

honor Dr. Grinstead for his commitment to their church and its congregation.

RECOGNIZING LT. COL. ELIZABETH J. MAGNERS

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lt. Col. Elizabeth J. Magners for her 60 years of exemplary service with the Civil Air Patrol.

Elizabeth Magners, born in Altoona, Pennsylvania, graduated from the Civil Air Patrol National Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, in 1969. She furthered and completed her training at the Air University Extension Course Institute program for Civil Air Patrol officers at Gunter Air Force Base, Alabama. On June 20, 1944, Elizabeth Magners joined the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and thereby commencing what is now 60 years of service. She served in the volunteer civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force in various capacities, including commander of the General Carl A. Spaatz Squadron of Boyertown, Pennsylvania. She was a Public Affairs Officer of the Pennsylvania Wing and served on projects and assignments at Northeast Region and National Headquarters levels where she attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Elizabeth Magners has received numerous awards and honors during her six decades of service, including the CAP's Distinguished Service Award, the Exceptional Service Award, the Meritorious Service Award and numerous Commanders Commendation certificates. In addition to her service awards, she was also honored by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania for her 24-year radio show entitled "Wings Over Boyertown" and her unit publication, "The Question Mark."

Elizabeth is a past president of the Lehigh Valley Chapter 274 Air Force Association, a life member of the U.S. Naval Institute, member of the Reading Chapter of the U.S. Navy League and a member of the 148th Fighter Squadron of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard Auxiliary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Lt. Col. Elizabeth J. Magners for her 60 years of outstanding and dedicated service to her community, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the nation.

CONGRATULATING DICK AND JOANN LOSEE ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to congratulate two wonderful people and long-time family friends from the Honorable Chris Cannon's district in Utah, Dick and JoAnn Losee, as they celebrate their 50th anniversary on the Fourth of July.

Dick was born on Christmas Day in 1932 in Los Angeles, California. At the age of ten Dick

and his family returned to their original hometown of Salt Lake City, Utah. It was there where young Dick developed a passion for music that became a prominent part of his life, actively participating in school bands and parades, and, after graduating from Jordan High School, accepting a job at Daynes Music Company in Provo, Utah.

In Provo, Dick became involved with a band that performed in dance halls and private parties, leading him to the love of his life, JoAnn. Searching for the best dance band around for her junior prom at Provo High School, JoAnn was introduced to Dick. The momentous meeting marked the beginning of beautiful things to come.

Like many young men of his generation, Dick was drafted into the U.S. Army to fight in the Korean war. Before heading overseas, Dick obtained an overnight pass and married his sweetheart shortly after midnight on the Fourth of July, 1954, at Fort Ord, California.

Instead of being sent to Korea, Dick was stationed in Germany, where JoAnn joined him in March, 1955. In Germany, Dick was assigned to the 2nd Armored Tank division and assigned to be in charge of the Army Dance Band in Western Germany.

In February, 1956, the happy couple returned to Provo, where Dick studied music and business at Brigham Young University, while JoAnn joined her mother in opening Bullock's Jewel Box that same year. On July 17, 1956, they were blessed with their first born, Richard. Six years later, on September 20, 1962, their beloved daughter Vanessa was born. Their children and grandchildren are a source of great pride and love for the couple.

After a short time selling life insurance, Dick joined JoAnn and his mother-in-law in the jewelry business, starting Bullock and Losee Jewelers. After 30 successful years, the original business was sold in 1985. However, Alard and Losee jewelers was later established in Provo, Alard being Vanessa's married name.

Dick and JoAnn have incorporated service into every aspect of their lives. Their dedication to their community is truly outstanding, actively participating in the Provo/Orem Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the Freedom Festival, Scouting, the Miss Utah Pageant, Kiwanis Club, and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Additionally, the Losees are deeply committed to Utah Valley State College (UVSC), where JoAnn received the first UVSC President's Medallion, in honor of her highly commendable activity in community and civic affairs.

Mr. Speaker, Dick and JoAnn's dedication to each other, their family and community is admirable and inspiring. On the eve of their 50th Anniversary, I wish them nothing but the best in the years to come.

RENEWING THE DREAM TAX CREDIT ACT

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, as we mark June as National Homeownership Month, it is imperative that we look for ways to help more of our citizens to achieve the American Dream of homeownership.

Home ownership is the cornerstone of the American Dream. For millions of American families, this dream is still just out of reach. This is especially true for families living in economically distressed neighborhoods, where the costs of renovating existing buildings or that of new construction frequently exceed the market value of homes in the community, making it impossible to obtain mortgage financing. This leads to further deterioration in declining neighborhoods, and forces families to look elsewhere for the opportunity to own their own home.

My friend ROB PORTMAN and I introduced H.R. 839, the Renewing the Dream Tax Credit Act, which would provide a tax credit for single-family home ownership. Modeled after the successful low-income rental housing tax credit, this proposal would allow states to allocate federal tax credits to developers and investors who provide single-family homes for purchase by qualified buyers in qualified areas. The program will also help stabilize troubled urban neighborhoods, while spurring new construction and rehabilitation in rural areas targeted for economic development.

The bill would allow states to provide developers or investors tax credits up to 50% of the combined costs of acquiring, building, and renovating properties for sale to qualified buyers. The tax credits would be carefully targeted to areas in need of economic growth incentives, and to families who need help buying a home. States will have flexibility in allocating the tax credits. The available tax credits under the program are capped at \$1.75 per capita, with no state to receive less than \$2 million in credits.

This proposal has the support of a broad coalition of groups with substantial expertise in the housing industry, including the National Association of Home Builders, the National Conference of State Housing Agencies, the National Association of Realtors, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and a number of non-profit organizations, including the Enterprise Foundation, the Local Initiative Support Corporation and Habitat for Humanity International.

H.R. 839 could open the door to affordable homeownership for as many as 50,000 families annually. It would not only provide affordable housing, but is expected to create up to 120,000 jobs annually. H.R. 839 enjoys broad bipartisan support, with 288 co-sponsors in the U.S. House of Representatives. House passage of H.R. 839 would be a fitting tribute to National Homeownership Month, bringing the American Dream home to tens of thousands of working American families.

TRIBUTE TO CHRIS VICTOR SEMOS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I pay tribute to the life and the memory of Chris Victor Semos. He was a devoted husband, a loving father, a lawmaker, a humanitarian, and a leader in the community of God and the community of mankind. He was unflagging.

It was my privilege to serve with Chris Victor Semos in the Texas State capitol in Austin.