

ultimately help reduce regulatory burdens on all stakeholders in the watershed. Stimson Lumber Company, who logged the area since the mid-1800s and had gradually phased out its timber operations on this property, initiated the sale of the land.

The property was purchased by Save-the-Redwoods-League and the State of California for \$60 million. The purchase price was funded by a variety of state sources, including \$42.5 million from Proposition 12, Proposition 13, Salmon Habitat Funding (SB271) and the Governor's Land Conservation Matching Grants. Save-the-Redwoods League provided \$15 million and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provided an additional \$2.5 million.

As a result of negotiations between the State, Save-the-Redwoods-League, Stimson Lumber and Del Norte County, a mitigation payment was established to off-set the loss of local property tax revenue. Del Norte County received a one-time \$5 million payment. The county has preserved the principal and hope one day to be able to invest the interest to grow the fund.

This legislation is supported by the State of California, the National Park Service, the County of Del Norte, Save-the-Redwoods-League and many of my constituents. Passing it today will strengthen the management of these lands and benefit visitors who come from across the country and around the world to see the redwoods and it will help protect important coho habitat.

Again, thank you for your support of this bill which will help both the National Park Service and the California Department of Parks and Recreation work more efficiently and cost effectively. I urge your "aye" vote.

TSUNAMI READINESS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today I shared the letter below from Admiral Lautenbacher, administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), to all U.S. coastal governors as well as the governors of U.S. territories.

During a recent radio broadcast, I heard a NOAA official state that it was not a question of if a tsunami would hit the United States, but when. The letter below from Admiral Lautenbacher confirms this statement.

It is my hope that our coastal states will contact the NOAA National Weather Service state liaison to receive more information about NOAA's TsunamiReady program.

It was only one year ago that the deadly tsunami struck Indonesia. We must not forget this tragedy and should remember how important it is to be prepared in the event of a natural disaster.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE, THE UNDER SEC-
RETARY OF COMMERCE FOR OCEANS
AND ATMOSPHERE,

Washington, DC, November 22, 2005.

Hon. FRANK WOLF,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE WOLF: Thank you for your recent inquiry regarding the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-

tion's (NOAA) tsunami education and community preparedness programs.

All coastal communities in the United States are at some risk. It is a matter of when, not if, a tsunami will strike. The anniversary of the devastating Indonesian tsunami of December 26, 2004, can serve as an opportunity to educate residents of the United States about our vulnerability to tsunamis, and help them minimize personal risk.

Many lives can be saved during a tsunami if the community and local emergency managers are educated and prepared. NOAA has a ready-to-implement program available to coastal communities called TsunamiReady. The TsunamiReady program helps ensure a community is prepared—from understanding what is a tsunami, to ensuring a warning notification system is in place, and establishing evacuation routes and response actions in case of a tsunami warning.

One key to a successful warning program is public notification. TsunamiReady uses NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) as one method to alert individuals when a warning is issued. NOAA Weather Radio continuously broadcasts National Weather Service forecasts, warnings, and other crucial weather information. NOAA Weather Radios can be programmed to receive information specific to a certain area, and sounds an alarm to alert users to dangerous situations, including tsunamis.

For further information, please contact Kim Campbell (Kimberly.Campbell@noaa.gov), NOAA's National Weather Service Performance and Awareness Branch Chief, at (301) 713-0462 extension 118, or the appropriate State Liaison office from the enclosed list.

We appreciate your ongoing interest in NOAA.

Sincerely,

CONRAD C. LAUTENBACHER, JR.,
*Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.), Under Sec-
retary of Commerce for Oceans and At-
mosphere.*

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINIS-
TRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE STATE
LIAISON OFFICES

Alaska: Anchorage, Robert Hopkins, Tel. 907-266-5117; Juneau, Tom Ainsworth, Tel. 907-790-6804.

Alabama: Birmingham, Jim Stefkovich, Tel. 205-664-7829.

California: Sacramento, Elizabeth A. Morse, Tel. 916-979-3041.

Connecticut: Boston, MA, Robert M. Thompson, Tel. 508-823-1900.

Delaware: Philadelphia, PA, Gary Szatkowski, Tel. 609-261-6600.

Florida: Tallahassee, Paul Duval, Tel. 850-942-8833.

Georgia: Atlanta, Lans Rothfusz, Tel. 770-486-1133.

Hawaii: Honolulu, James Weyman, Tel. 808-973-5270.

Louisiana: New Orleans/Baton Rouge, Paul S. Trotter, Tel. 985-649-0357.

Maine: Portland, Albert W. Wheeler, Tel. 207-688-3216.

Maryland: Baltimore/Washington, James Lee, Tel. 703-260-0107.

Massachusetts: Boston, Robert M. Thompson, Tel. 508-823-1900.

Mississippi: Jackson, Alan Gerard, Tel. 601-936-2189.

New Hampshire: Portland, ME, Albert W. Wheeler, Tel. 207-688-3216.

New Jersey: Philadelphia, PA, Gary Szatkowski, Tel. 609-261-6600.

New York: Albany, Eugene Auciello, Tel. 518-435-9580.

North Carolina: Raleigh/Durham, Darin Figurskey, Tel. 919-515-8209.

Oregon: Portland, Steve Todd, Tel. 503-261-9247.

Rhode Island: Boston, MA, Robert M. Thompson, Tel. 508-823-1900.

South Carolina: Charleston, Mike Emlaw, Tel. 843-744-3207.

Texas: Austin/San Antonio, Joe Arellano, Tel. 830-629-0130.

Virginia: Wakefield, Anthony Siebers, Tel. 757-899-4200.

Washington: Seattle/Tacoma, Christopher D. Hill, Tel. 206-526-6095.

Puerto Rico: San Juan, Israel Matos, Tel. 787-253-4586.

Guam: Guam, Genevieve Miller, Tel. 671-472-0944.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. HAROLD "SANDY" SANDELMAN

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Harold "Sandy" Sandelman, a resident of Laguna Woods, California, for turning 100 years old on November 26, 2005.

Mr. Sandelman, a son of a Russian immigrant, was born in Sault Saint Marie, Michigan, on November 26, 1905. In 1912, his family moved to Detroit, Michigan where Mr. Sandelman attended high school and became known for his ability to sing, dance, and play the banjo. In fact, the students named Mr. Sandelman "Banjo Buddy" because of his passion for playing the instrument.

Following high school, Mr. Sandelman attended Wayne State University for one year. After a year of college, Mr. Sandelman returned to Detroit and worked for Metro Goldwin Mayer selling motion pictures to various theatres in southern Michigan. Mr. Sandelman also worked in the advertising business for several years before becoming a salesman of building materials until he retired at the age of 75.

Mr. Sandelman has also enjoyed a long life of playing golf from age fifteen into his early nineties. His drive, energy and enthusiasm should encourage us all to live life to the fullest.

Mr. Sandelman is the father of Mrs. Carole Lynn Jones who is married to Mr. Robert R. Jones, who resides in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, a part of Michigan's Ninth Congressional District, which I represent.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I would like to wish Mr. Sandelman a happy 100th birthday.

BRIGADIER GENERAL ERNIE TALBERT

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Brigadier General Ernie Talbert. This amazing man was also the first African American promoted to the rank of general in the 350-year history of the Delaware National Guard. I chose to wait until today to recognize General Talbert's first because today is also another great first—it is Delaware Day, which signifies the birth of our Nation. At his promotion ceremony on December 4, 2005, he was described by Major General Frank Vavala, as

"having a career of firsts . . . a pacesetter, a role model and a champion of change." I find Ernie Talbert to be all of those things and much more. He is a distinguished leader, an insightful and honest man, and a true patriot. Recognizing General Talbert on Delaware Day, which signifies the birth of our Nation, seemed a much deserved honor.

A native of Wilmington, Delaware, General Talbert's military career began in 1973 as a United States Air Force pilot flying C-141s out of Charleston, South Carolina. His 26 years of distinguished service with the Delaware National Guard began in January 1979, and today he is a command pilot with 6,500 flying hours. General Talbert's career with the Delaware Air Guard has been noteworthy in the wide variety of positions he has held including Squadron Commander; Operations Group Commander; Wing Commander and Chief of Staff for the Delaware Air Guard.

General Talbert's impact is certainly not limited to the Delaware National Guard. He is actively involved in many professional and community organizations including the John Porter Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen; the Delaware Aviation Hall of Fame; the Brig. General Spruance Chapter of the Air Force Association; and the Central Baptist Church.

I congratulate Ernie Talbert for his years of extraordinary service and countless contributions to the Delaware National Guard and the community. General Talbert is an exemplary citizen, and on behalf of all Delawareans I would like to thank him and his family for the many sacrifices they have made during the past 26 years. His recent promotion to the rank of brigadier general is appropriate recognition for a remarkable career.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MAYOR
JOHN J. SINDE OF WEST-
CHESTER, IL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mayor John J. Sinde of Westchester, IL.

Mayor Sinde passed away in the village he loved so dearly on November 17, 2005. After serving 24 years as mayor, Sinde retired from public life due to health issues.

Mayor Sinde was born in Chicago in 1925 and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He married his wife Marilyn in 1954 and moved to Westchester in 1963. Ten years later he began his public service on the Park Board and was elected as Village President in 1981.

During his tenure as Mayor, Sinde oversaw the construction of Westchester's administrative building, post office, Westbrook Towers and the Westchester Park District swimming pool which was renamed for him in June.

Mayor Sinde also helped the village of Westchester to receive its own ZIP code, 60154. This act helped to lower insurance rates by allowing insurers to look at the village apart from neighboring communities. Additionally, he assisted in the development of the southwest part of Westchester, including the shopping center at 31st Street and Wolf Road, the subdivisions along Wolf Road, and Westbrook Towers.

It is my honor to recognize and pay tribute to the life of Mayor John J. Sinde who always had the best interests of the village of Westchester at heart.

TRIBUTE TO BOEING BREAKING
THE WORLD RECORD FOR LONG-
EST NON-STEP FLIGHT

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight a remarkable aviation achievement—a new world record for the longest nonstop distance flown by a commercial aircraft.

On October 9, 2005, a Boeing 777-200LR Worldliner touched down at London Heathrow Airport after completing a non-stop flight from Hong Kong, breaking its own world record set just 16 years earlier.

The Boeing 777-200LR, Boeing's newest aircraft, took the long way around, leaving Hong Kong and flying over the Northern Pacific ocean, crossing North America and then over the Atlantic Ocean to complete its record setting 11,664 mile flight, beating out the previous record by 1,164 miles.

The lead pilot for this remarkable flight was Captain Suzanna Darcy-Hennemann, who in the tradition of aviation pioneers like Amelia Earhart, is inspiring the next generation of young women pilots.

Mr. Speaker, this achievement is a milestone in the history of aviation. We have come a long way since Charles Lindbergh's first solo trans-Atlantic flight in 1927, which set the first world record.

I rise today to congratulate Boeing and its record setting crew, and to express on behalf of my constituents in Orange County, many of whom are Boeing employees themselves, my sincere appreciation of all that Boeing has done in service of American aviation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, during an absence yesterday, I regrettably missed rollcall votes 609-611. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: Rollcall No. 609: "yea"; rollcall No. 610: "yea"; rollcall No. 611: "yea."

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISH-
MENTS OF DR. JAMES A. BOYD

HON. ROGER F. WICKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. James A. Boyd of Columbus, Mississippi, on the occasion of his 40th anniversary as pastor at Zion Gate Missionary Baptist Church. I want to join with the con-

gregation, his family, and friends in offering congratulations on this special recognition.

Dr. Boyd's dynamic presence in the pulpit and his leadership abilities have given him the opportunity to travel far and wide in service to God and country. He entered the ministry in 1965 when he became pastor of Zion Gate and El Bethel Missionary Baptist Churches in Columbus. He also taught English in the Columbus School System before choosing to become the fulltime pastor at Zion Gate in 1970.

Over the past four decades, Dr. Boyd has played leadership roles in countless organizations and served as evangelist for revivals, seminars, and conferences all across the nation. He is currently serving as president of the Northeast Mississippi Baptist State Convention, Inc., and is a board member of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. He is Trustee/Chairman of the Ministerial Institute and College, Homiletic instructor at the college, and lecturer for the Mt. Olivet District Association.

Dr. Boyd is a native of Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, and graduated from Oktibbeha Training School before earning a bachelor's degree from Stillman College in 1964. He also attended Iowa State University and Mississippi State University. He received a doctorate of ministry at San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, California. He also received a doctorate of divinity from Mary Holmes College in West Point, Mississippi, in 2002.

Dr. Boyd is married to the former Kathrene Peterson, and they have two daughters and three grandsons.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. James Boyd for his lifetime of service to God and country.

TRIBUTE TO PHIL RUBENSTEIN

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my good friend, Phil Rubenstein.

Throughout his career, Phil selflessly and passionately worked on behalf of the senior citizens in Ocean County, New Jersey, located in my congressional district. For 30 years, his federal career included work with both the Veterans and Social Security Administrations, and once he "retired", he began his second 30-year career—Director of the county's Office of Senior Services.

While leading this office, Phil strove to make seniors' lives better both through new innovations and by improving existing services. For example, he established a transportation system to assist elderly and disabled residents with rides to their radiation, chemotherapy and dialysis treatments—a system that won federal support. This is just one example of the many efforts Phil put forth on behalf of Ocean County seniors.

Phil's hard work and passion for helping seniors earned him numerous federal, state, county and community service awards, and a local medical center even dedicated its education center to him.

During my time in Congress, Phil and I worked closely on a number of issues. Over