reside in Las Vegas City Hall, will be dedicated on March 25.

''Life Among the Piutes,'' is Sarah Winnemucca's powerful legacy to both cultures, the Native Americans and the whites. It appeared in 1883, the first book ever published that was written by a Native American woman. Following the oral tradition of her people, she reaches out to readers with a deeply personal appeal for understanding, recording a portion of the history of the far west from the Native American perspective. The book was a monumental achievement, recording the Native American viewpoint of whites settling the west, told in a language that was not her own and written and published by a woman during a time when even white women were not allowed to vote. The achievement of her book is second only to the work she performed everyday to promote understanding across cultures. I applaud the NWHP for their efforts to recognize her.

This year the NWHP is publishing a book entitled ''Skirts That Swept the Desert Floor.'' The book contains the biographies of 100 women from Nevada that were instrumental in shaping all aspects of Nevada's history. This unique encyclopedic collection pays tribute to an otherwise unrecognized group of individuals whose stories should not be overlooked.

Mr. Speaker I am honored to recognize the Nevada Women's History Project on the floor of the House, today. I commend them for their service in recognizing the women in our history that have made special contributions to help make Nevada the great state that it is.

WELCOME HOME FORT KNOX 233RD

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome home the 233rd Heavy Transportation Company of Fort Knox, Kentucky, and pay public tribute to their recent courageous service during their deployment in the Middle East.

This was the fourth deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom for the 233rd. The unit, made up of more than 120 troops, transported vehicles and supplies back and forth between bases in Kuwait and the war theater in Iraq. The entire unit returned safely home last week, completing their mission without any serious injuries or fatalities.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the 233rd for selflessly standing in harm's way, transporting critical supplies over millions of miles of dangerous roads, to protect our freedom and way of life. Their distinguished service epitomizes values—duty, honor, country—that make our nation an example of freedom and prosperity for the rest of the world.

In the spirit of Fort Knox soldiers of generation past, their courage and sacrifice significantly contributed to a supreme level of safety and readiness during uncertain times. They were selfless in their sacrifice, taking time away from their families to keep others safe. For that they deserve the admiration and thanks of a grateful nation.

It is my privilege to recognize the 233rd Heavy Transportation Company today, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for their generous service and unflinching duty to our great country. Welcome home!

TRIBUTE TO TERRELLITA MAVERICK

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th birthday of Terrellita Maverick, a member of one of San Antonio's and Texas' most distinguished families. The Maverick family has long been committed to independence of mind, fairness, and equality for all. Some claim the Mavericks can trace their roots to Boston at the eve of the American Revolution. While that may be hard to prove, we do know they have shaped San Antonio and Texas in ways that few families have.

Terrellita's ancestor, Samuel Augustus Maverick, was an original signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence. An important figure in the founding of the Texas Republic, he later served in the Congress of the Texas Republic, as mayor of San Antonio, and in the State legislature.

His family's name entered the lexicon because he refused to brand his cattle unlike all other cattlemen in Texas. Maverick originally meant an unbranded male calf, yet the word soon expanded to reflect the family's independent ways. Yet, being a Maverick did not mean individualism for individualism's sake. Rather, their individualism was founded on never turning one's back on doing what was right.

Terrellita's father, Maury Maverick, Sr., represented San Antonio in the House from 1934–1938. In typical Maverick fashion, he defied the city's political machine and won his seat on the strength of San Antonio's Latino vote. A fiery New Deal advocate and close ally of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Rep. Maverick spoke his mind and fought for civil rights at a time when doing so put one's political career and life at risk. Still, Rep. Maverick fought for his constituents and for the causes he believed were right.

Like his illustrious forebearer, he became Mayor of San Antonio and thanks to his vision for the city, La Villita was restored. La Villita was San Antonio's first neighborhood and this project spurred other restoration and construction projects in downtown San Antonio. Mayor Maverick was probably the single person most responsible for the appearance of downtown San Antonio today.

Moreover, his service to Texas and our nation were not limited to elected positions. During World War I, he was an infantry lieutenant and won the Silver Star and a Purple Heart. After his service as mayor, he served in a number of capacities to ensure that our production was efficient during WWII.

Terrellita's brother, Maury Maverick, Jr., was another in this family of individualists. Maury served his nation during World War II as a marine. During the 1950s, Maury represented San Antonio in the Texas House of Representatives along side my father and fought McCarthyism and racism. He and other members killed a bill that would have given communists the death penalty. In 1960, he was one of the 71 candidates to run for Vice-President's Johnson's Senate seat.

He then began to practice law but concentrated on pro bono legal work for powerless or unpopular people. He successfully argued against a law barring 'mixed-race' boxing matches and won a case before the Supreme Court for a San Antonio bookseller accused of possessing allegedly 'seditious' papers. He passed away in 2003 and our city misses his voice and his conscience.

However, I am pleased that Terrellita still makes San Antonio her home and is dedicated to improving our city. When not busy as a mother or grandmother, she is an active member of the Democratic Party and ACLU. She is every bit a Maverick and our community is the better for it. So, I would like to send my birthday wishes to one of San Antonio's distinguished citizens.

This has long been a family committed to fighting the fights that may not have been fashionable but that history declared right and just.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. TIMOTHY J. ROONEY, GRAND MARSHAL OF NEW YORK CITY'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the extraordinary contributions to American civic and public life of Mr. Timothy J. Rooney, the the 245th Grand Marshal of New York City's world famous St. Patrick's Day Parade, which marches up Fifth Avenue in Manhattan on March 17 every year.

Timothy J. Rooney is a scion of the Rooney family, which is prominent in the worlds of business and professional athletics. He is the proud son of Arthur Rooney, the founder of the National Football League's fabled Super Bowl-winning franchise, the Pittsburgh Steelers. The Rooney family also owns and manages the Yonkers Raceway in New York, a premier harness racing venue that is currently being refurbished. Since his family assumed ownership of the raceway in 1972, Mr. Rooney has served as the track's president.

Mr. Rooney has long been active in Irish-American circles. He was honored by the New York-based, United Irish Counties organization in 1975, and the Rooney family's dedication to the people of Ireland and contributions to Irish-American relations and to the Irish-American community have been honored by the American Ireland Fund in New York and Palm Beach, FL.

In 2004, the Knights of St. Patrick presented Timothy Rooney with its Lifetime Achievement award. He has been recognized with many other civic honors as well, including the Terence Cardinal Cooke Award from the New York City Catholic Youth Organization.

Mr. Rooney's leadership in the business world reflects his many diverse interests. A partner for 10 years at Chaplin, McGuiness & Co., Mr. Rooney is an associate member of the New York and American Stock Exchanges. He is president of Delta Electric, an electrical contracting corporation in Westchester County in New York, and served as a

partner in an investment banking firm before assuming the reins at the Yonkers Raceway.

Mr. Rooney's leadership in the racing industry has been well-documented. He is one of the owners of a stud farm in County Kildare in Ireland, and he serves as a director of the United States Trotting Association. He is the business manager of the family-owned Shamrock Farm in Maryland, one of the oldest horse breeding farms in the Terrapin State.

Mr. Rooney is also a devoted family man. He and his wife June are proud parents of 5 children and are devoted to their 17 grandchildren as well as 1 great-grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Mr. Timothy Rooney, the grand marshal of New York's 2006 St. Patrick's Day Parade, the largest parade held in our Nation's greatest metropolis.

AERAS GLOBAL TB VACCINE FOUNDATION'S RESEARCH FACILITY IN ROCKVILLE, MD

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, we are marking a milestone in the global fight against one of the world's most deadly diseases—tuberculosis.

In Rockville, MD, the Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation opened a new research and production facility to meet the world's need for an advanced tuberculosis vaccine. The Aeras Foundation is currently testing multiple TB vaccine candidates. The facility will be capable of producing 150 million doses of vaccine per year. It will use the most advanced medical research and manufacturing technologies and will serve as Aeras's headquarters as well as its research and production center.

The world badly needs a new TB vaccine. More than 1.75 million people die from this disease every year: It is second only to AIDS as the world's deadliest infectious disease. The World Health Organization estimates that there are 8.8 million new cases of TB every year. TB is also the leading cause of death among people diagnosed with AIDS, accounting for about 13 percent of AIDS deaths worldwide.

The current TB vaccine, known as BCG, is nearly 100 years old and was developed in the early 20th century. One of the most widely used children's vaccines in the world, BCG is largely ineffective against TB in adults, who comprise the majority of TB cases.

A new vaccine is the best hope for controlling TB, because vaccination is the only medical intervention that has eliminated an infectious disease. This was the case with smallpox, and today, global polio vaccinations efforts are bringing closer the day when this human disease will be eliminated.

A better TB vaccine may be in reach within the next decade. At least four candidate vaccines have entered human trials recently, and others are in the development pipeline.

I am pleased that the Aeras Foundation has decided to make its home in the community I represent in the U.S. Congress. The Aeras Foundation was founded in 1997 for the purpose of developing new concepts and tools to control the global TB epidemic. Today, it is the only non-profit organization in the world working through public-private partnerships with the sole focus of developing new vaccines against TB and ensuring their production and availability to all who need them.

In 2004, the Aeras Foundation received a grant of $82.9 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for new TB vaccine development. It has also received funding support from the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Government of Denmark.

Dr. Jerald C. Sadoff, president and CEO of the Aeras Foundation, has devoted more than three decades to developing vaccines for dozens of diseases, including malaria and chicken pox, and is one of the world's leading experts in this field. He and his team of researchers and scientists are dedicated to saving the lives of millions of people in some of the poorest places in the world from the scourge of this disease. But TB is not just a disease characteristic of the developing world; there are an estimated 8 cases per 100,000 people in Europe and 5 cases per 100,000 people here in the United States.

This month we will celebrate World Tuberculosis Day, a day to heighten awareness of and rededicate ourselves to the search for a TB vaccine. That goal is closer to reality thanks to the tireless work of the skilled and talented men and women of the Aeras Foundation at their new facility in Rockville, MD. I wish them the greatest success in their important and noble mission.

TRIBUTE FOR THE EFFORTS OF OPERATION MISSISSIPPI CHRISTMAS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, Hurricane Katrina crashed into the heart of the Gulf Coast on the morning of August 29, 2005, forever altering the landscape of New Orleans and the surrounding cities and towns, as well as the lives of those who called the region their home. It has taken the hands and efforts of many Americans of goodwill to help alleviate the hardships faced during this trying time.

Rebuilding the post-Katrina Gulf Coast has not been, and will not be, easy. Yet in the midst of one of the country's greatest natural disasters, countless selfless individuals have worked to create a sense of normalcy for those who lost everything in Hurricane Katrina.

Operation Mississippi Christmas was one such organized effort working out of St. Mary's County, Maryland, in my Congressional District. The members of Operation Mississippi Christmas volunteered their time and efforts in order to give the children of D'Iberville, Mississippi a much-deserved and enjoyable Christmas season. It is a privilege to be able to recognize the faith and determination of these men and women, as well as their dedication to such a worthwhile project.

Members of the St. Mary's Hurricane Relief Fund kicked off their efforts with a gift drive spanning the entirety of St. Mary's County. The generosity of the residents of St. Mary's County was uplifting; all but eight of more than a thousand boxes passed out for adoption of the younger children of D'Iberville were returned with gifts. This feat can only be attributed to the great sense of humanity shared by the residents of St. Mary's.

The original plan for transporting the gifts was to organize a C–130 air transport mission, but this plan was abandoned for lack of certainty of plane availability and impending inclement weather. Undaunted, the volunteers were able to obtain two tractor trailers generously donated by the Bailey family and the defense systems company BAE at the last minute, which allowed them to transfer even more supplies to D'Iberville than the original airlift would have.

The organizers of Operation Mississippi Christmas laid out plans for a December 12 delivery of the goods and stuck to this plan with such tenacity that there was never any doubt of their success. On December 10, the loaded tractor trailers set out for Mississippi, while a team of eight St. Mary's Hurricane Relief volunteers flew commercially to Jackson and then drove the remaining 170 miles to D'Iberville.

The volunteers then presented the gifts to local children during a celebration in the D'Iberville Elementary School gymnasium that included food and a special appearance from Santa. The younger children received the presents donated by St. Mary's County residents and the upper middle and high school students received gift cards.

In addition to gifts for the town's children, the St. Mary's volunteers were also able to donate supplies sorely needed by the city of D'Iberville, including school supplies, first aid kits, computer systems, and medical supplies.

Mr. Speaker, it is wonderful that the efforts of so few were able to bring such joy to so many, and these efforts would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication to public service exhibited by the St. Mary's Hurricane Relief Fund. Today I honor the amazing fortitude of these individuals and would like to thank them for their contribution towards bringing a much-needed sense of hope back to the Gulf Coast.

TRIBUTE TO JIM HINGA

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to pay tribute to Jim Hinga, a beloved father of three and renowned lawyer, who passed away on March 5. It was a privilege to know Jim and I offer my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Jim was born and raised in Indiana. He received his B.A. from Notre Dame in 1971 where he was known by many as ''Muncie Milkman'' of the Notre Dame basketball team. His achievements on the team led to his induction into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame as a member of the Silver Anniversary Basketball Team. After earning a law degree from the University of Mississippi, Jim served as a litigator and widely respected mediator in Denver, Colorado for the next 25 years. Jim was often sought out for his talent, intellect, and expertise.

But Jim is remembered first and foremost as a compassionate friend and dedicated family man. He never missed a chance to attend one