

Law forum magazine and the editor of the University of Buffalo Law Links, the Law School's quarterly email newsletter. Prior to her work at the law school, she was a staff reporter and features columnist for the Buffalo Courier Express as well as a freelance writer.

Retired Supreme Court Judge Rose Lamendola is another extremely distinguished award recipient. Judge Lamendola served in the state attorney general's office to go on to be the first woman Erie county court judge. On June 13th, in 1995 she was appointed by governor Pataki a State Supreme Court justice and served until her retirement in 1999.

Janic Rosa was honored for her outstanding career in family law. Prior to her election to the Supreme Court in 2002, Rosa served as an Erie county family court judge. Under her direction, the court has appointed social workers to assess the needs of families and children. She even allows parents to put parenting plans together instead of litigation. Judge Rosa's creativity and compassion are both greatly admired.

Anna Scott is a Buffalo Attorney who was an educator for over 20 years before becoming an attorney. She taught in the Buffalo city school and attended University at Buffalo Law school. She was honored for her pro bono work for members in the community who can not afford attorneys.

Carolyn Van Schaik, Esq., passed away two years ago, but her memory will be immortalized at a residence for homeless women. Ms. Van Schaik graduated from the University of Dayton School of Law in 1990 before moving to Western New York to practice law. She was a former executive director of the not-for-profit organization, center city neighborhood development corp. She teamed up with the YWCA of Niagara in Lockport on a project to renovate an abandoned historic building in Niagara falls and turned it into transitional housing for homeless women and their families. Her husband, Niagara county assistant district attorney Robert Zucco, accepted the award on her behalf.

Also awarded were State Civil Service Commissioner Margaret Dadd and Chief Clerk Joann Wahl of the Fourth department appellate court in Rochester.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I want to reiterate my appreciation for these women and the exemplary standards that they have set for members of their profession, male or female. As a strong supporter of gender equality, I hope that this celebration encourages other women to be involved in the legal system and to seek positions of leadership in all fields, regardless of profession. I congratulate all of the honorees.

A TRIBUTE TO MEL YOST

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mel Yost, one of our community's most compassionate advocates, who passed away on June 1, 2005. I had the privilege of knowing this remarkable man personally and working with him the past 8 years on numerous issues to help improve the lives of those oppressed by poverty, disease, and hopelessness throughout the world.

Mel Yost was one of three key founders of the first Colorado RESULTS chapter in 1983. He believed implicitly in the purpose of RESULTS "to create the political will to end hunger and the worst aspects of poverty and to empower individuals to have breakthroughs in exercising their personal and political power." Mel was active with RESULTS for 22 years and attended the first RESULTS Regional Conference in San Diego in 1986. In September 1990 in Denver's City Park at the World Summit of Children's Candlelight Vigil, Mel read Ina J. Hughes' "Prayer for Children" before 3,000 people, including the Governor and most of Colorado's national and local politicians. Often accompanied by his wife, Jan, Mel attended every RESULTS International Conference from 1985 through 2004.

He worked as a truck driver for Safeway for 30 years and frequently regaled his friends with stories of driving trucks in the mountains of New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah. He happily used expressions like "hammer on down, blue whiskey," his radio handle, and "put the pedal to the medal, baby."

In recent years, Mel hosted many meetings of the Denver and Boulder RESULTS groups because his retirement community was located halfway between the cities. He was a founding member in 1997 of the "Experiment in Democracy and Citizenship" group begun by my predecessor Representative David Skaggs. He continued to serve on this task force for me, sharing consensus decisions and creative solutions about federal legislation.

Mel always urged people to have fun. If a project wasn't fun, he didn't want to do it. He frequently read poetry, sometimes his own, at RESULTS meetings. Friends always looked forward to receiving his letters because they were poetic, compassionate, and showed clearly his positive approach to life, along with his kindness, his love of family, his love for all children, and his caring for the poor and oppressed of the world.

In what was to be his final presentation to the Colorado RESULTS group, Mel recalled founding the organization in 1983 to work on ending hunger and poverty in the world and to provide hope to the hopeless. His final words of advice were to "hook your mind up to your heart and let 'er rip, because that's the only way to get anything done."

I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the life of Mel Yost. Our world is better because of him.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS STEVEN C. TUCKER

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of United States Army Private First Class Steven C. Tucker of Grapevine, Texas.

Private First Class Tucker was killed in action on Saturday, May 21, 2005, at the age of 19, in Kandahar, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He graduated from Colleyville Heritage High School in May of 2004, and completed boot camp in December of the same year. Private First Class

Tucker was assigned to A Company, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade, in Vincenza, Italy.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Private First Class Tucker. This brave young man made the ultimate sacrifice for the security of his country and for the defense of democracy worldwide. He was an outstanding young man; and we should all be grateful for his noble contributions to this nation and the advancement of freedom.

I am proud to call Private First Class Tucker one of our own, and again deeply sorry for his family and friends who have suffered this loss. His legacy will remain, as the men and women of our armed services continue to fight for liberty—both abroad and on our home soil.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 234.

IN HONOR OF COLORADO TRAIL FOR MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize seven men, George Bishop, Matt Celesta, Joe McConaty, Matthew McConaty, John-Paul Maxfield, Dan Murray, and Chad Spurway, all Colorado natives, who have embarked on an incredible journey for Multiple Sclerosis.

Multiple Sclerosis is the number one disabling neurological disease among young adults, and the most commonly diagnosed neurological disease among those aged 20 to 50. Some 400,000 Americans, including 7,000 Coloradans, have MS. The incident rate in Colorado is much higher, 1 in 625, than the rate of southern states such as Texas, which has a rate of 1 in 10,000. These men recognize the severity of the disease and are giving themselves in an exemplary way to combat the disease.

On July 2, 2005, seven life-long friends will begin a five-week hike along the famous Colorado Trail. The trail covers eight mountain ranges, seven national forests, six wilderness areas, and five major river systems in the 471 mile path from Durango to Denver. The purpose of this special journey is to raise awareness of Multiple Sclerosis and raise money to help find the cure to a disease that has the potential to become the polio of this generation.

These seven men are the definition of community service, giving their time and energy towards such an extraordinary cause. They have started an organization, Colorado Trail For Multiple Sclerosis, "CT4MS," and are raising money to donate to The Rocky Mountain Multiple Sclerosis Center. To date, CT4MS has raised \$132,192 of \$250,000 they hope to

raise by the time they finish in August. They are well on their way to raising an enormous amount of money towards a cause that needs immediate attention.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending George Bishop, Matt Celesta, Joe McConaty, Matthew McConaty, John-Paul Maxfield, Dan Murray, and Chad Spurway for their efforts and pledging support for Colorado Trail For Multiple Sclerosis.

RECOGNITION OF ARMY
SPECIALIST BRIAN M. ROMINES

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Army Specialist Brian Romines who was recently killed in action fighting for freedom outside Baghdad, Iraq.

Romines was a 20-year-old native of Simpson, Illinois who served as an Army Specialist assigned to the A Battery, 2nd Battalion, 123rd Field Artillery Regiment, Army National Guard in Milan, Illinois. He was a 2003 graduate from Vienna High School, Vienna, Illinois. After his 18th birthday and his high school graduation, Romines felt the call to duty and signed up for the National Guard. According to reports, he was killed outside of Baghdad by a roadside bomb.

Romines is survived by his mother, Melinda Austin of Dongola, Illinois, his father, Randy Romines of Simpson, Illinois, and his brother Randall Romines, also a member of the National Guard. I am proud of the service this young man gave to our country and the service his fellow troops perform everyday. Not enough can be said about Army Spc Romines. It is troops like him that are risking their lives day in and day out to ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy. May God bless them and may God continue to bless America.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE TENTH
ANNIVERSARY OF SPOTTED
EAGLE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of an outstanding high school in my district. On June 10, 2005, Spotted Eagle High School celebrates its Tenth Anniversary. For the past decade, Spotted Eagle High School has offered a supportive learning environment not only for the Native American students for whom it was designed, but for a multiracial body of at-risk youth whose needs require the intensive and individualized attention the school provides.

Spotted Eagle was established in 1994 by the Milwaukee Area American Indian Manpower Council in partnership with the Milwaukee Public Schools, the Milwaukee Area

Technical College and the Indian Community School of Milwaukee.

Spotted Eagle High School's mission is to promote an appreciation for all cultures, emphasizing their relevance in today's society. The school endeavors to create a sense of community while emphasizing building skills that can contribute to students' self-reliance. The curriculum includes strong School-To-Work components; a culturally-integrated, competency-based, student-centered curriculum; and social services designed to meet the educational needs of their students and their families.

Mr. Speaker, it is a fact that many young people in Milwaukee face daunting challenges in completing their education because they live in poverty. Spotted Eagle High School recognizes those challenges, and provides specialized support services to assist students in coping with them as they strive to complete their educational goals. Case managers work directly with students to ensure that family needs are being addressed. Students at the school benefit from the emphasis on parental involvement, and access to health-related services and alcohol and drug awareness programs. Members of the school staff are rooted in the same cultural communities as the students they teach. Education and support program are designed to be relevant to students' cultural backgrounds, increasing the likelihood that students will stay in school and complete their education.

I know firsthand that caring and committed educators have the ability to empower students. I salute the staff, board members, present and former students and parents of Spotted Eagle High School for their efforts to transform the lives of Milwaukee's youth. I wish them the best as they celebrate their Tenth Anniversary, and look forward to celebrating many more milestones and achievements with them.

A TRIBUTE TO REV. ROBERT
CHARLES JEFFERSON, FOUNDER
AND SENIOR PASTOR OF CULLEN
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Today I pay tribute to a noble spiritual leader, a friend and my pastor, Rev. Robert Charles Jefferson. As the founder and senior pastor of the Cullen Missionary Baptist Church, he will, on Sunday, June 12, 2005, celebrate more than 28 years of loyal and dedicated service to not only the ministry but to the people of the great city of Houston, TX, as well.

Mr. Speaker, Rev. Jefferson was born on January 12, 1942 in Baton Rouge, LA. After completing his undergraduate education, he moved to Houston, TX, where he completed graduate study at Texas Southern University and InterBaptist Theological Center. For more than 17 years, before accepting his call to the ministry, Rev. Jefferson ran a very successful air-conditioning business. Because he is a great spirit-filled religious leader, in 1977, he was led to organize Cullen Missionary Baptist Church where, since its founding, he has served as senior pastor.

Rev. Jefferson is known throughout the community as a "bridge builder." Over the years, he has successfully been able to distinguish Cullen Missionary Baptist Church as a center for community activism as well as a haven for those in need of care. In 1991, he established the Cullen Christian Child Development Center, a daycare center for Christian youth. A few years later, in 1998, his leadership led to the creation of the Cullen Senior Citizens Ministry, Inc., which has provided more than 54 affordable housing units for seniors 55 and older. His housing ministry also recently created: "Brand New City, Inc.," which has built, since its inception, more than 500 houses for low income families and is well on its way to surpassing that number this year.

Mr. Speaker, Rev. Jefferson is not one who takes his role in the business of saving lives and souls lightly, and his membership in the Houston Branch of the NAACP, where he has served since 1987 as the Director of Religious Affairs, is indicative of that commitment. Even as he works tirelessly as a full-time pastor, he has managed to fulfill the roles of moderator of the Houston Gulf Coast Baptist Association; president of the Ministry Advisory Council of Houston and chairman of the board of Love Our Kids, Inc. He is the founder president of city-wide summer recreational programs and since 1979, coordinated programs for Houston's Ministers Against Crime, Inc.

Rev. Jefferson is the recipient of a number of honors and awards that include, but are not limited to certificates of appreciation from then-Governor of Texas, Ann Richards, and Houston Mayor Bob Lanier in 1992. That same year, he also received the Barbara Jordan Leadership Award in recognition of his uncompromising commitment to diversity and human rights. Over the years, tributes from Texas Southern University, the Houston Defender, Anheuser-Busch Companies and others have all highlighted the accomplishments of one of Houston's greatest spiritual leaders.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, when history records the legacy of Rev. Robert Charles Jefferson, I believe he will be touted as a visionary who has dedicated his life to ensuring that no one is left behind.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVER-
SITY OF MICHIGAN WOMEN'S
SOFTBALL TEAM ON WINNING
THE WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD
SERIES.

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 9, 2005

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the University of Michigan women's softball team on Winning the Women's College World Series (WCWS), bringing home the first national championship in the softball program's history. Displaying the hard work and tenacity they acquired through a grueling 72 game season, this team dug deep and rose to victory, defeating the two-time defending champion UCLA Bruins 4-1 in extra innings.

This season Michigan advanced to its eighth WCWS, earned its first No.1 national ranking and won its 10th Big Ten Conference championship and seventh Big Ten Tournament