

IN RECOGNITION OF EMPIRE CITY
IRON WORKS ON THE OCCASION
OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of Empire City Iron Works, the oldest and largest steelmaker in New York City. For the past 100 years, Empire City Iron Works has played an integral role in developing New York's distinctive urban landscape. At a time when many of its competitors are struggling, Empire City's specialized service and ability to adapt to changing market conditions make it a model for new businesses in the region.

Empire City Iron Works was established in 1904 by Leopold Heffner, an ironworker who immigrated to the United States from Austria. Early in its history, Empire City produced cast iron frames and covers for coal-delivery holes installed in New York City sidewalks, some of which remain to this day. During World War II, Empire City's employees worked diligently to provide supplies to the U.S. Navy, constructing ammunition boxes and gun racks, as well as watertight doors for ships produced in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. In later years, Empire City made enormous contributions to New York City's power grid, one of the most reliable networks in the country. In cooperation with Consolidated Edison, the company built almost every power plant in the New York metropolitan area.

Today, Empire City Iron Works furnishes and installs a wide range of metal products including steel pan and ornamental stairs, structural steel, railings and walkways. On occasion, it works directly with artists, cutting and fitting pieces to create sculptures according to the artist's specifications. The company has also undertaken a number of high-profile projects in recent years, such as the extensive renovation of the Museum of Modern Art and the construction of the first new building at the World Trade Center site. With projects ranging from the Time Warner Center in Manhattan to the Atlantic Center Mall in Brooklyn, Empire Iron Works continues to thrive; at present, it has more than 75 employees at its factory in Long Island City, Queens.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request that my distinguished colleagues join me in paying tribute to this fine company and its exceptional work in New York City. I wish the management and employees of Empire City Iron Works another 100 years of success.

REMEMBERING WILLARD T.
"BILL" HODGE

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on September 21, 2004, Willard T. "Bill" Hodge got on his tractor to clear some brush and weeds from his farm. It would be the last time this prolific farmer would tend to his historic and treasured land, but his contributions to agriculture in Illinois will be remembered for many harvests to come.

Bill Hodge started farming in Champaign County in 1956 on his farm in Seymour, Illinois, which to this day remains one of the oldest farms in the county. In the 1970's, Bill served on the Champaign County Zoning Board where he had the opportunity to venture from township to township listening to the concerns of area farmers. Mr. Hodge used this experience to come to Washington, DC to tell agriculture's story to members of Congress. He also served on former Representative Ed Madigan's Farm Advisory Committee.

In 1981, The News Gazette named Bill Hodge Farm Leader of the Year. He served on the Champaign County Forest Preserve District from 1987 to 1993 during which he was credited for leading the district stably and successfully.

Bill Hodge cared deeply about what was good for his fellow farmer. This intertwined with his interest in local politics as he made successful efforts to get his colleagues involved in the process.

While many in Champaign County feel the loss of Bill Hodge, comfort can be taken in the fact that he passed away on a gorgeous Tuesday in September doing what he loved the most. Whether it was tending to his own farm or helping the agriculture community in Champaign County, Bill Hodge always left the land in better shape than he found it.

He will truly be missed.

IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL
BIBLE WEEK NOVEMBER 21–28, 2004

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of National Bible Week. I am honored and pleased to serve as Congressional Co-chair for National Bible Week, November 21–28, 2004. It is my hope and expectation that people of faith throughout the United States will join together to celebrate the Bible's core messages of fellowship, justice, peace, righteousness and love. I am proud to be a part of this annual event.

I congratulate the National Bible Association for its dedication to encouraging people to read and take interest in the Holy Bible. Indeed, it is a special privilege to have the opportunity to be guided and inspired daily by words, phrases and stories some of which are 3,000 years old. These ancient writings have been an extraordinary source of strength, guidance and wisdom to persons across this nation and around the world.

The Holy Bible is an extraordinary living document—like our Constitution—which continues to inform our thinking as well as our national conversation on both moral and ethical issues. I'm delighted to join in this celebration of National Bible Week.

HONORING BILL AND SHEILA LAMBERT AND RABBI PETER J. RUBINSTEIN

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Sheila and Bill Lambert, as well as Rabbi Peter J. Rubinstein, for receiving the International Humanitarian Award, which is the highest honor that the World Union for Progressive Judaism can bestow. These three distinguished individuals have worked diligently and selflessly to advance the cause of human rights and social equality, and I am proud to recognize their many achievements on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

I was honored to be invited to attend the International Humanitarian Awards Dinner hosted by the World Union for Progressive Judaism, which represents over 2,000,000 progressive Jewish congregations in over 41 countries. This respected organization seeks to strengthen modern Jewish life through supporting congregations; integrating Jewish religious traditions with inclusiveness and gender equality; and advancing social justice in the spirit of tikkun olam, which means repairing the world.

Sheila Lambert's professional experience includes twenty years at The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation. Her extensive volunteer experience focuses on Jewish continuity and helping underserved and disadvantaged populations, particularly women and children.

A member of the board of Project Keshet, Sheila is the Founder and Board President of Bottomless Closet, and is a member of the Board of Governors and Overseers of Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion. In addition, Sheila is a Founder and Board Chair of Summerbridge, is on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Children's Learning Lab, which is a children's museum, and is the former Vice President of the Board at Congregation Rodeph Shalom, a major Reform congregation in Manhattan. She is also a member of the Advocacy Council for the Citizen's Committee for Children.

Sheila's husband, Bill, has always shared her devotion to the mission of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. He is currently the Vice Chairman for Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein and is one of the four founding partners of Wasserstein Parella Group, Inc. I have tremendous respect for their selfless dedication to peace and their impressive record of accomplishments in advancing humanitarian goals. They are shining examples of leadership and commitment to a more humane society, and I am proud to call them good friends.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Sheila and Bill Lambert, and Rabbi Rubinstein for receiving the International Humanitarian Award. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I thank them for their contributions to community service and wish them continued success well into the future.

TRIBUTE TO REDSTONE-HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE U.S. ARMY

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the members of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army for being named the "Best Overall" AUSA Chapter in the country. Chapter President Joe Fitzgerald accepted the award on behalf of chapter members during the AUSA National Convention in Washington.

AUSA is dedicated to supporting the U.S. Army and maintaining a strong national defense. AUSA achieves its goals by supporting the needs and interests of soldiers, retirees, and family members.

As the home of Redstone Arsenal, the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, and numerous defense partners, North Alabama has earned an excellent reputation for its role protecting the warfighter and defending our national security.

The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of AUSA, which was founded in 1959, has been a strong advocate and voice for North Alabama's warfighters. All of us in North Alabama are very proud of the hard work and commitment AUSA has always exhibited.

Mr. Speaker, this award is wonderful news for our community and I rise on behalf of everyone in North Alabama to express our sincere congratulations to the members of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of AUSA.

IN RECOGNITION OF ABRAHAM LAZAR ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of Abraham Lazar, a great American and longtime resident of New York. On Sunday, November 7, 2004, Abraham's many friends, family and colleagues gathered in his current hometown of Lake Worth, Florida to celebrate his 80th birthday. Birthdays are a time for reflection, and I feel that it is fitting to pay tribute to this truly remarkable man. Abraham Lazar served his country with distinction, both in the U.S. naval service and in civilian life. I am privileged to be able to share some of his more memorable exploits with you.

Mr. Lazar and his ten brothers and sisters were born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. He attended Brooklyn Technical High School and graduated shortly after the United States entered World War II. At the age of seventeen, Abe enlisted in the Navy and quickly established a distinguished service record.

Abe served in both the Pacific and Atlantic theaters of battle. Mr. Lazar participated in the Battle of Peleliu, a struggle for a tiny airstrip amid the Palau Islands of the Western Pacific. Despite the island's small size, the battle for Peleliu lasted nearly two months and claimed more than 12,000 lives. Allied forces ultimately

prevailed and captured the island, but Mr. Lazar was severely wounded in the battle. He was awarded the Purple Heart for his sacrifice.

Abe received another Purple Heart during the war, this time for his service in the Atlantic. I understand that Mr. Lazar's landing craft was sunk in the North Atlantic by a German U-Boat. Abe was forced overboard, and the fleeing submarine strafed his life raft with gunfire; despite these incredible dangers, Abe managed to survive, spending nearly twelve hours in open water before he was rescued. For his heroic service, Abe was promoted to Chief Motor Machinist's Mate, one of the highest ranks to which an enlisted sailor can be named.

After the war, Abe attended New York University and received a bachelor's degree, with honors, in engineering. In civilian life, Mr. Lazar worked with noted scientist Wernher von Braun to develop the Pershing missile system and was also employed by the Bulova Corporation to design and manufacture timing devices. Mr. Lazar is currently enjoying a well-deserved retirement in Florida, where he lives with his wife of 56 years, Anita.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in honoring Abraham Lazar's lifetime of service to our nation. I'm sure that Abe's family, longtime friends and colleagues will join me in wishing him many more years of happiness. Happy birthday, Mr. Lazar.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
ANDRE MARIE CROOKE DYAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sad but rejoicing heart that I speak today about an extraordinary woman, Andre Marie Crooke Dyar, who was taken to her eternal home in Heaven on October 8, 2004.

I became friends with Andre when I first ran for State Representative in 1998. She was one of the most loyal people I knew. I am a better person for knowing Andre and the world is a better place because of her life.

Andre had a special love for children both born and in the womb. For a number of years she worked in the neonatal intensive care nursery at Sacred Heart Hospital, helping premature newborn babies get a non-compromised start in life. Continuing to have a positive influence on children's lives, Andre could always be found volunteering at Sunday school on Wednesday nights and at Vacation Bible School during the summer.

From the moment the law allowed the taking of innocent life, Andre's faith in God incited her passion for politics. Her first political campaign was in 1976, helping Ronald Reagan move from the California Governor's Mansion to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. Unfortunately, her disabling disease made the 2002 elections her last.

In our local community of Northwest Florida, Andre was active in numerous civic organizations, from participating as an active member to Chairman of the Board. She spent many hours serving on the Board of the Northwest Florida Water Management District, the Escambia County Republican Executive Com-

mittee, the Center for Independent Living, and Escambia Federated Republican Women's Club. Last year, the Federated Women's Club presented Andre with an Honorary Lifetime Membership award, the first of its kind ever presented.

Andre was overflowing with life and had the drive and dedication to move a mountain despite her physical challenges. The vast majority of people would have given up and turned resentful, but she kept going and always wanted to do something more, to help somebody else.

May God rest her soul and continue to bless her family.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF MICHAEL
P. DEVINE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the recent retirement of an accomplished administrator, skilled scientist, and true patriot. Michael P. Devine of Sparta, New Jersey ended 36 years of dedicated service to our Nation on November 4 as he retired as Director of the United States Army Research, Development and Engineering Command ARDEC, headquartered at Picatinny Arsenal.

Situated on a 6,500-acre military installation, located in Rockaway Township, New Jersey, Picatinny Arsenal plays a unique role in the United States' ability to wage war. There is no other comprehensive armaments facility like it in the country. The base is a one-of-a-kind facility that provides virtually all of the lethal mechanisms used in Army weapon systems and those of the other military services. This unique facility requires special leadership.

Mike Devine became ARDEC Director in June 2004. As director, he exercised complete responsibility for all the activities at ARDEC. From September 2000 to June 2004, he was Technical Director of ARDEC, responsible for all technical matters. He managed an annual budget in excess of \$600 million dollars and supervised a technical staff of approximately 1,700 scientists and engineers and 900 support personnel.

As ARDEC Technical Director, and later as Director of ARDEC, Mike Devine provided critically important leadership—leadership that provided our joint warfighters with the tools they need to prosecute the international war on terrorism, to fight and win the war in Iraq and Afghanistan and protect and secure our homeland. During his tenure alone, 103 separate new armament products were released to soldiers and other services members. So far in 2004, 17 urgent fieldings of military equipment for use by forces in Iraq and Afghanistan were approved by Devine.

These fieldings have broad scope and include weapon systems, fire control and munitions for artillery, mortars, tanks and infantry, as well as alternatives to anti-personnel land mines, non lethal munitions and environmental research and development.

Mr. Devine worked as a research physicist prior to assuming significant management responsibility. Over the course of his career, his experience in the Army and Office of the Secretary of Defense spanned virtually all Army