

California, Mr. Caldwell moved back home to rejoin his father's business in 1951.

He had foresight, buying properties dense in trees, then endeavoring to save as many as possible in subdivisions. He predicted the coming of multifamily homes as cities built to their boundaries.

"What has happened in Gulfport will, in many cases, happen elsewhere in Pinellas," he wrote in a guest column for the Times in 1960.

He trusted his know-how, maintaining his 1994 Chevrolet station wagon himself. The car still runs with 200,000 miles on it. He built a single-engine boat he later took to the Bahamas for a fishing trip.

Mr. Caldwell also trusted his instincts with people, quietly helping those he believed were doing all they could for themselves. At least twice, he shipped \$12,000 worth of beans to Haiti.

When his housekeeper couldn't qualify for a mortgage, Mr. Caldwell took one out himself, then collected monthly payments. When the housekeeper's family finished the payments years later, he handed over the deed.

He enjoyed a daily martini with his wife, Adele, and eating smoked mullet with childhood friends, including the mayor and other city officials.

After selling Jordan-Caldwell, the construction arm, to U.S. Homes in 1972, Mr. Caldwell stayed with U.S. Homes until the late 1970s. He remained with the family company as an adviser.

"There are a lot of developers who have taken their piece of the pie and not made a better place to live," said Tina Douglass, wife of former St. Pete Beach Mayor Bob Douglass. "Wherever R. W. was, he always made it a better place. He left a good mark."

OBITUARY

CALDWELL, Robert W. Jr. 88, of Gulfport and Boca Grande, was born on Aug. 20, 1920 in Meadville, PA to Gail Jarrell Caldwell and Robert W. Caldwell Sr. He died in Bayfront Medical Center in St. Petersburg this past Saturday, July 4, 2009. His maternal grandparents, George and Abigail Jarrell first brought him to Gulfport in the 1920s. Because of the two week quarantine of new Florida students to avoid bringing in infectious diseases, he fished with his grandparents daily, in lieu of school. After the quarantine, he first attended Roser Park and then the brand new Gulfport Elementary School. He fished at the Gulfport Pier nearly everyday. Back then, Gulfport was open to the Gulf; there was no Bayway, and the waters were turquoise and teeming with fish. When his grandparents opened the Gulfport Market, he helped them out along with his mom and his Aunts Isabel, Anne and Helen. He attended Disston Junior High and St. Petersburg High School. He continued to fish at every chance and took advantage of every opportunity to assist local boat captains. He was an excellent boatsman and fisherman. Known as Bo in the 1920s and '30s, Bob was always an excellent student, too. He graduated St. Pete High in 1938, and, after attending St. Petersburg Junior College for a year, enrolled in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. While at MIT, Bob captained the lightweight crew. He had excellent skills with tools that he had learned from his grandfather Jarrell and returned to Gulfport summers during college and built homes for his father and Ed Markham. He graduated MIT during World War II in January, 1943 with a degree in aeronautical engineering. From many job offers, he chose Convair in San Diego, which later became part of General Dynamics. He built B-24s and other air-

craft. He married Adele Allport in 1945. All three of their children were born in La Jolla, CA. Bob arrived back in Gulfport with his family on July 4, 1951. His plan was to work with his Dad and open the building division of R.W. Caldwell, Inc., a real estate and insurance business originally started by his father in 1937. In late 1952, Bob found himself running the entire company after his father's untimely death. He was a successful investor and land developer and was elected in 1954 President of the Contractors and Builders Association of Pinellas County. Bob was the first President of the Gulfport Chamber of Commerce and was President of the Friends of the Gulfport Library when the new library was built at 28th and Beach Boulevard. He was an over 50 year member of the St. Petersburg Yacht Club. Some of the subdivisions he developed in his career included Pelican Creek and Catalina Gardens plus he built hundreds of individual homes throughout Pinellas County. He was an organizing director and built the First Bank of Gulfport, was chairman of the Pinellas County branches of Royal Trust Bank and was an organizing director of First Gulf Bank. He was President of Jordan-Caldwell, Inc. that developed San Clemente East in Pasco County. When bought by U.S. Home Corp., Bob became, among other projects, the original developer of Timber Oaks in Pasco County and then became vice president of U.S. Home Corp. in charge of construction for the Central Florida Division. Bob's largest Gulfport business venture was when he became the Managing Partner of the Pasadena Partnership that bought the land known as Skimmer Point and later Pelican Bay and arranged the annexation of this part of Pasadena Yacht and Country Club into Gulfport. Further, he was currently President of Palm Island investment Corp. in Charlotte County and Chairman of R.W. Caldwell, Inc. in Gulfport. Bob lived a very modest life style. He maintained both his boat and auto engines himself. He even built his own 26 foot single engine boat from scratch in his front driveway in the late 1950s and took it on a five week adventure to the Bahamas with his wife and his wife's sister and brother-in-law. He enjoyed along with his wife in taking their children on car trips in the family station wagon to visit many of America's national parks, frequently camping out along the way, and, a generation later, repeating those car trips with their grandchildren. Growing up in the fifties and sixties, Caldwell family weekends were for water recreation and fishing trips. Those were idyllic happy times. Bob was active and smart with a good sense of humor to his last days and enjoyed driving all about town in his 1994 Chevy station wagon. He loved fishing till his end and really enjoyed a fishing trip he took this past Father's Day weekend with his son when they went over 55 nautical miles out into the Gulf of Mexico, and Bob showed that he was still an expert at catching 'em. Bob quietly and without fanfare helped many area people in need, but he had a special feeling for people suffering in Haiti. He personally donated, in the last few years at least four entire containers full of more than 150,000 pounds of beans through For HAITI, With Love to help feed the hungry Haitian people. Bob is survived by his loving and devoted wife of over 63 years, Adele A. Caldwell; three children; a daughter, April Caldwell Hornsleth (Poul); a daughter, Elise 'Desi' Caldwell McCarthy (Vaughn); a son, R.W. 'Bill' Caldwell, III (Katie), and three grandchildren, Poul Hornsleth, Ill. Jody Hornsleth Sepúlveda (Rob) and Kyle McCarthy. There will be a memorial gathering this Saturday, July 11th

at 10 am in R.W. Caldwell Park at 64th Street and Gulfport Boulevard. Parking will be available, and a reception will follow. R.W. Caldwell Park was dedicated just this past April 18th, less than three months ago. The entire Caldwell family is very grateful and appreciative to the City and citizenry of Gulfport that their patriarch, R.W. 'Bob' Caldwell Jr., who first came to Gulfport more than 80 years ago, was able to receive and appreciate this wonderful honor before he died. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to either For HAITI, With Love, the Gulfport Historical Society or the Friends of the Gulfport Library. Arrangements by R. Lee Williams & Son Funeral Home 5730 15th Avenue South Gulfport 33707 727-345-7797 www.rlwilliams.com

HONORING CHATHAM GLENWOOD HIGH SCHOOL TITANS SOFTBALL PROGRAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of talented student-athletes from Chatham, Illinois.

The Chatham Glenwood High School Titans defeated the Glenbard South Raiders in a 4-2 victory to advance to the Illinois High School Association Class 3A state softball championship. The Titans finished runners-up after a hard fought championship game.

My congratulations go to Head Coach Vondel Edgar and assistant coaches Terry McDevitt, Brittany Koester and Paul Gray for their work with this outstanding group of student-athletes. But most of all, I want to congratulate the members of the 2009 Chatham Glenwood High School Titans state champion runners-up softball team: Sami Estill, Erin Fleischacker, Alyssa Esperum, Mariah Cole, Cassandra Harvill, Kaitlyn England, Kim Franke, Lauren Galloway, Abbie Xanders, Jessica Meyer, Kasey Oliver, Ashley Backus, Sarah Garrison, Liz Rupel, Shelbi Tudor, Brittany Osborn, Brittany Hembrough and Beka Ferguson.

They have represented themselves, their school and the community in an exemplary fashion, and I want to join with the other members of this House in wishing them the best of luck in their future endeavors, both on and off the field.

HONORING BRANDON SCOTT UNDERWOOD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brandon Scott Underwood, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the

Boy Scouts of America, Troop 218, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brandon has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Brandon has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brandon Scott Underwood for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING PORTLAND,
TENNESSEE'S 150TH YEAR

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the city of Portland, Tennessee on its 150th year anniversary.

Portland is located in Sumner County near Interstate 65, just five miles south of Kentucky and 35 miles north of Nashville. The area was first settled in 1792 by the James Gwin family.

On October 31, 1859, the Louisville and Nashville train made its first stop at the Richland Station depot. The Richland Station depot was built on land belonging to Thomas Buntin, who later became Richland's first postmaster.

During its first year, the City of Richland expanded with the opening of James Goostree's general store. The City of Portland was originally named Richland, but changed its name in 1888 to avoid being confused with another town in Tennessee of the same name. In April 1904, the Tennessee State Legislature enacted legislation incorporating the City of Portland.

In the 1920s, strawberries became a booming business for the area, and in 1941, the city held the first Middle Tennessee Strawberry Festival to celebrate the importance of the crop to both Portland and the state. The Middle Tennessee Strawberry Festival became an annual event that is still celebrated every May.

Portland boasts a thriving economy, with employment numbers that exceed its population. The city is home to excellent parks and recreation system, a full-service public library, local radio station WQKR and hometown newspaper, the Portland Leader. With a population of just 10,000, Portland is still a close-knit and rural community.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2647) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2010, and for other purpose:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2010. This important piece of legislation authorizes \$680 billion for training, equipment, healthcare, and for important quality of life improvements for our troops and their families.

The rising cost of goods and services and rising unemployment is taking an especially serious toll on our men and women in uniform and their families. As military commanders demand more time in theater for active duty personnel and rely more on the contribution of reservists, many of whom leave higher-paying jobs to be activated, demands on the limited financial resources of military families increase. The National Defense Authorization Act of 2010 was crafted with the concerns and urgent needs of these dedicated public servants and their families in mind.

The legislation authorizes \$135 billion for personnel needs and \$27 billion for healthcare. It raises the basic pay of our service members at a time when a pay-raise is dearly needed and the bill helps fund re-enlistment bonuses for active-duty members and reservists. To enable service members to spend more time with their families between tours, the bill increases the maximum leave days that a service member can accumulate and carry over from one year to the next. And, to ensure that our service members have a safe and secure home to return to, the bill contains \$2 billion for the construction and renovation of new and existing family military housing.

I am pleased to report to my constituents who have concerns about traffic congestion as the region prepares for the move of Walter Reed Hospital to Bethesda, that the bill instructs the Department of Defense to use all available resources to implement the Defense Access Road Program near the National Naval Medical Center.

The provisions and funds authorized by this act will help our men and women in uniform serving in the field, and help give them more peace of mind that their families back home are being cared for in their absence. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill.

Today, there was also a vote on an amendment to this legislation offered by my colleague Massachusetts Representative JAMES MCGOVERN, which would require the Department of Defense to report an exit strategy for military forces in Afghanistan by no later than December 31st of this year. While I do not oppose the intent of my colleague's amendment, I did oppose the amendment on the grounds that President Obama has already laid out his strategy for Afghanistan in a speech delivered in March 2009. Like President Obama, I want to bring our troops home as soon as possible consistent with our national security needs.

As the President emphasized in his speech, Afghanistan is where the plot to attack the United States on September 11th, 2001 was developed and put into motion. It is of vital importance to U.S. national security that we do what is necessary to eliminate the threat posed to the American people from al Qaeda.

Madam speaker, I urge that we support the National Defense Act of 2010.

HONORING LINCOLNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL LANCERS BASEBALL TEAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a state championship baseball team from Raymond, Illinois.

The Lincolnwood High School Lancers knocked off Marissa 3-1 to capture their first state championship in baseball. The championship game win at Silver Cross Stadium in Joliet capped off an amazing season in which the Lancers won their first 27 games and ended up with 34 wins against just two losses.

My congratulations go to Head Coach Chris Paproth and assistant coaches Josh Stone and Lance Glick for their work with this outstanding group of student-athletes. But most of all, I want to congratulate the members of the 2009 Lincolnwood High School Lancers state champion baseball team: Aaron Pope, Luke Leonard, Chase Jaeger, Trevor Riggs, Clayton Clarke, Tyler Walch, Josh Glick, Adam Lemon, Nick Arter, Sam Elmore, Shane Herschelman, Lucas Stieren, Ethan Eliason, Randall Brockmeyer, Michael Stephenson, Kendall Wagaoff, Kyle Snyder, Jake Leonard, Kendall Crawford, Landon Weitekamp and Shane Burbridge.

They have represented themselves, their school and the community in a first-rate fashion, and I want to join with the other members of this House in wishing them the best of luck in their future endeavors, both on and off the field.