

has engaged in mobilizing and advocating for people who are LGBTQ, Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Questioning, and their friends, families, and supporters.

Founded by the Reverend Jane Spahr in 1982 as a support program for LGBT youth in Marin, Spectrum has grown under the leadership of current director Paula Pilecki. The agency now provides programs for seniors, counseling, advocacy, training, and public awareness and coordinates with organizations around the North Bay. This year, it launched the Spectrum LGBT Equality Pledge for businesses and professional organizations that want to show their support.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to organizations like Spectrum LGBT Center, we have seen progress over the last 30 years in rights for LGBTQ individuals. There is still much work to do, and we will continue to rely on Spectrum until full equality is achieved. Congratulations to Paula Pilecki and the staff at Spectrum on their 30th anniversary.

HONORING ALBERT PERISHO

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Albert Perisho, who passed away at home peacefully on August 2012. Albert was born September 9, 1931 in Long Beach, California. Al graduated from Banning High School in 1949 and then enlisted in the United States Marine Corps to serve in the Korean conflict. He met the love of his life, Myrt Van Meter, while working in Long Beach. Al and Myrt were married 59 years. In 1954, he became a member of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union. He served there until he retired in 1994. He was elected for 4 terms as President for Local 63 and 2 ½ terms as Secretary Treasurer.

While retired, he stayed active with the Southern California Pensioners Club and served as President. Al was recognized as Man of the Year by the City of Los Alamitos, the Los Angeles Long Beach Harbor, and the ILWU Southern California Pensioners Club. He was also a volunteer with the Red Cross disaster relief.

Al loved fishing in the High Sierras and had a great sense of humor. He was the kind of friend everyone wanted. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and brother. He is survived by his wife, Myrt; daughter, Cheri Phillips; son in law, Bill Phillips; son, Terry Perisho; daughter in law, Candy Perisho; son, Jack Perisho; daughter in law, Vanetta Perisho; grandchildren, Shaun, Christy, Jake, and Jacquie; and his brother, Tom Harvey. He was loved by all and will be missed dearly.

RECOGNIZING NESBY AND ASSOCIATES AS A FINALIST FOR THE 2012 KING COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Nesby and As-

sociates in Renton, Washington for being named a finalist for the 2012 King County Executive's Small Business Awards, in the Minority Small Business of the Year category.

Nesby and Associates is a development consulting firm that encourages consumers and companies to invest in diverse markets. The company succeeds by having a large clientele, ranging from the local to the national levels.

The Minority Small Business of the Year award is only presented to extraordinary minority-owned businesses that have shown significant growth and contributions to the King County community. Currently, 13 percent of the businesses in the King County region are minority-owned and Nesby and Associates and many others make tremendous contributions to the region's economic strength.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I honor Nesby and Associates. The firm proudly represents the growing numbers of minority-owned businesses in our community and throughout our nation.

HONORING MIKE OGLE, DEDICATED SERVANT TO EASTERN WASHINGTON'S VETERANS

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mike Ogle, a dedicated servant who spent countless hours assisting our Eastern Washington veterans at the

While America's service members and veterans have answered the call of duty and have served with dignity and honor, similarly Mike Ogle answered the call of duty to serve our veterans in Eastern Washington. A twenty-four year Air Force veteran, while working at the Spokane Veterans Outreach Center, Mike dutifully helped veterans by providing outreach, counseling, and resource referral.

However, his story goes beyond simply wanting to help Eastern Washington's veterans. Serving in the Air Force, Mike spent a great deal of time in the Middle East and was deployed for a combined total of nearly eight years. This experience enabled Mike to be one of the best advocates for veterans in Eastern Washington. Quite simply: Mike spoke their language and whenever he interacted with a veteran, the veteran knew that they had found a friend.

Working at the Spokane Veteran Outreach Center, Mike Ogle spent most of his days traveling in a custom-fitted RV called the Mobile Vet Center. Through the Mobile Vet Center, Mike spoke to Eastern Washington's veterans about housing, medical care, and employment opportunities. In addition, Mike diligently took time to generate a constructive game plan with each veteran he saw. More importantly, Mike made a point to follow up with each and every veteran that he met.

So today, I am thankful for Mike Ogle's selfless, energetic dedication to our veterans in Eastern Washington.

HONORING THE CITY OF WESTON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the City of Weston, Missouri, as the residents celebrate the 175th anniversary of the founding of their community.

Weston was a mid-nineteenth century Missouri River port community, the second largest port on the river, second only to St. Louis. In 1850, over 300 steamboats a year docked at the Port of Weston. The population soared to 5,000, surpassing both Kansas City and St. Joseph. Floods, fires, and the Civil War contributed to a decline in population, but not in spirit. In 1972, a major portion of the early town was designated an Historic District and placed on the National Register of Historic Places having retained a substantial portion of its early residences and commercial structures. Weston is a gem in the 6th Congressional District featuring antebellum homes, museums, walking tours, and a historic shopping district. Many of the antique, home furnishing, gift shops and restaurants are located in buildings built prior to the Civil War.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in celebrating with the City of Weston during their 175th anniversary festivities.

CELEBRATING GONZAGA UNIVERSITY 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington as it celebrates its 125th anniversary. I take great pride in representing this nationally-recognized institution of higher learning.

In 1881, Father Joseph Cataldo, S.J., a Jesuit from the Rocky Mountain Mission, decided to establish a school for boys along the banks of the Spokane River. With \$936 in silver dollars, Father Cataldo purchased 320 acres of land. Six years later, on September 17, 1887, Gonzaga College officially opened its doors serving 18 students.

For the last 125 years, Gonzaga University has transformed itself to meet the educational needs of an expanding region. First in 1912, the School of Law was established to meet the Inland Northwest's legal demands. Then in 1921, the School of Business was formed to help bolster commerce with skilled business leaders. Seven years later the School of Education opened its doors to prepare teachers to meet the needs of a rapidly growing community. In 1934, when hydroelectricity was being developed as a new regional power source and engineers were needed to build dams, Gonzaga established a School of Engineering. And in 1975, the School of Professional Studies was created to educate health care professionals and prepare community leaders for the demands of the next century.

Today, Gonzaga University is one of our nation's premier institutions of higher learning,

educating more than 7,800 students. While at Gonzaga students can choose from over 75 fields of study, select from 25 master's degree programs, and pursue doctoral degrees in Law and Leadership. In addition, Gonzaga student cheer on and participate in varsity soccer, baseball, golf, tennis, track, rowing, and of course perennial powerhouse men and women's basketball teams.

So today, it is my grant honor to recognize Gonzaga University for achieving this historic 125-year milestone and applaud the entire University community—students, staff, faculty, alumni, and supporters—for the contributions they have made to Eastern Washington throughout the years. The Zag Spirit is alive and well, 125 years and counting.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CANOE
RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COM-
MITTEE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee as the organization celebrates its twenty-fifth year of service.

The Canoe River Advisory Committee, otherwise known as CRAAC, is comprised of representatives from the Massachusetts towns of Foxborough, Sharon, Mansfield, Easton, and Norton. Its many duties include educating the public about the benefits of preserving the beautiful Canoe River Aquifer, a wetland region that flows for nearly sixteen miles through these five towns, as well as emphasizing the importance of protecting the delicate ecosystem that is found within the region. Since CRAAC was formally created by the Massachusetts State Legislature in October of 1987, nearly forty individuals have served on the committee, ranging from town selectmen to local residents who care deeply about their local environment. Currently, each town sends three appointed members to the Committee, and these individuals work diligently to ensure that the aquifer—which provides the five towns with approximately half of their water supplies—remains viable and well-cared for. As

this region has been declared an Area of Critical Environmental Concern by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and designated as a Sole Source Aquifer by the federal government, the work that this committee does to ensure its protection is essential.

Today, the work that CRAAC does to protect the Canoe River Aquifer ranges from advising municipal officials and residents on developmental impacts and conservation practices to sponsoring educational conferences and meetings. The committee is highly regarded by the people of Massachusetts, and it is seen as a statewide model for a volunteer-run regional environmental entity. I have witnessed CRAAC's success over the years, and I am confident that the committee will continue to serve as an example of what can be done at the local level to preserve the unique landscapes of Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, it brings me great joy to recognize the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee. I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking its members for all that they have done for their local environment, and in congratulating the Committee for twenty-five successful years of service.

CELEBRATING TELELECT,
INCORPORATION'S 30TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Telect, Incorporation, one of the premier family-run, independent businesses in eastern Washington.

On September 13, 1982, Bill and Judi Williams, later joined by their son Wayne, set out to build an independent company that would transform the communications industry. Thirty years later, their focus remains the same: simplify telecommunication networks by providing innovative solutions.

Headquartered in Liberty Lake, Washington, Telect's history of service and innovation, along with a business model driven by entrepreneurialism and dynamic energy, posi-

tions them to be the lead provider for the global communications industry. At the heart of the company, Telect designs, manufactures, and integrates connectivity and power solutions for the communications industry by offering power distribution and protection panels and management systems.

However, their story goes beyond simply creating equipment for the telecommunication industry. To celebrate their 30th anniversary, Telect President and CEO Wayne Williams, and Vice President and CFO Stan Hilbert are exchanging tradeshows and boardrooms for the open road on their motorcycles. Ride with Telect, a national business and motorcycle tour, will hit the road during the months of August and September. Traveling 11,000 miles, Ride with Telect will enable the business to travel to their customer's location and interact with them one-on-one. Williams, Hilbert, and other members of the Ride with Telect team will thank customers, showcase products, and develop new relationships in this face-to-face product roadshow celebration.

Through the last thirty years, the Williams family has effectively integrated their faith into developing a successful business. Demonstrating commitment to God, country, and their community by serving on various boards including the Washington Policy Center, Greater Spokane Incorporated, and the Public Facilities District Board, Bill and Judi have given their time to eastern Washington. In addition, Telect has been the recipient of numerous awards including being named the Washington Family Business of the Year in 1994, Gonzaga's University Ethics Award in 2001, and AGORA Business and Community Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007. I applaud the Williams' family integrity and generous contributions to our community.

So today, I am encouraged by this family-run, independent business that instead of taking the road well traveled, decided to venture out and explore the open road. Congratulations to Telect, Incorporation for their many successes during their first thirty years and I eagerly anticipate their upcoming innovations for eastern Washington and the rest of the telecommunication industry in the next thirty years.