

Gallagher's keen understanding of the soul of a neighborhood and his opinions on community issues were valued by everyone, from neighbors to national leaders.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and memory of John P. Gallagher, upon the official naming of the West Park Post Office building after John P. Gallagher. Mr. Gallagher's service to family, friends, community and country has greatly influenced the lives of everyone he has known, including my own. He will forever be remembered along the streets, in the meeting halls and throughout the parks of Cleveland's west side neighborhood.

PROCLAMATION: THE 50TH WINTER
PARK SIDEWALK ART FESTIVAL

HON. SUZANNE M. KOSMAS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 2009

Ms. KOSMAS. Madam Speaker,

Whereas, since its founding in 1960, the Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival, which is an all volunteer effort supported by the Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival Committee, the City of Winter Park and numerous volunteers, has grown to become one of the premier art festivals in the county; and

Whereas, every year hundreds of Winter Park citizens contribute thousands of hours to ensure that the 350,000 visitors to the Festival enjoy the best in fine art and that the 225 exhibiting artists enjoy the best in outdoor art venues; and

Whereas, exhibits by Orange County school students have been part of the Festival since its inception, and the more recent Children's Workshop Village has integrated local museums and art centers to provide exciting art experiences for children of all ages; and

Whereas, the Festival Emerging Artist Program gives promising and talents artists who are determining their career paths the opportunity to exhibit in their first outdoor art festival, all expenses paid; and

Whereas, The Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival Foundation provides scholarships to local colleges and universities for promising art students.

Now, therefore, I, Suzanne M. Kosmas, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Congresswoman, 24th District, Florida, do hereby proclaim March 20, 21 and 22, 2009 "The 50th Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival" and encourage all residents to recognize and show their appreciation for the many memories and contributions the Festival has made to our community over the years.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal to be affixed this 16th day of March, 2009.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF
DOLORIS COULTER COGAN

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Doloris Coulter

Cogan and the publication of her book, *We Fought the Navy and Won: Guam's Quest for Democracy*. Ms. Cogan is a 1946 graduate of the Columbia University School of Journalism in New York. *We Fought the Navy and Won* is a personal recollection of Guam's transition from a Naval Administration to a civilian government after World War II. Ms. Cogan at the time was editor of the *Guam Echo* under the Institute of Ethnic Affairs, and her writings chronicle the stories of Guam's leaders, their allies in Washington, D.C., and their efforts in bringing a civilian government to Guam.

From 1898 to 1950, Guam was administered under the Secretary of the Navy, and while legislation for Guam's self-governance had been introduced before this Congress none were reported out of committee. It was not until the signing of the Guam Organic Act of 1950 by President Harry S. Truman, that Guam was allowed to govern itself with a civilian government. The Guam Organic Act transferred administration of Guam from the Secretary of the Navy to the Secretary of the Interior and established executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government on Guam. Since that time, Congress has passed legislation that changed the Governor of Guam from a Presidential appointment position to a locally elected position. Further, Congress passed legislation granting Guam a non-voting Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

As Guam's representative to the U.S. Congress, I commend Ms. Cogan for her work as editor of the *Guam Echo* and for the publishing of *I Fought the Navy and Won: Guam's Quest for Democracy*. Through her writings we are to reflect and appreciate the efforts undertaken to bring self-governance to Guam and we can have a deeper appreciation of the historical roots of the Organic Act of Guam.

RECOGNIZING DANNA CHATWELL
AS THE 2008-2009 HURLBURT AFA
CHAPTER MIDDLE SCHOOL
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Danna Chatwell, recipient of the Hurlburt Air Force Association Chapter 398 Middle School Teacher of the Year Award for the 2008-2009 school year. Her success as an educator is a testament to the power of our country's teachers, and I am proud to honor Ms. Chatwell on this distinguished occasion.

Ms. Chatwell serves as a seventh grade science teacher at Woodlawn Beach Middle School in Gulf Breeze, Florida. In 2007, she earned the Holley-Navarre Intermediate Teacher of the Year, and this recent AFA award highlights her continued achievements. By merging technology and modern trends with proven teaching practices, Ms. Chatwell gives every student the ability to be successful. Her energy and passion for teaching infuse a desire for knowledge in her students that lives on long after they have graduated from her classroom.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to thank Ms. Chatwell for her service to the students of

Woodlawn Beach and to the community of Northwest Florida. Vicki and I wish her and her family best wishes for continued success.

HELPING FAMILIES SAVE THEIR
HOMES ACT OF 2009

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 2009

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009 (H.R. 1106) and to congratulate Chairman FRANK, Chairman CONYERS, and Speaker PELOSI for their quick action to help American families.

The last eight years of disinvestment in American families have pushed the economy into a deep recession. Unemployment is rising and home values are falling while the costs of health care and food continue to rise. Thousands of my constituents have been laid off and can no longer afford to meet the basic needs of their families or pay their mortgages.

The dream of homeownership has become a nightmare for too many. Many home buyers are falling behind on their payments because of dropping home values and the financial crisis through no fault of their own. Many could make their mortgage payments until they lost their jobs or their incomes dropped. Others were victims of predatory lending by unscrupulous mortgage brokers and are now struggling with unaffordable subprime loans. An estimated 14 million homeowners owe more than their home is worth, and many cannot refinance into an affordable mortgage. As a result, a record number of Americans are losing their homes to foreclosure every month. Foreclosures hurt everyone—including our families, neighborhoods, and communities—resulting in lost tax revenue for local governments, reduced property values for neighbors, and often abandoned properties require an increased police presence in our neighborhoods.

The Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009 is a comprehensive approach to break the cycle of foreclosures and declining home values. This legislation offers fair and effective solutions to help families who are facing foreclosure today and those at risk of foreclosure in the future. To accomplish this, H.R. 1106 improves the Hope for Homeowners program by reducing fees that discourage lenders from voluntarily refinancing mortgage loans. This bill would also provide bankruptcy judges with the authority they need to modify loan terms for families who are already in the bankruptcy process—a provision that could reduce foreclosures by 20 percent at no cost to taxpayers. Bankruptcy courts currently have the power to modify loans for corporations, commercial real estate and even vacation homes; extending this option to save the primary residences for families is necessary and equitable.

Last week, President Obama announced the Comprehensive Homeowner Affordability and Stability Plan, a bold strategy to help up to nine million families restructure their mortgages to avoid foreclosure. The Helping Families Save Their Homes Act is a key step in putting President Obama's plan into place.

The collapsing housing market is one of the root causes of the present economic crisis.

Until the housing sector is stabilized, there will simply be no recovery in America. H.R. 1106 is a major step in addressing the crisis in the housing market

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HONORING MIKE HAUSER

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mike Hauser of Santa Rosa, California, who passed away on March 3, 2009, at the age of 62. Mike had led the Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce for almost nine years, including regular calls from his sick bed during the last months of his life.

Mike took the reins of Chamber in 2000, and, under his leadership, the organization expanded its programs, enhancing the business climate while benefiting the community. He realized that the two goals complemented each other and brought people together to focus on them. Mike used his low-key style and friendly manner as well as his keen understanding and broad experience to develop initiatives that drew various stakeholders into the process. He was adept at developing relationships that fostered his success.

Mike's efforts included a focus on educating the Spanish-speaking community to be the current and future workforce, including a summer algebra academy for middle school students, securing airline service at the county airport, advocating for the SMART train, and creating programs to develop entrepreneurial businesses and generate high-wage jobs.

Because of his skills and efforts, the Chamber recently learned that it had been awarded a rare five-star rating by the National Chamber of Commerce, becoming the only organization in California to achieve that honor. Also, Mike was set to become Chair of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives in August.

Originally from Iowa, Mike graduated from Iowa State University and then worked in a number of Chambers of Commerce in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Nebraska. He settled for 13 years in Fort Collins, Colorado, where his reputation attracted national attention. When the Santa Rosa Chamber was ready for a new president, Mike was an ideal choice.

He leaves a Chamber that is thriving, with increased membership and a variety of successful programs.

Mike is survived by his wife Kelly, daughters Heidi and Dana, and granddaughter Avery as well as his mother Beryl and three siblings.

Madam Speaker, the Santa Rosa Chamber and the broader community will miss Mike Hauser's leadership and his passion for addressing significant local issues. We thank him for the legacy he will leave in strong ongoing programs, especially the newly re-named Mike Hauser Algebra Academy.

IN MEMORY OF REV. JOSEPH C. MARTIN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 2009

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rev. Joseph C. Martin, a son of Maryland who devoted his life to helping tens of thousands of alcoholics overcome their addiction—an addiction he overcame himself. Father Martin drank heavily for more than a decade until, with the help of a treatment center for the clergy, he recovered his sobriety. Drawing on his personal struggle, Father Martin developed his famous "Chalk Talk on Alcohol," a common-sense lecture on addiction that remains in heavy use to this day, from the U.S. Armed Forces to substance-abuse programs around the world.

Along with his hard-won lessons on sobriety, his most lasting legacy is Father Martin's Ashley, a treatment center overlooking the Chesapeake Bay in Harford County, Maryland. Father Martin's Ashley has kept its doors open for more than three decades and, with the guidance and leadership of its co-founder, has served more than 30,000 people. A giving, loving man who exemplified the best tenets of his faith and of the sobriety movement, Father Martin never turned away a potential patient who was short on funds. His example and his wise counsel enabled recovering alcoholics around the world to reclaim control of their lives.

Michael Deaver, who served as chief of staff to President Reagan and received treatment at Father Martin's Ashley, said: "I had been with presidents, kings, popes, and prime ministers, but Father Martin was the most powerful person I had ever met. You see, Father has the power to change people, to make them better, to make them whole again."

Though Father Martin is gone, I am sure that his legacy, his teaching, and his example will have that same power for years to come.

RECOGNIZING SUSAN CUNDIFF AS THE 2008–2009 HURLBURT AFA CHAPTER HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Susan Cundiff, the 2008–2009 Hurlburt AFA Chapter High School teacher of the Year.

For many students, the prospect of taking physics and chemistry is daunting. Yet, for those at Gulf Breeze High School in Gulf Breeze, Florida, these advanced subjects become something comprehensible and enjoyable due to the outstanding teaching abilities of Ms. Susan H. Cundiff.

Advanced Placement Physics, Physics I/ Honors, Beginning Physics, and Beginning Chemistry are all taught by Ms. Cundiff, who was a cofounder of the Physics Alliance of Northwest Florida (PANF) and served as the organization's president for two years. She

has also coached events for the Science Olympiad. In each of her classes, students participate in a Rube Goldberg project in which a particular machine must be built. Previous projects include a letter folding machine, a machine that changes light bulbs, and robots capable of picking up and carrying objects. This learning style promotes an integrated, hands-on approach which helps break down the advanced material and makes it more tangible.

The title of Teacher of the Year is an incredible honor and is evidence of Ms. Cundiff's exceptional capabilities as an educator. Her teaching skills have influenced many and pushed countless students to a higher level of academic achievement. Ms. Cundiff's outstanding accomplishments have distinguished her as one of the great teachers in Northwest Florida, and the First District of Florida is honored to have her as one of their own.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Susan Cundiff on this outstanding achievement and for her exemplary service in the Santa Rosa School District.

WATER QUALITY INVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1262):

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise today to express my strong support for the Water Quality Investment Act of 2009. I thank Chairman OBERSTAR and the House leadership for their hard work on this timely legislation, which will modernize our nation's wastewater infrastructure to ensure our water supply is clean and safe for America's children and families.

A growing economy and population over the past decades have stretched the availability and compromised the quality of America's water supply. Our country has outgrown the capacity of our wastewater systems. Sewage overflows and toxic spillage are contaminating our water supply and posing grave threats to human health and the health of our water ecosystems.

By authorizing \$13.8 billion in federal grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and \$1.8 billion for sewer overflow control grants over the next five years, the Water Quality Investment Act will put 480,000 Americans to work and help bridge the gap between the number of wastewater infrastructure projects that need assistance and the amount of funding available. Over the next five years, Minnesota will receive over \$250 million to modernize its water systems, thereby helping to protect and restore the more than 10,000 lakes that help define our state.

This legislation also takes bold steps to clean up the Great Lakes, one of the nation's greatest natural resources. The Great Lakes make up the largest system of fresh, surface water on Earth, providing 90 percent of America's fresh surface water and 18 percent of the world's fresh water supply. In 2006 alone, over 23 billion gallons of sewage entered the Great