

tribute to those who served or gave their all in our defense.

The all-volunteer Florham Park Memorial First Aid Squad provides service 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. They cover 7½ square miles and service 12,600 residents along with businesses, schools, colleges, assisted living facilities, local streets and highways, as well as provide mutual aid to neighboring towns.

The Florham Park Memorial First Aid Squad is a non-profit organization financially supported only by donations; comprised 100 percent of volunteers. Students, professionals and retirees from all walks of life lend time to serve their community. Auxiliary members also volunteer on committees to preserve the house and grounds, as well as organize special social events.

The Florham Park Memorial First Aid Squad handles approximately 1,200 calls per year. A typical crew includes an experienced chief, an EMT-B and driver, and a probationary member (who has served less than 6 months on the squad). Responsibilities of the crew on call include, remaining in town during the shift, inspecting ambulance and equipment, and responding to 911 calls, along with drills and instruction.

Aside from time responding to calls, volunteers of the first aid squad complete numerous hours of rigorous training preparing for any situation that may arise. Their selfless donation of their time, tireless commitment to service and compassion for others sets these volunteers apart from others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Florham Park Memorial First Aid Squad as they celebrate their 60th Anniversary.

HONORING THE BIRTHDAY OF  
TURKEY'S FOUNDER

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 26, 2011*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on May 19, while Congress was in recess, the Republic of Turkey and Friends of Turkey commemorated the 92nd anniversary of the launching of Turkey's national campaign to establish an independent nation by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder of modern Turkey. Turkey also celebrates May 19 as the birthday of Ataturk.

During his life time Ataturk was able to lift a country from the ashes of the Ottoman Empire and build a secular democratic nation located at the crossroads of Europe and the Middle East. His reforms were widespread including political, social, legal, educational, and economic. Some were monumental such as abolishing the caliphate and the sultan, recognizing equal rights for men and women, adopting a new alphabet and adopting secular law. Ataturk had a vision for the country, one of a pro-western secular and democratic state in which the rule of law would prevail. He swiftly but steadily advanced toward that goal with the confidence of a born leader and the support of the Turkish nation.

Ataturk championed women's rights, and believed that education and scientific training was the key to advancement not only for the individual, but also for the country. During his

tenure, women were encouraged to become doctors, lawyers, engineers, scientists, and enter into politics.

The legacy of Ataturk is even more evident today, as the Arab Spring leads to dramatic changes in the Middle East and North Africa. There are lessons in Turkey's history which can be applied to the current situation around the world. With the right leadership and determination, democracy can take root and lay the foundations for a prosperous future in the region.

HONORING ADOLFO ALVAREZ, SR.

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 26, 2011*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Former Frio County Commissioner Adolfo Alvarez, Sr. to honor his contributions to South Texas. On May 28, 2011, Mr. Alvarez celebrates his 80th birthday and a lifetime of achievements as a Veteran and Former County Commissioner.

Mr. Alvarez was born May 27, 1931, in Harlingen, Texas, to the parentage of Gernaro and Dominga Alvarez. He attended Harlingen High School in 1950 and served his country in the Korean War upon graduation. Mr. Alvarez returned from battle and married Guadalupe Morales Alvarez soon after. The couple has been happily married for 55 years and their union produced 9 children, 19 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild.

Mr. Alvarez began working in the auto repair industry and has been the proud owner of A and A Auto Parts retail stores in Pearsall, Dilley and Cotulla, Texas since 1973. In 1980, he was elected Frio County Commissioner and devoted himself to the people for 20 years. In addition to his post as Commissioner, Mr. Alvarez also served on the State Democratic Executive Committee for the 21st Senatorial District, was an active member of the Mexican American Democrats, and was appointed to the Commission on Aging by Gov. Ann Richards during her time in office.

Residing in Pearsall, TX, Mr. Alvarez spends his days as the city's first life member of VFW Post 9185, a life member of the Knights of Columbus, and a member of the League of United Latin American Citizens. He remains spiritually active as a parishioner of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in the city in which he resides. As a former County Commissioner, he remains devoted to his community through his volunteer activities, church involvement, and interests.

Former Commissioner Alvarez has lived in Pearsall, Texas for over 30 years and served Precinct 3 for 16 years beginning in 1980 and ending in 2000. In addition, he is a Korean War Veteran and founding member of the VFW post in Pearsall, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the opportunity to recognize the remarkable life of Mr. Adolfo Alvarez, Sr. and his 80th birthday celebration. Thank you.

CONGRATULATING ALDERMAN  
PATRICK J. LEVAR

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 26, 2011*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Alderman Patrick J. Levar on his recent retirement from his position as Alderman of the 45th Ward of the City of Chicago.

For the last 24 years, Alderman Levar represented the residents of the 45th Ward and worked to bring many improvements to the schools, businesses, and safety of his constituency. One of his many accomplishments as Alderman was the building of a new police station for the 16th District—Chicago Police Department to ensure that the 45th Ward was one of the safest in Chicago. He brought over \$7 million in improvements to local neighborhood schools and built the first new library on Chicago's northwest side. He returned over \$1 million to the 45th Ward by improving parks, playgrounds, and local streets.

He also wanted to make sure his ward thrived economically and worked tirelessly to rejuvenate businesses and create jobs by helping build shopping complexes and business structures. His dedication to his job and the city he loves is an example of why Chicago is known as "The City That Works."

Alderman Levar is very proud of the northwest side of Chicago, the area he has called home for his entire life, and of the Jefferson Park neighborhood, the area where he and his wife have raised their family.

Pat would be the first to tell you that his family is his first priority, and they have provided support for his entire career. He has been happily married for 37 years to his wonderful wife, Mary Ann. His family also includes his son, Patrick, Jr., and his wife, Jeanene, his daughters, Michelle and Julie, his son, Ryan, and his grandchildren, Patrick, Clare, and Maeve.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Alderman Levar's years of service to the City of Chicago. I hope that his dedication and hard work inspire us all to see the difference we can make by serving our local communities. I wish him a happy and successful retirement and all the best in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO ALEX MICHAEL  
JAGIM

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 26, 2011*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Alex Michael Jagim for the rank of an Eagle Scout. Alex is a junior at Waukee High School.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance based achievement whose standards have been well-maintained over the years. To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. Alex's service project was to install a