR COUNTY

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and recognize the extraordinary contributions of emergency management, disaster response, and recovery personnel as well as elected officials and community leaders in my district which was devastated by the recent severe weather in Indiana.

I wish particularly to honor the Board of Commissioners and County Council, as well as those outstanding individuals in Decatur County:

Pam Blasdel, Director, Emergency Management Agency

Daryl Templeton, Sheriff

Gary Herbert, Mayor, City of Greensburg

Brian Heaton, Chief of Police, City of Greensburg

These areas suffered greatly from severe storms and weather, creating a catastrophe of nature that inflicted injuries, destroyed property, and displaced many of our citizens. In response, these officials went above and beyond the call of duty, showing great poise while saving many lives and serving the people of their communities.

Madam Speaker, I commend these fine men and women for their tremendous dedication to the Hoosier families, businesses, farmers and communities that they serve. As Hoosiers continue to recover from Mother Nature's fury, I feel confident that the people of Decatur County will be well served by these officials.

HONORING ALFREDA PAULINE POSTELL ON HER 60TH BIRTHDAY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 60th birthday of Alfreda Pauline Postell, a magnificent woman who has made an indelible impact on the health of Americans and whose life is an inspiration to us all.

Born in Miami, Florida, Ms. Postell is the oldest of four children born to Joyce Barry and the late Cleveland Barry, Sr. She is a proud graduate of Miami Northwestern Senior High School. Ms. Postell has two children, Joyce and Lamont Postell, Sr. She is a passionate individual who enjoys dancing and spending time with her family.

During her more than 30-year career, Ms. Postell has worked at the Miami Veterans Af-

fairs Hospital as a nurse aide and now as a medical support assistant. She enjoys volunteering for community projects and gives freely of her time. Ms. Postell has continuously held a reputation as the type of volunteer you want on your team when you want the job done. Through her might, determination and passion, she works hard to bring about positive outcomes in whatever task she endures.

Madam Speaker, in Miami we are fortunate to have Ms. Postell as a pillar of our community, and I am privileged to call her a friend. Not only is she a cherished friend, but she is also an extended member of my family. Ms. Postell's guidance, assurance and acts of kindness over the years have always been appreciated by me and my family. I join countless friends, family members and loved ones in South Florida in wishing Ms. Postell a wonderful birthday, and many more years of good health and happiness.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION WINNER: CLEOPATRA GRIFFIN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, today, as co-chair of the 2008 Congressional Art Competition, I would like to proudly recognize Cleopatra Griffin, the Congressional Art Competition winner from the First District of Florida. Cleopatra represents just one of the many talented artists in my district. Ever since she was a kid she enjoyed every art form, although printmaking and drawing are her favorites. She has continually excelled working with pencil, charcoal, and paints.

This Congressional Art Competition is not the first time she has received public recognition for her abilities. Last year, her self-portrait, which now hangs in the Capitol tunnel, won first place at State competition. She has also received first place in printmaking and second place in drawing for a similar portrait piece.

Cleopatra is not only known for her artistic aptitude, but also for her involvement in school and community activities. In high school, while president of the Art Club, she raised money for Relay for Life, stuffed stockings for children around Christmas, and put a huge school-wide art show on at the end of each year.

Madam Speaker, as she moves forward in her education, I wish her continued success as she attends the California College of the Arts in San Francisco this fall and wait eagerly for her future creations.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. RICHARD PARISH IN CHICAGO, IL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th anniversary of St. Richard Parish in Chicago, IL. This upcoming Sunday, the church will hold a celebration to commemorate eight decades of community, faith,