Bob is in demand as a speaker at symposiums, conferences and community organizations, and more in demand by his community.

He serves on the Board of Directors for several professional, educational and charitable organizations, and is a member of the Federal Emergency Management Agency Preparedness Task Force. He is a past president of the Ventura County Council of Boy Scouts of America, and is a member of the Executive Boards of the California State Sheriffs' Association and the Major County Sheriffs' Association. Bob is also a trustee of Life Pacific College, and has served as an instructor at California State University, Northridge; California Lutheran University and Ventura County Community Colleges. Bob has been awarded the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal from the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He is an honorary Rotarian, and serves on the Board of New Hope Christian Fellowship.

A Ventura County resident since 1961, he and Debbie have been married for 40 years. They have two grown sons, Jeff and Brian, and two grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join Janice and me in congratulating Bob Brooks on his retirement, in wishing him and Debbie good health in the years ahead, and in thanking him for 37 years of dedicated service.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. COLONEL GERALD P. ZIEMBA, RETIRED

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor retired U.S. Colonel Gerald P. Ziemba for his long and admirable service to the United States.

Colonel Ziemba started active duty in the Army in 1959 as a Second Lieutenant. In 1972, he became Commander of the U.S. Army Reserve's 578th Research & Development Unit in Midland, Michigan. Later, in 1983, the Senate approved his elevation to the rank of Colonel. After this last promotion, the Army appointed Colonel Ziemba to Deputy Commander of Sharpe Army Depot, where he eventually became chairman of a group tasked with developing a next-generation, supply-chain facility. Under his skillful leadership, a $200 million state-of-the-art warehouse was built, for which the U.S. Army awarded him the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding noncombat achievement.

Colonel Ziemba continued his service in 1994 when the Department of Commerce asked him to manage a newly formed Treaty Inspections Division of the Business, Industry, and Security Agency, BIS. BIS tasked him with implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention within the chemical industry. In this position, he drafted recommendations for implementing legislation and regulations. In addition, he represented the U.S. Government at numerous international forums.

Currently, Colonel Ziemba is involved in licensing activities for dual-use chemicals and equipment with the Department of Commerce. He is also the Commerce Department's representative in a multi-agency committee for improving chemical defense in the United States.

On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored today to recognize Colonel Gerald P. Ziemba's service and dedication to his country. I hope the years to come will bring him health, happiness, and special times with family and friends.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unable to participate in a series of votes on the floor of the House of Representatives today.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 566, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to S. 3689, I would have voted ''aye'' on the question.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 567, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1713, I would have voted ''aye'' on the question.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 568, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 328, I would have voted ''aye'' on the question.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF RONALD PIECHOWSKI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker and Colleagues, I rise today in honor and recognition of Ronald Piechowski, upon the occasion of his 50th anniversary of service to the citizens of Cuyahoga County. His years of dedicated service in the Cashier's Department of the Cuyahoga County Clerk of Courts Division reflects integrity, professionalism and excellence.

Mr. Piechowski was born in Cleveland, Ohio, the oldest of three sons, to Walter and Cecilia Piechowski. His parents instilled within their boys a sense of pride in their Polish heritage, their family and their Roman Catholic faith. Following graduation from South High School in Cleveland, Mr. Piechowski began his career at the Clerk of Courts office during the summer of 1960. By October of that year, he became a full-time employee and quickly ascended in the Cuyahoga County Court. He joined the National Guard in 1963 and served with honor for four years. Back at the County Court, he started in the files department and worked his way up to dockets and then journal entries. He was soon promoted to the Cashier's Department, and in 1979, he was named Chief Cashier and Supervisor, overseeing a staff of 19. He was responsible for the collection, disbursement, and application of more than $140 million annually. Remarkably, he balanced every ledger, every book, and every account to the penny.

Over the years, Mr. Piechowski has created friendships throughout our Greater Cleveland community. His expertise and work ethic is balanced by his sense of humor, humble demeanor and kind heart. Though not a person to seek the limelight, Mr. Piechowski has been honored with many awards over the years, including recognition by the Cuyahoga County Bar Association for professional excellence.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor of Ronald Piechowski, upon the occasion of his 50th anniversary of service to the citizens of Cuyahoga County. His public service reflects unwavering dedication, integrity, precision, excellence and heart. He is a vital force in protecting the public coffers and preserving the public trust. We are grateful for his wonderful and continued service.

COMMEMORATION OF TURKEY'S FOUNDING

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of the Republic of Turkey in their celebration of their country's historic eighty-seventh anniversary and founding by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk on October 29.

The anniversary is cause for us to pause and reflect upon the many accomplishments of the people of Turkey, most notably Turkish Republic founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's vision of a secular, pluralistic democracy.

The United States and Turkey have invested a great deal of energy in cultivating a critical and robust bilateral relationship. Time and time again, Turkey has proven itself to be a strong ally in our fight against Islamic extremism, and a key supporter of our operations in Afghanistan.

As the people of Turkey enter their eighty-eighth year, Atatürk's vision continues to ring true. I know my colleagues and fellow Americans share my sentiments in wishing the people and Government of the Republic of Turkey all the prosperity and opportunity of a bright democratic future.

HONORING FRESNO EQUIPMENT CO.

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Fresno Equipment Co. for receiving the 2010 Baker, Peterson, and Franklin Ag Business Award. Fresno Equipment Co. has held a long and distinguished position in the California agriculture industry, adhering to extremely high standards of quality and integrity.

The family operation of Fresno Equipment Co. has been ongoing since 1960 when Mark Vucovich and Bill Hansen became partners. Vucovich purchased the business and became sole owner in 1968 after the passing of Hansen. Mark passed away in 1980, and the business was taken over by Mark's children, Steve and Marsha.

The company operates a Five Points and Fresno Store, the latter of which is an award