

representing a powerful client. I came to know him because of the countless hours that he and an amazing group of attorneys have put into representing, on a pro bono basis, my constituents who were forced from their homes because their properties were literally sinking on a street in my district.

Mr. Speaker, putting aside any question of profit, Ken and his fellow volunteers at the Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program have worked tirelessly to ensure that these constituents who found themselves in the middle of a bureaucratic nightmare had the best legal representation possible. No words can express the gratitude I have for their diligence and commitment to work through the legal maze these homeowners faced.

But, Mr. Fleisher's efforts would come as no surprise to anyone who knows the culture of the Zarwin firm. It has been home to many people I have been honored to work with and call my friends over the years. It is a firm that inspires leadership and dedication in its attorneys. Two of my good friends, the late Rotan Lee, a former Philadelphia School District president, and Seth Williams, Philadelphia's Inspector General, both were a part of the firm.

Mr. Speaker, as the Philadelphia legal community today honors Mr. Fleisher for his highly successful tenure as chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Real Property Section, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his service and wish him well in the future.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MELANIE  
TEEMANT

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Melanie Teemant for her outstanding achievements as a seventh-grade teacher.

On October 18, 2006, Melanie was named 2007 Nevada Teacher of the Year for hard work and dedication to her young students at Bob Miller Middle School in Henderson, Nevada. The award was presented by the Department of Education and it is also part of a nationwide program from the Council of Chief State School Officers.

As part of the award, Melanie was given a key to the city of Henderson and she is entered in the nationwide competition for teacher of the year. She is given a trip to the Nation's capital in April, during which she'll have the opportunity to meet President Bush. Melanie was also awarded a trip to Huntsville, Alabama, this summer where she will be visiting a NASA space program.

Once a year, Melanie holds a performance entitled Dancing Through the Decades, where she gives her students a chance to share some of what they learned in her reading class. She heads the school's teacher mentor program, which is designed to help new teachers acclimate to the school as well as helps them develop lesson plans and reviews classroom management skills. Melanie is active in afterschool activities, such as student council, guitar club, and the scrapbook club.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Ms. Melanie Teemant for her commendable devo-

tion to improving the lives of her students. Her perseverance and dedication is an admirable trait. I applaud her efforts and I wish her luck in all her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING DON COOPER  
UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RE-  
TIREMENT FROM THE WYOMING  
VALLEY JEWISH COMMUNITY  
CENTER AND THE JEWISH FED-  
ERATION IN WILKES-BARRE,  
PENNSYLVANIA

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Don Cooper, retiring executive director of the Wyoming Valley Jewish Community Center and the Jewish Federation in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, PA.

During his tenure, Mr. Cooper developed an active and involved membership that included commitment and participation from all elements of the community. He also enhanced JCC programming in all areas by developing and encouraging an outstanding, competent, productive and loyal staff.

Mr. Cooper made exceptional contributions in the areas of day care, elder programming and leadership development. He has protected, improved and expanded the JCC facility in downtown Wilkes-Barre and its day camp facility nearby.

He has overseen successful fundraising and grant writing applications that have assisted in securing the financial future of the JCC.

Mr. Cooper received a BA in sociology and economics from the University of Cincinnati and a MSW; ACWS in community organization from Western Reserve University.

During the course of his career, Mr. Cooper served as a field worker in the Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers Association; assistant executive director for the Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association in New York; assistant executive director for the Jewish Federation and Council of Greater Kansas City; executive director for the Tampa Jewish Federation/Jewish Community Center; and as executive director for the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford.

Mr. Cooper is affiliated with the Academy of Certified Social Workers, National Association of Social Workers, National Association of Jewish Community Organization Personnel, CJF and UJA regional and national planning committees; professional advisory board of Joint Distribution Committee; University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work Board of Visitors; and the Beth Israel Zion Synagogue in Philadelphia.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Cooper on the occasion of a well deserved retirement. The contributions he made to the Jewish community as well as the community at large have been responsible for improving the quality of life for so many people, a fact for which Mr. Cooper should be justifiably proud.

TRIBUTE TO THE 150TH ANNIVER-  
SARY OF THE SEBASTOPOL  
HOUSE STATE HISTORIC SITE

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th anniversary of the Sebastopol House State Historic Site in the City of Seguin, located in the 28th District of Texas.

This 3,000 square foot home was built in 1856 and is constructed mainly of limecrete, an early form of concrete, a material rarely used in the area. Joshua Young, who lost his son in the Civil War, built the Sebastopol House and later sold the house to his sister, who then sold it to Joseph and Nettie Zorn. Joseph Zorn served as Alderman, Postmaster, and Mayor of Seguin for twenty years, was instrumental in the growth and the modernization of the city, and left a remarkable legacy in the creation of the trustee-managed, free public school system in 1891. The house remained with the Zorn family until the death of Calvert Zorn, when the house was rented out to families, including that of Robert and Mary Ybarra, who lived in the house for many years.

The Sebastopol House faced the threat of demolition in the early 1960s, but was saved by the Seguin Conservation Society to serve as a historic house museum until 1976, and was restored to its original condition in the 1980s by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to preserve this important piece of Texas architectural history. As we look back on the past 150 years of this house and its inhabitants with pride, we also look forward to an enduring future for the Sebastopol House State Historic Site.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to honor the 150th anniversary of the Sebastopol House State Historic Site.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASSISTANT  
CHIEF OF POLICE JOHN DAVID  
LYNN

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Assistant Chief of Police John David Lynn as he retires from 34 years of service in the North Richland Hills Police Department.

Assistant Chief Lynn began his career in 1973 as a patrolman. He was assigned to the Criminal Investigations division, and by 1975 he had been promoted to Sergeant. Throughout Mr. Lynn's career, he has served as a patrol supervisor, been promoted to the rank of Captain, and served as the Investigative Services Division Commander for 11 years. During his service as Captain, Mr. Lynn attended the 139th Session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

In May of 1993, Mr. Lynn was promoted to his current rank of Assistant Chief of Police. As commander of the Management Services Bureau, Assistant Chief Lynn was awarded his second Meritorious Service Award. He also

served as Interim Chief of Police for several months in both 1998 and 2005 for the Police Department.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Assistant Chief of Police John David Lynn's 34 years of dedicated service to the North Richland Hills Police Department and Community. I am proud to serve as his representative in Washington, D.C.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN B.  
BRIGHT

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John B. Bright for his service to our Nation's veterans.

John was appointed by the Veterans Health Administration as the Director of Veterans Affairs of the Southern Nevada Healthcare System in Las Vegas, Nevada on May 1, 2006. He was previously the Associate Director since May 6, 2005.

Prior to his appointment in Las Vegas, John was the Chief Financial Officer at the VA Facilities at Big Spring and Amarillo, Texas since 1998. He has also been the Chief Financial Officer at Phoenix, AZ and Reno, NV. He began his career in 1985 at the VA in Seattle, WA and served in management positions at VA Hospitals in Durham, NC, Prescott, AZ, Battle Creek, MI and San Antonio, TX. John is a Veteran who served in the United States Army from 1972 through 1975.

As Director of the Southern Nevada Healthcare System, John has continually advocated for the construction of the new Las Vegas Veterans Hospital Complex. John is devoted to our veterans in Southern Nevada and goes above and beyond to ensure that veterans receive care. He has always been a remarkable resource to the Congressional Delegation and their staff. Dedicated public servants like John understand the contributions that our Nation's veterans have made and are an indispensable component of the veterans' healthcare system.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor John B. Bright. His long and distinguished career in service to our Nation's veterans is commendable. I applaud him for all his hard work and success.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN L.  
CHURNETSKI, WILLARD G.  
KRESGE, AND LEE W. ECKERT,  
FOUNDERS OF QUAD THREE  
GROUP INC. IN WILKES-BARRE,  
PENNSYLVANIA

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to John L. Churnetski, Willard G. Kresge and Lee W. Eckert, founders of Quad Three Group, Inc. in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Quad Three Group is a full service architectural, engineering and environmental science firm that has grown from a single proprietorship in 1967 to a firm employing 70 people today in Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and Pittsburgh, PA.

From 1967 through 1987, the company was a multidiscipline professional engineering firm known as Utility Engineers which served a large number of architectural firms, commercial and industrial clients and municipalities. A large part of the firm's growth came from contracts with the U.S. Department of Defense.

In 1987, Utility Engineers, which had employed 35 people, merged with the largest architectural design firm in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton area, Pyros and Sanderson, which employed 15 people, to form Quad Three Group, Inc.

Noteworthy regional projects they completed included Blue Cross Blue Shield of Northeastern Pennsylvania headquarters, Luzerne County Community College Technology Building, Penn State University Wilkes-Barre and Hazleton campuses, Martz Trailways Office Building, InterMetro Industries Corporate Headquarters Building, the environmental impact study for the Francis E. Walter Dam Hydroelectric Project, Newport, Rhode Island and Lakehurst, New Jersey Naval Base Utility System Upgrade and the \$85 million Steamtown Mall project in downtown Scranton.

They also completed the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard Base Re-Alignment and Closure project, ten major K-12 and higher education projects, the \$45 million Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza and the \$30 million Mount Laurel Center for the Performing Arts.

Mr. Churnetski received his bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Notre Dame University. Mr. Kresge received his bachelor of electrical engineering from Penn State University and Mr. Eckert received his bachelor of science in civil engineering from Penn State University. Between the three founders, they have 127 years of combined engineering experience.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating these three talented men who have distinguished themselves in the engineering world as well as in their northeastern Pennsylvania community. Their commitment to excellence and professionalism has benefited everyone associated with Quad Three Group and has contributed to improving the quality of life in the entire region.

TRIBUTE TO FIREFIGHTER PHIL  
PFISTER

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor one of my constituents, Charleston firefighter Phil Pfister on becoming the World's Strongest Man.

This award was bestowed after a long and arduous competition amongst 25 athletes from around the world. The ten day contest in Sanya, China included events such as bus pulls, car pushes, stone lifts, and tire turns.

Mr. Pfister, is the first American to win this competition in 24 years. After trailing in the early events, Mr. Pfister focused his strength,

discipline, and determination to win the final five events leading him to the title. His hard work and dedication during training certainly paid off.

Nonetheless, after all his glory of winning this prestigious competition, Mr. Pfister returned to West Virginia a few days later and promptly resumed his daily work of protecting our wonderful city of Charleston as a firefighter.

I am proud to honor Mr. Pfister for his accomplishments in the World's Strongest Man competition and his dedication to the Charleston community through his service as a fireman. West Virginia is truly fortunate to have him as a Mountaineer.

CONGRATULATING KEN SMITH ON  
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE  
SANTA ROSA COUNTY SCHOOL  
BOARD

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to Ken Smith, who is retiring from the Santa Rosa County School Board after 28 years of service. Mr. Smith's dedication to his community and the education of its children is profound and commendable.

Mr. Smith was born in Bagdad, Florida. He first got active in the school system in Santa Rosa County when he volunteered at his children's schools as a PTA member. After serving as PTA President at Oakhurst Elementary, he was elected to his first term on the Santa Rosa County School Board in 1978. He is currently the second longest serving School Board member in the State of Florida, having served with 17 Board Members and 3 Superintendents. He has held the positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board 7 times each.

Through the years, Mr. Smith has served on several Board committees, most notably the Vocational Committee, working with the State to acquire the Locklin Technical Center, the first and only vocational center located in Santa Rosa County. He has also been active in the Lions Club, Optimist Club, and the Ferris Hill Baptist Church.

Mr. Smith's effort to better Santa Rosa County schools is admirable. His devotion to the education of the children of his community is inspirational. I congratulate him on his accomplishments and his retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE  
FIRST CLASS PHILLIP B. WIL-  
LIAMS

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of United States Army Private First Class Phillip B. Williams who was killed on October 9, 2006, in Baghdad, Iraq, while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Private First Class Williams was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company,