

RECOGNIZING MR. LONNIE MYERS  
FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
VAN BUREN

**HON. JOHN BOOZMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 12, 2010*

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Lonnie Myers for earning the Iverson Riggs Memorial Citizen of the Year Award for his dedication and commitment to Van Buren, Arkansas.

Myers, an assistant superintendent for the Van Buren School District, has been a big influence in the school system first as a teacher and coach, then as an assistant principal, principal and athletic director. Many in the community regard Myers as the driving force behind the creation of Van Buren High School Hall of Honor and for having played a big role in getting a multi-billion dollar tax package passed to upgrade school facilities.

Neighbors and community leaders agree that Myers is a caring man, with a big heart who always leads by example and is always working in the best interest of the community and students of the school district.

It's clear that Myers is very deserving of the Iverson Riggs Memorial Citizen of the Year Award. Now, after decades of calling Van Buren home, Myers is moving to take a job in a nearby community. He will be greatly missed in Van Buren, but his impact and influence won't be forgotten.

**CONSTRUCTION AWARDS BANQUET**

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 12, 2010*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sincerity and admiration that I offer congratulations to several of Northwest Indiana's construction businesses, corporations, and contractors. On Friday, May 14, 2010, the Northwest Indiana Business Roundtable and the Construction Advancement Foundation will honor these entities and individuals at the Construction Awards Banquet, which will be held at the Avalon Manor Banquet Hall in Merrillville, Indiana.

The Northwest Indiana Business Roundtable (NWIBRT) is an independent non-profit council of local firms who are dedicated to the progress and development of construction and maintenance projects in Northwest Indiana. The NWIBRT's main goal is to promote safety, quality, and cost effectiveness by all construction business affiliates. The NWIBRT will be presenting the Safety Awards to many of these hard working local businesses. The recipient of the Safety Contractor of the Year Award is Solid Platforms, Inc. The Safety Excellence Award recipients are as follows: Total Safety US, Inc., Culver Roofing, Inc., The Pangere Corporation, Atlantic Plant Services, Interstate Insulation Corporation, Interstate Environmental Services, Inc., Correct Construction, Inc., Solid Platforms, Inc., The American Group of Constructors, Graycor Industrial Constructors, Inc., ATC Associates, Inc., Ambitech Engineering Corporation, and Orbital Engineering, Inc. The recipients of the Safety

Achievement Award are: M&O Environmental Company, Stevens Engineers & Constructors, Security Industries, Inc., Stevenson Crane Service, Inc., Falk-Pli, Middough, Inc., R.J. Mycka, Inc., and Superior Construction Company, Inc. The Safety Recognition Award recipients are as follows: Manta Industrial, Inc., EMCOR Hyre Electric Company of Indiana, Inc., Central Rent-a Crane, Inc., Mersino Dewatering, Inc., M&O Insulation Company, AMS Mechanical Systems, Regional Contractors Alliance, KM Plant Services, Inc., Meade Electric Company, Cornerstone Electrical Consultants, Inc., CET Inc., Tranco Industrial Services, Inc., and BMW Constructors, Inc. The Safety Progress Award recipients are Urban Elevator and Van's Industrial. The recipient of the Safety Innovation Award is Manta Industrial. This year's Roger Walters Memorial Safety Award recipient is Mr. Doug Patton, Project Safety Manager, BMW Constructors.

The Construction Advancement Foundation, CAF, was created in 1967 and represents Northwest Indiana union contractors. The CAF continues to be a major force in the growth and improvement of the union construction industry in Northwest Indiana. The CAF will also be presenting project and contractor of the year awards. This year's Public Works Project of the Year Award recipient is: Hasse Construction Company, Inc. for the Lost Marsh Clubhouse and the Hammond Port Authority. The recipient of the Commercial Project of the Year Award are Tonn & Blank Construction for the Valparaiso Family YMCA. The Industrial Project of the Year Award recipient is BMW Constructors, Inc., for the C8 Coal Conveyor Replacement/NIPSCO. The recipient of the Commercial Contractor of the Year Award is Berglund Construction, while the recipient of the Highway Contractor of the Year Award is Walsh & Kelly, Inc. The Industrial Contractor of the Year Award recipient is The Ross Group, Inc., and the Professional & Engineering Services Contractor of the Year recipient is ACMS Group. Finally, the recipient of this year's Sub-Contractor of the Year Award is Thatcher Foundations, Inc.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these hard working individuals, businesses, and contractors for their dedication to the construction industry and to Northwest Indiana. They have contributed in many ways to the growth and development of the economy in Indiana's First Congressional District, and I am very proud to represent them in Washington, D.C.

**IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM  
GOWER**

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 12, 2010*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to William Gower, a constituent of mine who has been overcoming his disabilities and gaining his freedom by participating in races for the past four years with Tim Thomas, Pastor of Munford Baptist Church in Munford, Alabama.

William Gower is a 37 year-old man with cerebral palsy who tirelessly works to prevail

over his challenges and lives a fulfilling life that many individuals without disabilities can only dream of. Together, Tim and William formed "Team Gower" and have participated as one in over 30 races.

On Saturday, April 17, 2010, "Team Gower" participated in a 15-mile race to raise money to help purchase a new special needs van for William. William has worked hard all his life, and this new van will help ensure he has the independence he wants.

All of us across East Alabama are deeply proud of William Gower and his outstanding strength. He is a role model for us all.

**LAWRENCE KESTER**

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 12, 2010*

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor and remember a loving father and husband, respected citizen and dedicated public servant, Mr. Lawrence Kester.

Lawrence was killed on duty May 7, 2010, while driving a San Bernardino County public transit bus, in Rialto, California. He was 47 years old.

He was the victim of a senseless stabbing attack by a mentally ill passenger. Although Lawrence did not survive the attack his passengers escaped traumatized but unscathed.

Fifteen years ago, Lawrence began working for the public transit system and went on to become one of the best regarded drivers in San Bernardino, as well as a great friend to the community.

He was well respected by his customers and colleagues alike, commended on numerous occasions for his consummate professionalism and attention to security.

Most recently, he was awarded the elite "Million Mile Club" membership which is reserved for drivers who have driven more than one million passenger miles in safety.

Lawrence is remembered as a Good Samaritan and trusted friend. He was the kind of man who would chip in for people when they didn't have enough change for the fare and generously greet customers as they entered and exited, wishing them a nice day.

Lawrence is survived by his wife, Misty, and 8 children. Lawrence and Misty celebrated their 12th anniversary of marriage last week and the family just recently spent a weekend at Disneyland together.

Let us take the time to pay tribute to this wonderful man. Let us celebrate the life he lived and the example he led.

Although he is no longer with us, his noble nature and loving kindness will continue to live on through the lives of everyone he touched.

The thoughts and prayers of my wife Barbara, my family and I are with his family at this time.

Madam Speaker, let us pay our respects to Lawrence Kester. He will always have a place in our memories and hearts for everything he gave to his family and community.