

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN MEMORY OF ALEX
HILDEBRAND

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2012

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the late Alex Hildebrand who passed away at the age of 98 on January 23, 2012.

Mr. Hildebrand was born and raised in the Berkeley Hills. He raised animals and rode horses, working from a young age for the Bruno cattle ranch. He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley in 1935 with a degree in Physics and Chemistry. Mr. Hildebrand had a 27 year career with Standard Oil where he served as a refinery design engineer, assistant chief engineer of the Richmond refinery, manager for the atomic energy subsidiary of Livermore Lab, and the director of Chevron's oil field research lab.

During World War II, after a stint in the Navy Reserves, Mr. Hildebrand served the war effort as Chief Engineer at an oil refinery on Bahrain Island in the Persian Gulf. Upon returning home, he purchased farmland southwest of Manteca on the San Joaquin River. In 1962, he took an early retirement from Standard Oil and moved his family to the farm. For almost 50 years, he farmed his land and served as the Consulting Engineer to the South Delta Water Agency (SDWA). He worked tirelessly to protect the Delta and the agriculture of the region.

In addition to the SDWA, Mr. Hildebrand served on more than 20 federal, state and local boards dealing with water-related issues. He served on the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Board, California Farm Bureau Water Committee, Delta Water Uses Board, Water Education Foundation Advisory Board, California Central Valley Flood Control Association Board, Sierra Club and with several others created the San Joaquin River Flood Control Association. Mr. Hildebrand was appointed by Governor Wilson to serve on the CalFed Bay Delta Oversight Committee and then the CalFed Bay Delta Advisory Committee. He served as the President of the McMullin Reclamation District for many years. He was outspoken and persistent in his advocacy of Delta water and Agriculture but treated others with respect and always appreciated a good debate.

Mr. Hildebrand was warm, loving and caring to his family and was an inspiration to many. He met his wife Barbara on a Sierra Club cross country ski trip. Together they have three daughters: Mary, Janet and Harriet and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, the recognition that I am offering today before the House of Representatives for Alex Hildebrand is small compared to the contributions and impact he had on the lives of so many. He was truly an invaluable member of our community and an outstanding human being.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
DONNA MCEACHERN

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2012

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the distinguished career of Donna McEachern, Councilwoman representing the City of Wayne, Michigan as she retires after 25 years of dedicated service.

After moving to Wayne in 1962, Donna graduated from the University of Michigan in 1964. Her devotion to her community was quickly apparent as she became secretary of Wayne Cooperative Nursery from 1966–1967. During her storied career in public service, Donna has dutifully served the citizens of the Wayne area as Public Relations Liaison for the Huron Valley Girl Scouts, Wayne Jaycee Auxiliary President, City of Wayne representative to the Detroit-Wayne County Mental Health Board, President for the West Suburban Area Council of Chambers. She was also the director of the Wayne Chamber of Commerce for 28 years.

Donna McEachern has been involved in her community in an incredible number of ways. She shared her time as a Metric Program worker in the Wayne-Westland School District, worked with the Roosevelt Scouts, and spent six years as a Religious Education Teacher at St. Mary's of Wayne. Donna lent her considerable skills to Soroptimist International Wayne-Westland, Wayne Business and Professional Women, Wayne Rotary and the Western Wayne County YWCA and many other worthy organizations.

Donna has been acknowledged as Wayne Outstanding Jaycette, District 30 Speakup Winner, Wayne Business and Professional Woman of the Year, Wayne-Westland WYCA Woman of Achievement and was named by the Wayne County Commission as a "Woman of Distinction". Her dedicated support of cultural arts is a living legacy in the Donna M. McEachern Youth Theater Scholarship established in 2004.

Mr. Speaker, during her distinguished career, Councilwoman McEachern has bettered the lives of countless Michiganders. As she embarks upon the next chapter of her life with Barry, her beloved husband of 51 years, her adored children Donna and Barry II, and her treasured grandchildren Colleen, Ian and Meredith, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding her legendary leadership, and in thanking her for her unfaltering service to our community and our country.

COMMEMORATING FATHER'S DAY

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate Father's Day and pay

tribute to our fathers and father figures in our lives, who shape us into the people we are today. The value of a father cannot be overstated. A father can be a most powerful role model, a child's best friend and loudest cheerleader. On this Sunday, families across the Nation express a deep gratitude to those who make sacrifices everyday to fill this important role in a child's life.

The unconditional love between parent and child is a pillar for that child's success. Whether by checking over a homework assignment, coaching a Little League team, or sharing time over a family dinner, fathers teach valuable lessons about succeeding in school and in life. They support and protect their children, giving them the confidence to take new risks and explore their dreams. All fathers know the enormous responsibility and hard work that come with parenthood; however, they also know the immense reward of helping a child grow into the best person he or she can be.

As a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, I would also like to recognize all the fathers who are currently serving in the armed forces and are away from their families during this holiday. From their service, their children—and all our children—will live in a safer world. They are teaching their children by example, and I can think of no greater inspiration than the courage and sacrifice displayed by our servicemen and women. To these fathers and their families, I offer my own thanks and prayers for a safe return.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the millions of wonderful fathers and father figures in this country. They are a driving force for America's greatness, giving the next generation the guidance and encouragement to continue that legacy.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF JOHN H. DAVIS OF BAGDAD,
FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the life of Mr. John H. Davis of Bagdad, Florida who passed away on June 9, 2012. Mr. Davis was a beloved member of the Northwest Florida community, a proud veteran, and a dedicated public servant. I am humbled to commemorate his life.

Born in 1938, John Davis grew up in the close-knit community of Bagdad. He attended the Sewanee Military Academy in Tennessee and later studied at both Florida State University and the University of Alabama. Mr. Davis honorably served a tour of duty in the United States Army, deploying to Germany and France, before returning to Bagdad. He joined Phillip R. Jones and Associates as a mechanical engineer and was the last remaining partner in the firm now known as PRJ Associates LLC.

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