

community and the game, Maraney is the 2015 inductee into the Roll Call Congressional Baseball Hall of Fame.

Maraney was working for the Clerk of the House in 1963, when he suggested to Yudaín that someone should write about all the sports teams featuring congressional staff (baseball was just getting going then). “He said, ‘Ok, write it.’” Maraney recalls about the birth of Skip-along, which eventually expanded into an “around the Hill” beat and laid the groundwork for Roll Call’s current coverage of life in and around the Capitol.

From his perch, Maraney watched the game rise from the ashes after Speaker Sam Rayburn, D-Texas, shut it down in 1958. In 1961, members of Congress took part in a home-run contest and the next year the event became an actual game, played prior to a Washington Senators home contest.

“Sid had the idea of turning it into a party. The game had hot dogs, cheerleaders,” Maraney says. “Buses took everyone to the Stadium.”

Not only was Maraney providing pre- and post-game coverage, he was also calling the game. During those years, he got to see some of the greats of congressional baseball history: Indiana Democratic Sen. Birch Bayh (“He was sensational!”); former major league pitcher Wilmer “Vinegar Bend” Mizell, R-N.C.; Massachusetts GOP Rep. Silvio Conte (“He batted with a cigar and came out on crutches one year. And hit a double.”).

As the 1970s began, Maraney left the Clerk’s office and gave up the sports beat for a job with the National Star Route Mail Contractors Association, where he remains as executive director. While he obviously enjoys his job, there are some things he had to leave behind. As Roll Call’s sports and community columnist, “I got invited to everything.”

#### HONORING JAMES PONCE

#### HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 7, 2015*

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate James Augustine Ponce of St. Augustine, Florida who turns 98 on July 19, 2015.

A native of St. Augustine, Florida, James Ponce was born on July 19, 1917. His relatives descended from the family of Juan Ponce de Leon.

Ponce grew up in the downtown area of St. Augustine, where his father owned R. Ponce Funeral Home. As a young boy he recalls his father burying American Tycoon, Henry Flagler, and other prominent figures of the community. In addition, Ponce has stated that his days at St. Joseph Academy afforded him the opportunity to learn about how Florida became a U.S. territory.

This early exposure to America’s Oldest City cemented his passion for the rich history that Florida boasts. Since that introduction as a child, Ponce has dedicated his life to preserving and sharing the histories of St. Augustine, the Breakers, and Palm Beach. Ponce also proudly served his country in the Navy during World War II and the Marines during the Korean War. Since the 1950s, he has called Palm Beach County home. During his time at the Breakers Hotel and Resort, Ponce worked at the front desk and eventually retired as an assistant manager. As of now, he conducts weekly walking tours of the Breakers.

Ponce is the official historian of the Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce and has also served as the President of the Historical Society of Palm Beach.

Throughout his career and retirement, Ponce has been recognized for his vast historical knowledge. In 1996 the Palm Beach Town Council named him “Palm Beach’s only two-legged, historical landmark.” He is the recipient of the Providencia Award from the Palm Beach Country Convention and Visitors Bureau, which recognizes an individual or agency that contributes to the prosperity of the tourism industry in the county.

James Ponce is an exceptional man, and one whom I am proud to represent in Florida’s 22nd District. I know I join with his family and friends in celebrating this wonderful occasion. I wish him good health and continued success in the coming years.

#### IN HONOR OF THE COMO HIGH SCHOOL, 1914–1971, 10TH ALL SCHOOL REUNION CELEBRATION

#### HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 7, 2015*

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Como High School’s 10th All School Reunion Celebration on July 2–5, 2015. This celebration is a milestone for the Como community as it recognizes its history and the impact Como High School had on its students.

From its inception, the Como community’s location left its primarily black residents walled in with a physical barrier separating Como from the surrounding neighborhoods. This physical separation prompted its residents to meet the needs of the community through their own initiatives. In the fall of 1914, Como residents felt an urgent need for a formal school to educate the black youth of the community. During its first year, Como Elementary School housed 11 students and employed one teacher by the name of Ms. Lucinda Baker.

Unfortunately, after two years the school was closed due to low enrollment and did not reopen for its second term until 1917. The school was ultimately reestablished the following year in 1918, where Mrs. Pearl Walker Connor served as the head teacher.

After World War I, the Como community began to grow rapidly. As more people moved into the community there was a greater need for a bigger and better school building. Under the leadership of Mr. R. N. Riddles, the county superintendent, a building with two rooms was built on the southeast corners of Faron and Bonnell Streets.

During the time of expansion, Mrs. Gertrude Wilkerson-Starners was appointed head teacher with Mrs. Geneva Carrington serving as her assistant. Later Mrs. Jessie Ralieggh and Mrs. A. Greenwood joined the staff and Mrs. M. L. Patterson came to the school as a teacher in 1931.

The men of the community initially supplied coal for heating and kept the grounds clean; but as the school began to grow, the need for custodial personnel became necessary. In 1933, Mr. John Atkins was hired as the first full time custodian.

Although no formal record exists, it is clear that the need for a high school naturally grew

as the community had more students to educate. Additional teachers were added in 1935, and the school moved to occupy Libbey, Goodman, Horne and Hollaran Streets. In 1935, Mr. J. Martin Jacquet was hired as principal and served the institution for ten years with Mr. Oscar M. Williams succeeding him in 1946. The current building was erected in 1950 during Williams’ tenure as principal. Mr. Wilbur H. Byrd served as Como High School’s last principal from 1967 until the school’s closure in 1971.

Como Elementary School and Como High School grew from humble beginnings to a 33 room ultra-modern structure that housed an industrial arts room, a gymnasium, a 500 person auditorium; a chemistry lab, homemaking laboratories, a library, men’s and women’s lounges, and a group of offices for the administrative staff.

Between 1914 and 1965, Como Elementary and Como High School’s prestige increased as their academic excellence was recognized by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

In 1971, the sudden shift to integrate schools forced Como High School to close despite its growth. Although school integration caused the original Como High School to close, Como Elementary School and Como Montessori Magnet School carry on its legacy of community, unity and pride.

After Como High School’s closure the first annual school reunion was held in July 1983. Its subsequent reunions proved that the fond memories of the Como spirit remain in the hearts of former students and staff members forever.

#### HONORING THE RAVENSBRUCK ARCHIVE PROJECT

#### HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 7, 2015*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Ravensbruck Archive Project.

The Ravensbruck Concentration camp was the Nazi’s largest and central internment camp for women and children during the Holocaust. Between 1939 and 1945, over 130,000 prisoners passed through Ravensbruck and its satellite camps.

The Ravensbruck Archive is an international archive that provides a critical link to the history of the Holocaust. Many of the documents in the Archive have been hidden for the past 70 years, but now because of the Ravensbruck Archive Project, the material will be translated, digitized, and shared with the world via the web and a world traveling exhibit. The Ravensbruck Archive Project will preserve and make accessible this important piece of history for generations to come.

The Ravensbruck Archive is housed at Lund University in Sweden. The Archive includes more than 500 handwritten interviews with Ravensbruck survivors, taken at the time of their liberation in 1946. The Archive contains prisoners’ notebooks, diaries, letters, poems, recipes, photographs, drawings, and official Nazi documents from the concentration camp such as lists of prisoners, block books, and transcripts of protocols and original documents