

need to lead healthy lives as productive members of their communities.

Madam Speaker, it is time we take a stand to put an end to long-term homelessness in America. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and to support a proven and cost-effective solution to ending chronic homelessness.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND  
PUBLIC SERVICE OF JIM MAPLES

**HON. DEVIN NUNES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 2009*

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and public service of Jim Maples, a teacher, a coach, past Tulare County supervisor, and a close friend.

Some people in this world become larger than life, not because of their physical size or presence, but because of the number of people they influence in their lifetime. Jim Maples was both a father figure and a friend to many. His influence has been felt throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

Maples graduated from Porterville High School and Porterville College. He earned degrees from Fresno State and UCLA. Prior to becoming county supervisor, Maples was on the faculty at Porterville College for 34 years, serving as chairman and advisor of the technical vocational department.

Long active as a coach, Maples was inducted into the California Community College Basketball Hall of Fame in 1986. He was also named to the Porterville College Athletic Hall of Fame in 1999, placed on the Porterville High School Wall of Fame in 2000 and received the Book of Golden Deeds Award by the Exchange Club International.

Maples also had the privilege of serving on the Tulare County Board of Supervisors from 1992 until 2003. Maples' dedication to Tulare County was full-time. He was a powerful advocate for local law enforcement and was constantly engaged in the defense of our area's heritage and quality of life.

Maples' proudest accomplishment can be found in his loving family. He enjoyed a 54-year marriage with wife Myrna and was the father of two children; Vickie and Jaime.

Jim Maples left his community of Tulare County a far richer place than the one he found, and for that we are blessed. He was a leader, a mentor, a statesman and will surely be missed.

HONORING THE BLACK  
STUNTMEN'S ASSOCIATION AND  
THE COALITION OF BLACK  
STUNTMEN AND WOMEN

**HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 2009*

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of a concurrent resolution honoring the Black Stuntmen's Association and the Coalition of Black Stuntmen and Women for their central role in the fight for racial equality in the film and television industry.

I have the honor of representing some of the founding members of these organizations, and I feel it is time the Congress of the United States recognizes the part they played in combating discrimination in Hollywood.

The film and television industry was not immune to the racial and cultural struggles of the 1950s and 1960s in America. This was reflected in the small number of African-Americans and other minorities working throughout the industry. When stunt doubles were needed for the few African-American actors working in Hollywood, common practice was to "paint down" white stuntmen, using makeup to darken their complexion. As more African-American actors began to find work in the major studios in the 1960s, the almost exclusive use of white stuntmen became a more visible example of the racial discrimination still plaguing our society.

In 1967, a group of African-American stuntmen, athletes and extras founded the Black Stuntmen's Association to address these lingering problems in the industry. The Coalition of Black Stuntmen and Women was formed in 1973 to continue the fight against racial bias in Hollywood. Together these groups confronted the studios over their discriminatory practices, pursuing legal action to bring additional diversity to the industry and monitoring compliance with the resulting agreements. Through their tireless efforts, members of the Black Stuntmen's Association and the Coalition of Black Stuntmen and Women paved the way for greater racial equality in film and television in the ensuing years.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize some of the individuals who were involved in the founding and operation of the Black Stuntmen's Association and the Coalition of Black Stuntmen and Women: Eddie Smith, Marvin Walters, Jadie David, Ernie Robertson, Henry Kingi, Alex Brown, S.J. McGee, and Willie Harris.

The efforts of these men and women, as well as many others, bore fruit in other aspects of the industry as well. African-Americans began to break through racial barriers both in front of the camera as actors and behind the camera as directors, producers and in other management positions. Their lasting contributions have changed the way Hollywood does business, and they truly deserve our recognition and gratitude.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring the Black Stuntmen's Association and the Coalition of Black Stuntmen and Women.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. RORY  
COOPER

**HON. JOHN P. MURTHA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 2009*

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rory A. Cooper, Ph.D. for his outstanding achievement of winning five gold medals at the 2009 National Veterans Wheelchair Games, for helping to guide emerging technologies and treatments to improve mobility for people with physical disabilities, and for promoting a positive image for our wounded, injured, and ill veterans.

While winning five gold medals is an exceptional achievement by itself, Dr. Cooper has

proven himself again and again. Madam Speaker, Dr. Cooper won four gold medals at the 2008 National Veterans Wheelchair Games and over 100 total medals since 1983. He has previously held the world record for the 10,000-meter wheelchair race. He has participated and won medals almost every year since he first started competing. In 1988 he won the bronze medal at the Paralympic Games in Seoul, Korea. He continued to stay active in Paralympic competition by serving as a member of the Steering Committee for the 1996 Paralympic Scientific Congress. He was also the Sports Scientist for the 2008 United States Paralympic Team. In recognition of his achievements at the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, he was one of the featured athletes on a 2009 Cheerios cereal box.

When Dr. Cooper is not competing, he is a researcher in the field of assistive technology design at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. He is also the Director and Veterans Affairs (VA) Senior Research Career Scientist for the VA Rehabilitation Research and Development Center of Excellence, Co-director of the National Science Foundation Quality of Life Technology Engineering Research Center, a member of the United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs Prosthetics and Special Disability Programs Advisory Committee, and a Director of the Paralyzed Veterans of America Research Foundation. He has published over two hundred peer-reviewed journal articles and two books, *Rehabilitation Engineering Applied to Mobility and Manipulation and Wheelchair Selection and Configuration*. Dr. Cooper is also a recipient of the Department of the Army's Outstanding Civilian Service Medal for "exceptional leadership, service, and advocacy of severely injured service members at Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) and other military medical facilities from October 2004 through May 2008."

Madam Speaker, Dr. Cooper is truly an inspiration to all of us. I conclude my remarks by commending him for his outstanding achievements.

CORAL REEF CONSERVATION ACT  
REAUTHORIZATION AND EN-  
HANCEMENT AMENDMENTS OF  
2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. RON KLEIN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 22, 2009*

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 860, the Coral Reef Conservation Act Reauthorization and Enhancement Amendments of 2009. I also want to thank the lead sponsor of the legislation and distinguished chair of the Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife Subcommittee, Ms. Bordallo, for all her tireless efforts to protect our natural resources and insular areas.

Mr. Speaker, coral reefs are among the most diverse, biologically complex, and valuable ecosystems on earth. In my home State of Florida, we are fortunate to have the third largest barrier reef in the world. The importance of coral reefs to south Florida cannot be overstated. In addition to erecting a vital first-line of defense against hurricanes and storm surges for our coastal communities, coral