

Home for the Aging. He was also a board member and Board president of Sun Valley Chamber of Commerce from 1981–1990 and the Studio City Residents Association.

Along with a long and distinguished record of volunteerism and service to his community, Mr. Freeman has been the Owner and Pharmacist at Key Pharmacy since 1964. He earned his degree from Columbia University College of Pharmacy. He actively participates in professional pharmacy associations at the national, state and local level and is actively involved with the legislative process. In fact, his legislative efforts on behalf of pharmacists led pharmacist Barry Pascal to say, "Ira Freeman has put a pharmacist's face into our political process." I can attest to the veracity of this statement because I, myself, have spent many years with Mr. Freeman here in Washington D.C. and in Los Angeles working on different legislation. He served as a member of CPhA–PAC, President of the Pharmacists' Professional Society of the San Fernando Valley, and is a founding member of the United Pharmacists Network. He is known as a political activist extraordinaire and is one of the most loved leaders in the community. It is with great pleasure that I call him my good friend.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I ask you to join me in recognizing Ira Freeman for his years of service and dedication to the community, to honor his many dedicated years at Valley Community Clinic, and to congratulate him on being named 2012 Pharmacist of the Year.

RECOGNIZING TOVE E. ESTABROOK
ON RECEIVING THE 2012 GUAM
BUSINESSWOMAN OF THE YEAR
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mrs. Tove E. Estabrook on being awarded the 2012 Guam Businesswoman of the Year Lifetime Achievement Award. Tove Estabrook is the proprietor of Tove's Flower Shop.

Ms. Estabrook was born in Haderslev, Denmark on August 28, 1935, and she moved to Guam in with her late husband, Fred Estabrook. For 44 years, Tove has dedicated her career to providing Guam residents with unique and creative floral designs, and for more than 30 years she has been a business owner as the chief executive officer and proprietor of Tove's Flower Shop. Her business has become a mainstay for floral arrangements and event consultation on Guam, and she continues to grow and expand the services and product offering she provides.

Tove also uses her talents to help various community organizations by making monetary and in-kind floral contributions to their causes. She also delivers weekly floral donations to the Carmelite Sisters' Chapel, San Vicente and San Roque Catholic Church, Our Lady of the Waters Church, the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral-Basilica, and the Bayview Baptist Church.

Tove Estabrook has dedicated her career to building a successful self-owned business, and she serves as a positive role model for

businesswomen on Guam. I join the people of Guam in thanking her for her many contributions to our community, and I wish her continued success in the years to come.

IN COMMEMORATION OF ISRAELI
INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the contribution of the State of Israel as it celebrates its 64th anniversary as a vibrant and open democratic society.

I had the great privilege to live and work in Israel in the mid-1960's and celebrated Israel's 22nd anniversary by taking part in a three-day walk from the shores of Tel Aviv to the hills of Jerusalem.

Now, I marvel with every visit at the extraordinary changes that have taken place.

In its 64 years, Israel has managed some incredible achievements.

Israel leads the world in the number of scientists and technicians in the workforce per capita. These Israeli scientists have made great contributions to human understanding and invented revolutionary products.

The cell phone was developed in Israel by Israelis.

Israeli doctors and researchers have produced countless medical advances helping those with diseases such as cancer and Parkinsons.

Israel is also a leader in conservation and renewable energy. In fact, Israel is the only country in the world that entered the 21st century with a net gain in its number of trees, made more remarkable because this was achieved in an area considered mainly desert.

These achievements are truly inspiring. But the daily news reports from the Middle East continue to remind us of the daunting challenges that Israel faces.

Foremost among those challenges is the existential threat posed by a nuclear Iran. There is no debate here—Iran's leadership many times has stated that, "Israel must be wiped off the map." Containment of a nuclear Iran is simply not an option for the United States or Israel.

In light of the ongoing threat from Iran and other neighboring countries, the United States must remain firm in its steadfast commitment to the security of Israel as an independent, democratic Jewish state. We must continue to provide Israel with the military capabilities and intelligence necessary to defend itself.

In addition, Israel still lacks a real partner for peace with the Palestinians. However, this does not mean efforts for peace should not continue.

As we know well, achieving peace will not be easy, but I remain hopeful that Israel, her neighbors and the U.S. can get the peace process back on track and that Israel will continue to thrive as a vibrant and open democratic society.

I join my colleagues in recognizing Israel's 64th Anniversary.

STUDENTS AT McCracken Middle School: Making a Difference Through A.C.T.

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary students at the McCracken Middle School in Skokie, Illinois, who are working to improve the lives and futures of children around the world.

Through the organization that they created—Aiding Children Together, or A.C.T.—these remarkable young leaders are making a real difference—not just studying the many problems that confront children but taking action to help solve them.

Two years ago, I received letters from McCracken middle-schoolers who were moved to get involved to help address the crisis of child labor. They wrote to voice their support for the UN Rights of a Child and to speak up for children who are forced to work in often dangerous conditions in order to support themselves and their families.

Since A.C.T. was founded, the students have continued to show their commitment to providing every child with the right to education and to a safe and healthy life. They know that many children are forced to live in poverty, to suffer and sometimes die from preventable diseases, and even to be forced to serve as child soldiers. The members of A.C.T. believe that unless we solve these problems, too many children will be denied the opportunity to become productive members of their communities.

The students participating in A.C.T. are learning and they are taking action to protect individual children and to create a better future. Through fundraising efforts from walkathons to selling t-shirts, they have raised funds for nonprofit organizations like Free the Children—groups that empower youth to promote children's rights.

Currently, McCracken students are focused on learning about and raising funds for an orphanage in Ghana, engaging with A Better Life for Kids in the effort to expand educational opportunities to some of the most vulnerable children in the world. The orphanage is a safe place and one where deaf children can now go to school, instead of being forced onto the streets.

I want to recognize this year's A.C.T. participants and congratulate them on their work. They are: Lily Shearer, Rebecca Janw, Gabrielle Younan, Mariel Younan, Alex Davood, Juliana Tichota, Nora Gaul, Tenzin Wangdak, Trisha Gandhi, Andrea Hoglund, Sean Loach, Violette Shearer, and Nathaniel Schetter.

These McCracken students are doing amazing things and they are setting an example for all those who see problems as too big or too difficult, those who throw up their hands instead of getting to work. I am so proud of them and I know that they will continue to be a powerful force for change on behalf of children.

I also want to thank Jennifer Ciok and Bethany Blades, the teacher sponsors of A.C.T., and Shelley Nizynski, who teaches at Middleton Elementary School in Skokie and is the founder of A Better Life for Kids. They demonstrate the critical role of teachers in inspiring