

his wife Doris; daughters Donna, Susie, Nancy, and Linda and his seven grandchildren Kelly, Kevin, Matt, Christine, Jessica, Brett and Bridget, will miss him terribly and remember him fondly. They will definitely recall his "infectious laugh" and "colorful attire."

While his passing brings sadness to the many lives he touched, his legacy and contributions will be remembered for years to come. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring C.H. "Boots" Duesing, and offering condolences to his family.

TRIBUTE TO JIM GALE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Mr. Jim Gale, a guidance counselor at Algona High School in Algona, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his years of dedication and commitment to the youth of Iowa.

After graduating from Akron High School and receiving his education degree and master's degree in counseling from South Dakota University, Jim Gale has spent the past 39 years contributing his time and talents to youth development. He began by teaching for 5 years and then counseling for 2 years at a small school in Minnesota before coming to Algona High School as a guidance counselor, where he remained for the past 32 years. Through teaching, counseling, and coaching sports, Jim has touched the lives of thousands of students. Inspired to become a counselor because of the great impact his own counselor had on him while growing up, Jim says the most memorable experience he will take with him is seeing students come in as freshmen and mature into seniors, later becoming mature adults giving back to their communities.

Although his leadership will be missed, Jim Gale has made a lasting impact on the many students and teachers he has worked with over his career, and he plans to continue serving his community through part-time guidance and counseling at schools in the area and other volunteer efforts. I consider it an honor to represent Jim Gale in the United States Congress, and I wish him and his wife Marilyn a long, happy and healthy retirement as they enjoy their grandchildren and continued community involvement.

HONORING LOUISIANA REGION 7
PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cooper Knecht, a principal at Herndon Magnet School in Caddo Parish. Knecht was recently awarded the Principal of the Year Award from Louisiana State Department of Education and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. This fall her dedication will rise to new heights as she serves as superintendent for Region 7 schools.

Knecht's designation as Principal of the Year was based on evident collaborative and instructional leadership. Knecht was also appointed according to her community contributions, affiliation with educational organizations, and ability to inspire students to achieve scholastic accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of Cooper Knecht. Her dedication to the growth and development of America's future leaders is worthy of applaud. Her leadership is a beneficial element to education in the 5th Congressional District of Louisiana that deserves acknowledgement.

A.J. JUDICE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today I come to pay tribute to a long time cultural icon in Southeast Texas. A.J. Judice was a proud ambassador of his Cajun heritage and used his life to promote and spread their culture across the area. His family started Judice's French Market 80 years ago and introduced Cajun food to the region for the first time. Known for his black beret, white moustache, red scooter, and colorful personality, Judice was truly a Southeast Texas original.

Albin Joseph "A.J." Judice, Jr. was born in Port Arthur in 1927. He graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1945, the same year that his beloved Yellow Jackets played for the State championship, he so frequently bragged. He spent 2 years as a Merchant Mariner, allowing him to see the world. His heart and his future, however, belonged in Texas. He married Lois the former senior prom queen in 1948. They had two children in one year, eventually having five in all.

Judice is most recognized as the mascot for the restaurants and grocery stores that have been in his family since the 1920's. His family opened Judice's French Market in 1927 in their single car garage while the family lived above. They moved in the 1930s and settled where they still operate today. A.J. and his mother, "Maw Maw" Judice, are credited as being the first store in Texas to sell live crawfish and hot boudain, two staples of any Cajun diet. He was always happy to announce that their seafood "slept in the Gulf last night." They also own Larry's French Market in Groves. Though he passed the stores on to his sons, the caricature of Judice in his apron and beret is still used to advertise the store. Thanks to him, "crawfish season" is just as popular as "football season" in Southeast Texas.

Judice was known as the "Crazy Frenchman" and he definitely lived up to the branding. He helped popularize the sport of Crawfish racing in Southeast Texas, a sport created to celebrate the Cajun lifestyle. In the early 1960's, Texas Governor Preston Smith appointed him as a Texas Crawfish Racing Commissioner. It was then that he coined his famous cheer, "Hot boudain, and cold cush cush! Come on crawfish, push push push!" A.J. and his crawfish eventually won the world championship in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana. He was so well known that a 1980's USA Today

article spotlighted Judice and his racing mudbugs. CBS news featured him on a cover story after he trained two crawfish to jump out of airplanes. From the smallest local festival to the largest Mardi Gras festivities around, Judice was always visible, playing his triangle "ding-a-ling" or dancing to zydeco music. He was full of life and lived every second like it was his last.

Madam Speaker, Mr. A.J. Judice, Jr. was a pioneer in promoting a respect of rural Louisiana history and culture. He enhanced his community of Southeast Texas for 80 years, and I am proud to celebrate his accomplishments and the legacy that he leaves behind.

A TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR JOHN MORETTA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION INTO THE PRIESTHOOD AND HIS 25TH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF RESURRECTION CHURCH IN BOYLE HEIGHTS

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary spiritual and civic leader in the Boyle Heights community in the heart of my congressional district.

This year, Monsignor John Moretta is celebrating two significant milestones. It is the 40th anniversary of his ordination into the priesthood and his 25th anniversary serving as the immensely respected and beloved pastor of Resurrection Church in Boyle Heights.

It is my pleasure to tell you more about this remarkable man.

A native Angelino, Monsignor Moretta entered St. John's Seminary, Camarillo, in 1960. After completing Philosophy and Theology studies, he was ordained on April 27, 1968. Since then, he has served in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles as a parish priest in five parishes, the most recent being Resurrection Church. In addition to being an elected member of the Council of Priests, the Monsignor received special recognition within the church on February 2, 1992 when he was invested as a Domestic Prelate to His Holiness with the title of Monsignor.

During Monsignor Moretta's ministry, he has worked primarily in the Spanish-speaking Latino immigrant community. While he provides motivational spiritual guidance to his congregation, Monsignor Moretta is also highly regarded for his extensive community work that extends well beyond the walls of Resurrection Church.

Under his leadership, Resurrection Church offers a broad array of initiatives to improve the lives of families in the community. Among the many examples of his outreach, Monsignor Moretta empowers his parishioners to learn English and become U.S. citizens.

Monsignor Moretta also encourages residents to speak out against crime and pollution in their neighborhoods. For over nine years, as part of the Resurrection Church Neighborhood Watch group, Monsignor Moretta has met with members of the community every week to discuss public safety.