

Representative Foley's legislative career has been marked by his passion and advocacy for housing issues, as exemplified by his current role as Chairman of the Housing Urban Revitalization Committee. In the mid-1980s, he became a community organizer for the St. Clair-Superior Coalition where he took responsibility for neighborhood safety and block club organization. He later became a field representative for Cleveland's Community Relations Board followed by roles as a court administrator, personal bailiff, and judicial clerk at the Cleveland Municipal Housing Court.

In 1997, Representative Foley began work at the Cleveland Tenants Organization where he eventually became Executive Director during his 9 year tenure. His work with the organization helped bring in over \$160 million in affordable housing projects performed by local union laborers and helped organize the largest rent strike in Ohio history—a protest against a 25 percent rent increase towards senior citizens by out-of-state landlords.

Representative Foley also advocates for issues such as alternative energy, the environment, retiree benefits, consumer rights and tax code reform. He serves as a member of the Alternative Energy; Civil and Commercial Law; and Ways and Means committees.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the achievements of State Representative Mike Foley.

CRISTINA DIDONE—SUCCESS IN AMERICA

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, since her days as a little girl in Argentina, Cristina Didone (Dee dough ne) dreamed of a new day owning a business.

Although she loved her homeland she looked thousands of miles away to the land of real opportunity—America.

Like millions before her she yearned and worked to come to America.

Even though her visa was denied three times she pursued her American dream and eventually a working visa was granted.

Once in the United States in 1990 she created a business involving her two passions: the Law and English.

So she started Kansas City Translations a firm specializing in training individuals in legal interpretations.

Finally in 1999 she got to Texas as fast as she could and created CD Language solutions—a Global legal translations company in Houston for oil, gas & technology firms.

Just recently Cristina was recognized by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce as Hispanic Female Entrepreneur of the Year.

As we get ready to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month I would like to recognize this successful and tenacious American businesswoman that believed in herself and America.

And that's just the way it is.

IN HONOR OF OHIO STATE
REPRESENTATIVE KENNETH YUKO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor State Representative Kenneth "Kenny" Yuko of Ohio's 7th House District.

Representative Yuko started his career as a clothing buyer for Polsky's Department Store; however, he soon found he was developing a passion for union organizing and advocating for workers' rights. His first job in public service, which spanned 30 years, was with the Laborers' Local #860 Union. Not only did he act as a union organizer for 25 years, but he also earned several awards, including the 2000 Organizing Award.

Now as a State Representative, Mr. Yuko advocates for workers' rights as well as increased health care access and Multiple Sclerosis awareness. In 2004, he worked to pass H.B. 379, designating March as MS Awareness Month in Ohio. His efforts with this bill earned him Ohio Health Advocacy Network's 2006 award for Legislator of the Year. He also serves as a ranking member of the House Commerce, Labor and Technology committee and a member of the Health and Aging and Veterans Affairs Committees.

Outside of his duties as State Representative, Mr. Yuko holds a place on the Bureau of Workers Compensation Oversight Committee, Unemployment Advisory Committee, Ohio Historical Society Board (ex-officio), and is an active member of the Cancer, Fire, Housing and Mental Health caucuses.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the achievements of State Representative Kenny Yuko.

CONGRATULATING MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL 60TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, sixty years ago, Capuchin priest Father Arnold Bendowski together with a convent of the Mercederian Sisters of Berriz and the parishioners of Mount Carmel Church established Mount Carmel School, which became the very first school in the Northern Mariana Islands to graduate a class of students from high school.

Today, I ask you to join me in celebrating this 60th anniversary of the founding of Mount Carmel School and to recognize the school's proud history of educating Northern Marianas students from their elementary through high school years.

Enrollment steadily increased throughout the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. Building success, in 1993 Bishop Tomas A. Camacho hired Sister Mary Angela Perez of Religious Sisters of Mercy to be President of Mount Carmel School and gave her a broad mandate to lift the standard of education at the school to a new level. Under her leadership, Mt. Carmel was incorporated; and in 1994 a review team from the Western Association of Schools and

Colleges granted Accreditation Candidacy status. Eventually, this action led to the school becoming the first non-public school in the Northern Marianas accredited for a full six-year term.

Throughout these 60 years of development and growth Mount Carmel School has garnered a reputation for academic excellence, sending many graduates to top postsecondary institutions. Mount Carmel maintains this commitment, announcing this year that the school is adopting the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools, formulated by Catholic educators from across the nation.

Supporting the academic, Mt. Carmel has also developed a diverse range of extracurricular activities, which have led to acclaimed theatrical productions and championship teams participating in the Academic Challenge Bowl, the Attorney General's Cup, Forensics, Mock Trial, and We the People programs. In line with findings of the National Center for Education Statistics, the school has decided now to grant academic credit for student participation in this kind of extracurricular activity, a policy that has been linked to improved attendance, academic achievement, and a commitment to continuing education beyond high school.

In addition to shaping the minds of our future leaders, Mount Carmel School has helped mold their spiritual conscience and social consciousness. Leadership at the school continually impress upon students their personal responsibility as members of a community. The school recently launched a service learning program, to augment its theology curriculum, and also introduced an innovative anti-bullying program, all to guide student awareness of how best to participate in the larger society of which they are a part.

Mt. Carmel understands its own social responsibility, too. The Northern Marianas community today faces the same financial challenges as Americans elsewhere in our nation. In response, Mt. Carmel has committed to new initiatives offering financial assistance to families that want a Catholic education for their children.

From its humble beginnings in 1952, the school has evolved into an institution whose name is synonymous with excellence in our community. Mt. Carmel has cultivated many of our islands' most notable business, government, and community leaders. Alumni from all walks of life stand as inspiring pillars in our community.

I offer my congratulations to all those who have been affiliated with the school over these past 60 years—teachers, staff, students, alumni, and parents. I am confident that the next 60 years will be marked by the same level of accomplishment.

Congratulations, Knights!

IN HONOR OF OHIO STATE REPRESENTATIVE SANDRA WILLIAMS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor State Representative Sandra Williams of Ohio's 11th District.

Before taking a position in the State House, Representative Williams began her career in criminal justice. She served as a member of the United States Army Reserve between 1987 and 1995. She later held positions as a corrections officer, probation officer, parole officer and mediator.

Her first job in the State House was as a legislative aide, a position she held for five years while gaining much needed insight and credentials that eventually earned her the trust of the voters she would soon represent. Representative Williams was first elected to be a State Representative in 2006 and is now in her third term. She is a ranking member of the House Public Utilities Committee and a member of the Criminal Justice and Economic and Small Business Committees.

In addition to her legislative career, Representative Williams is a member of the Federated Democratic Women of Ohio, the National Council of Negro Women, the Improved Benevolent and Protective order of Elks, Ohio Democratic Women's Caucus, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Black Women's Political Action Committee. She also donates much of her time to the Cleveland Food Bank as a volunteer and is a former Street Club President and precinct committee person.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the achievements of State Representative Sandra Williams.

RECOGNIZING THE GROUND
BREAKING OF THE 9/11 MEMO-
RIAL AT SOUTH KING FIRE AND
RESCUE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the groundbreaking of the 9/11 Memorial at the South King Fire and Rescue Station 64 in Federal Way, Washington. The memorial will include a steel beam from the World Trade Center to honor the firefighters, police officers, and citizens who lost their lives when terrorists coordinated the attacks on September 11, 2001.

In 2011, Lt. Scott Mahlen and firefighter Sven Schievink drove to New York to retrieve the beam. During the 55 hour-long journey, the men were supported by friends and fire stations across the country. After returning to Federal Way, the community worked for the next year to raise money for the memorial.

The South King Firefighters Foundation plans to finish the memorial by September 11, 2013. This project serves as a reminder of how deeply the tragedy of 9/11 affected Americans across the country, and the steel from this beam represents the strength and resilience of the United States in the aftermath of unimaginable tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the work of the men and women of South King Fire and Rescue to construct a powerful memorial for the victims of the 9/11 attacks. When completed, this memorial will be an important reminder of those who lost their lives and the men and women who continue to protect our country every day.

HONORING THE CENTER FOR
INDEPENDENT LIVING

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 40th Anniversary of the Center for Independent Living, Inc. (CIL). For four decades, CIL has continued to champion the rights and abilities of people with disabilities to lead self-determined lives marked by activism, equality and community engagement. The first organization of its kind, CIL has made the Bay Area an international model of accessibility, inspiring Independent Living centers in 20 other countries, as well as 400 facilities in the U.S. alone.

This evening, supporters and friends, including esteemed California Governor, Edmund Gerald "Jerry" Brown, Jr., gather in the birthplace of the independent living movement, Berkeley, CA. Moreover, the festivities take place at the new, fully accessible Ed Roberts Campus disability service center and transit hub—named for the local founding father of the disability rights movement, Ed Roberts, who was also one of CIL's co-creators. Someone I had the honor to know and work with.

In 1972, what started as a student-organized Physically Disabled Students Program (PDSP) at the University of California, Berkeley branched into the formal incorporation of a Center for Independent Living cofounded by students Ed Roberts, Hale Zukas and Jan McEwan Brown along with community supporters. In the years that followed, CIL became a powerful catalyst for pervasive social change.

Operating on the principle that people with disabilities know best how to meet the needs of others with disabilities and that the strongest most vibrant communities are those that embrace all people, CIL has been a driving force in shaping public policy. Its successes include state and federal disability rights laws, including, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

From early insistence on Berkeley curb cuts and transit station elevators, to working directly with municipal and state agencies and hosting the first National Conference on Independent Living in 1975, CIL became an integral support network—giving people the knowledge and tools to assert their civil rights.

In accordance with a core tenet of CIL's mission, the Center provides comprehensive programs with wraparound services that most effectively meet the needs of people with disabilities. Working with federal, state, county, city and private funding, CIL provides services in assistive technology and repairs, employment and housing, building modifications, Independent Living skills, Deaf Services, information counseling, referrals, personal attendants, travel training, and networking for community organizing. CIL's Employment Academy and Living Well Senior Program, as well as its Mentors, Advocacy and Peer Services (M.A.P.S) program for physically disabled youth and young adults, offer targeted income, wellbeing and mentorship benefits.

As someone with a sister who has been disabled with Multiple Sclerosis since 1974, I personally know the many challenges faced by people with disabilities. Therefore, I honor and

salute the Center for Independent Living for its vision and steadfast hard work in meeting these challenges in magnificent ways.

CIL has proven that communities benefit when people with disabilities are given opportunities to live, work and participate as equal citizens. The Center for Independent Living is more than a destination for disability services; It's a gathering place, a place to find common cause and friendship, and a place to learn and grow. Ultimately, CIL is a place that teaches and empowers all of us to strive for independence through social and economic equality.

On behalf of California's 9th Congressional District, I want to extend my congratulations on this important, 40-year milestone. I thank all of the many people who have contributed to the continued success of the Center for Independent Living, Inc. and wish you the very best in the coming years.

IN HONOR OF OHIO STATE REP-
RESENTATIVE ARMOND BUDISH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of State Representative Armond Budish of Ohio's 8th House District.

In 2006, Budish was elected as a State Representative to the 127th General Assembly. He was named Speaker of the House for the 128th General Assembly and is currently the Democratic Leader of the House for the 129th General Assembly. Leader Budish is a Ranking Minority Member of the Financial Institutions, Real Estate and Securities Committee and a member of the Unified Long-Term Care Budget workgroup.

Leader Budish received his Bachelor's Degree with Honors from Swarthmore College and his Juris Doctorate, Order of the Coif from the New York University Law School. Upon graduation, he clerked in Washington D.C. for a Federal Judge. He later joined the Hahn Loeser and Parks law firm in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1993, he opened the Budish, Solomon, Steiner and Peck law firm in Beachwood, Ohio which specializes in consumer and elder law and continues to act as partner.

In addition to his position as Democratic Leader, Representative Budish hosts "Golden Opportunities," a television show on the local Channel 3 news station aimed at informing seniors and their families. He has also written several books and national publications and has penned a column for The Cleveland Plain Dealer and Columbus Dispatch entitled, "You and the Law," for the past 25 years.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the achievements of State Representative Armond Budish.

CONGRATULATING JAMESVILLE
MIDDLE SCHOOL ON THEIR DES-
IGNATION AS A NATIONAL BLUE
RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Jamesville Middle School in