

tenure, he has continuously held an open-door policy, and has committed himself to high ethical standards. Respected by all who know him, he has been the recipient of many awards and accolades recognizing his hard work and dedication to his job. After Hurricane Fran, the violent storm that devastated much of Eastern North Carolina in 1996, every government office in town was closed except one: the clerk's office.

Mr. Speaker, Will Crocker has selflessly dedicated many years of his life to serving the citizens of Johnston County. His enduring commitment to his community makes him an exemplary public servant, and his accomplishments will continue to benefit Eastern North Carolina for many years to come. As his time as Clerk of Court comes to a close, let us honor Mr. Crocker and pray that both he and his family may receive God's richest blessings.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CLIFF HAGEDORN, AN AMERICAN PATRIOT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many contributions of Cliff Hagedorn, a long time resident of Des Plaines, Illinois, and a pillar of our local veteran community. Mr. Hagedorn is a great example of a true American patriot.

Cliff Hagedorn grew up in Des Plaines—graduating from what is today Maine East High School and marrying his high school sweetheart, Valerie. Like so many other Americans during World War II, Mr. Hagedorn enlisted in the U.S. Army and prepared to risk his life on behalf of our nation.

On Easter Sunday 1944, Cliff Hagedorn landed with the allied forces in North Africa, and participated in actions that eventually stopped and then reversed German advances in the region. After succeeding in North Africa, he and his fellow soldiers spent the remainder of the war in Italy, pushing German forces back at every opportunity.

After the war, Cliff Hagedorn's contributions to his community continued—he raised a family in Des Plaines and helped to create the Des Plaines Senior Center. The Senior Center continues to offer vital services to this day and Mr. Hagedorn now holds emeritus status with the organization.

Cliff Hagedorn has also been an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2992 for several decades. In fact, earlier this month he celebrated 70 years of service with this institution—a truly remarkable achievement.

Today, at the age of 91, Cliff Hagedorn continues to work tirelessly in support of his country and his local community. Serving as Adjutant of his local VFW post, Mr. Hagedorn engages in outreach to the local community, visiting schools and teaching young people about the value of knowing their civics and their nation's history.

Cliff Hagedorn has devoted his life to public service, and we are all better off as a result. On behalf of a grateful nation, I want to extend our sincere thanks for all he has done for our country, and a heartfelt congratulations for

seventy years of service to his local post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES KAUFMAN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of James Kaufman, who passed away on October 31, 2013 at the age of 71. As one of the founders of American Ambulance, Jim was a true supporter and advocate for our Central Valley. His kind heart and generosity will be greatly missed.

Jim was born and raised in Fresno, California. After graduating from Roosevelt High School, he joined the United States Coast Guard Reserves. He also worked part time at Jones Ambulance and attended Fresno City College. While Jim was working at Jones Ambulance, he met his wife, Joyce, and a year later they married in Carmel, California. Jim and Joyce raised one son together, Stan.

One of Jim's greatest role models was his father, Martin. Martin was a teacher and coach, and Jim saw himself following in his father's footsteps. However, when Jim completed his 16 years of service in the Coast Guard, he decided to run his own ambulance business. In 1975, Jim and three other individuals founded American Ambulance. Jim and his partner, Larry Ward, remained as the owners of the company for almost four decades as American Ambulance grew into a successful business with approximately 600 employees.

Jim's entrepreneurial spirit led him to establish a new business, KY Farming, with his good friend, Tony Yasuda. They grew cherries and blueberries, and they also managed a packing house, KY Packing. Jim's businesses brought him great joy. He cherished his employees and always did what he could to help, whether it was through financial support, guidance, or simply heartfelt encouragement.

Aside from his work, Jim loved the Dallas Cowboys. He also enjoyed tennis, golf, and dove hunting. Spending time with family was most important to Jim. He will be greatly missed by Joyce, Stan, his daughter-in-law, Stephanie, and his grandchildren; Abel, Lilly, Evan, and Faith.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of James Kaufman. His presence will be missed, but his legacy will surely live on in the Central Valley.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE NUTLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Nutley Public Library, located in Essex County, New Jersey, as it celebrates its Centennial Anniversary.

The Nutley Public Library has a strong history, as its building and collection have continued to grow since its opening in August, 1914.

The origins of the Nutley Public Library begin in 1896, when a private library held the starting 3,000 book collection. The intention of the private library was to hold the books until the Township of Nutley could find a location for a library. However, it was not until 1914, when the town was provided an Andrew Carnegie grant that the new public library, designed by Armstrong and DeGelleke, was built, and the collection was moved to its current home.

In January 1942, the library expanded the original building to accommodate its ever-growing collection. Through the funding of a Federal Works Project Administration Grant and local funds, the library added three stories, designed by Behee and Kramer.

On August 25, 1980, the second floor ceiling collapsed. The fall of the 65 by 40 foot ceiling section knocked over many bookcases, and caused severe damage. Thankfully, the library was closed at the time of the collapse. The first floor was able to remain open through the duration of the repairs, with the librarians retrieving books from the upstairs rooms when requested.

In October 1990, an addition and renovation completed the library's current facility. Designed by James Goldstein and Associates, a 20,000 square feet addition was added on, with its appearance preserving the essence of the original and historic Carnegie structure. The library used its own reserve funds, and turned to the community, to help pay for the renovation. The library received its financial help through the Friends of the Nutley Public Library, Township bonds, and a New Jersey State Library Construction Grant.

The Nutley Public Library became the 70th member of the Bergen County Cooperative Library System in 1996. This system allows the library to be fully computerized and view the holdings of all the BCCLS libraries, and is accessible 24 hours a day.

Today, the Library maintains a collection of approximately 90,000 books. The collection includes reference books, adult books, young adult books, and approximately 25,000 children's books. The Library is able to provide large print books, magazines, videos, music, downloadable eBooks, and audio books. It is currently governed by a Board of Trustees and two ex-officio members. The Board members are chosen by the Mayor and serve five year terms. The two ex-officio members include the Mayor and the Superintendent of Schools, or their delegates. The library is currently funded by the New Jersey Per Capita State Aid, donations, and the Township. Eighty percent of interest from these funds is used for the purchase of books and other material. The library is proud to celebrate its history and look forward to its continuous growth in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Nutley Public Library and thanking the Friends of the Nutley Public Library as it celebrate its Centennial Anniversary.

HONORING THE ARMITAGE FAMILY

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the Armitage family for the leadership values