

gallery. He helped lead Native American artwork into the mainstream conversations and consciousness of all Americans. And he explored the world around him, from artwork to cooking, from history to politics, all the while staying true to his roots.

R.C. was very close to my family. I knew him since I was a young boy, and he was a dear friend to both my mother and father. During a drawn out legal battle over health concerns being suffered by Navajo uranium miners, the legal team was being burdened by mounting costs. R.C., in his typical selfless style, donated two pieces of artwork to assist the cause. Both pieces were auctioned off and the proceeds were used to help pay down the legal fees. It was characteristic of him to provide anything and everything to help others and to do so without fanfare and without self-congratulations, but rather with humility and respect. And it is that personal side of R.C. that will be forever ingrained in our memories.

We will always be grateful for the way in which he used the canvas with grace and the way in which he helped us see so much beauty in places we once overlooked. R.C. will be greatly missed, but his spirit will live on.

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IN HONOR OF SISTER JULIE HYER

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 10, 2005*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Julie Hyer, as she has recently celebrated 20 years as President of Dominican Hospital in Santa Cruz, California. Since 1985, Sister Julie has enlivened and inspired those affiliated with Dominican Hospital and the community at large with her leadership in ways that are practical and profound.

Before coming to Santa Cruz, Sister Julie served at the Mercy Healthcare Corporation in Farmington, Michigan. There, she served for 11 years beginning as a hospital coding clerk in 1974 and ascending to Associate Director of Medical Affairs at the corporate level. Sister Julie has an MBA in Finance from the University of Detroit, BS in Medical Record Administration from Mercy College in Detroit, and a BA in Mathematics from Siena Heights University in Adrian, Michigan.

Dominican Hospital is a non-profit community hospital located in Santa Cruz, sponsored by the Adrian Dominican Sisters. As President of Dominican Hospital, Sister Julie oversees acute care, inpatient and outpatient services, four subsidiary corporations, two congregate living facilities totaling 356 apartments, and other multiple joint ventures. She also serves as a member of many corporate-wide initiatives and committees.

Mr. Speaker, the service of local community leaders is an asset to this Nation, and I applaud Sister Julie for her significant contribution. The 20 year anniversary of Sister Julie's presidency signifies a fruitful career of improving the health of the community through her core values of dignity, excellence, collaboration, justice, and stewardship. It is clear that Sister Julie has made a lasting impact on our community and I join Dominican Hospital in honoring her tenure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 10, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I missed a roll-call vote on the night of Wednesday November 9, 2005. I would like to enter into the RECORD how I intended to vote on the missed rollcall:

On rollcall No. 582 regarding S. 1894, the Fair Access Foster Care Act of 2005, I would have voted "yea."

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CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2862,  
SCIENCE, STATE, JUSTICE, COM-  
MERCE, AND RELATED AGEN-  
CIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 9, 2005*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, from the dawn of civilization, man has peered out into the heavens and dreamt of exploring the vast expanses of our universe. During the past half century, from America's first satellite, the grapefruit-sized Explorer I, to the International Space Station now being built 200 miles above us, human beings have begun to learn how to operate in the harsh environs of space.

Our unmanned space probes—from the Ranger and Surveyor craft that paved the way for Apollo to the Voyager spacecraft that explored the outer planets—continue to increase our understanding of the universe. Everyone of the ambitious American space probes that has visited another planet has been managed by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California.

It is for this reason, I am proud that the conference report covering NASA operations includes full support of the work of JPL on the Mars exploration program and the Space Interferometry Mission.

NASA's Mars exploration program embodies the President's vision for space exploration. It will expand our knowledge of one of our neighbors in the solar system and pave the way for a manned mission to Mars. NASA's search for planets and life beyond our solar system is also having increasing and dramatic success with more than 150 planets now discovered. With full funding, the Space Interferometry Mission will examine over two thousand stars for planetary systems, fulfilling a critical step in the search for Earth-like planets.

For their strong support of this vision, I would like to thank Chairman LEWIS and Ranking Member OBEY. I would also like to thank Chairman WOLF and Ranking Member MOLLOHAN for meeting on several occasions to discuss the important work of JPL.

In addition to expanding our reach into the depths of the universe, the space research program at JPL will have additional benefits here on Earth. According to economists, investment in research and development has one of the highest rates of return in the long-run. While public investment in research and development in other nations has increased in

recent years, it has stagnated in the United States. Full funding for the work at JPL demonstrates our continuing commitment to research in the sciences.

The space exploration program also has an impact on young people. Generations of students have been inspired to enter scientific fields by stunning images from the heavens. The funding for cooperative education programs between NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Griffith Observatory recognizes the importance of encouraging more students to enter scientific fields.

With our commitment to the programs at NASA's Jet Propulsion laboratory, we are pursuing both the human quest to understand our universe and the American quest for continuing leadership in space exploration.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
MCCANDLESS TOWNSHIP SANI-  
TARY AUTHORITY

**HON. MELISSA A. HART**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 10, 2005*

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the McCandless Township Sanitary Authority on the 50th anniversary of its founding.

Over the past fifty years the McCandless Township Sanitary Authority has provided service to 52,000 customers in Bradford Woods Borough, the Borough of Franklin Park, Marshall Township, Pine Township, the Town of McCandless and boundaries of Hampton and Ross Townships. Their customers vary from residential and commercial facilities to schools, colleges, and hospitals. The authority owns and operates a comprehensive sanitary sewer system that includes four treatment plants, and sixteen pumping stations.

To celebrate their 50 years of great service, the authority will commemorate the anniversary on December 17, 2005 as part of the annual Christmas Dinner at Highland Country Club.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the 50th anniversary of the McCandless Township Sanitary Authority. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such a dedicated institution as the McCandless Township Sanitary Authority.

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RECOGNIZING FLOWER MOUND  
HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH AND DE-  
BATE TEAM

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 10, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Flower Mound High School speech and debate team for being recognized as 13th out of the top 50 speech and debate teams in the country.

The ranking was announced by the National Forensic League on Oct. 22, 2005. The National Forensic League is comprised of 103