

no action was taken on the committee's suggestion. However, 10 years later, the City of Hayward celebrated its 80th birthday with great fanfare. Though the festivities were considered a success, the planners had encountered a huge problem identifying pioneer residents to ride in the city's anniversary parade. There was no established resource for gathering and providing information on Hayward's past.

The Community Services Committee of the Hayward Chamber of Commerce, chaired by Allen Strutz, decided to take matters into their hands and took steps to begin saving Hayward history. Soon, the Hayward Area Historical Society, HAHS, was born.

The first official election of officers was scheduled for the night of December 6, 1956. Volunteers immediately began gathering members and asking pioneer families to fill out historical questionnaires. Those documents became the foundation for HAHS's extensive archives.

During the ceremony to sign the Society's charter, which took place at the historic Eden Congregational Church, the Society proclaimed its intent to "discover, preserve and disseminate knowledge of the history of the Hayward Area." Among the first artifacts to be donated was a pencil drawing of Mission Dolores and a copy of the Hayward Journal from 1894.

HAHS has reached a number of benchmarks in growth and prosperity over the last fifty years. It has published numerous books, an "Adobe Trails" member newsletter, established a museum, a research library, and has amassed a collection of thousands of historical artifacts, self-produced exhibitions and has been a partner in restoring historical property in Hayward.

As the Hayward Area Historical Society continues its progress, I join the community in wishing them a very happy 50th birthday and continued success.

TRIBUTE TO QUEENIE MARY
WOOTEN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Queenie Mary Wooten, a distinguished public servant and citizen of Brooklyn, New York. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding woman and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive service to community.

In 1974, Queenie Mary Wooten received her Bachelor of Arts degree in education from Medgar Evers College. She took additional courses, which enhanced her long and remarkable career in education. Currently, Ms. Wooten is the Coordinator of External Community Programs for Region #5. In addition to networking with East New York and Brownsville city agencies, she serves on the cabinets of Planning Boards #5 and #16.

Ms. Wooten is developing innovative and creative external programs to improve educational and developmental outcomes for students. She coordinates activities with the external community and assists the director with setting priorities and selecting high quality col-

laborative programs. Ms. Wooten mobilizes resources for regional and school priorities, collaborates with schools in Region #5 to create inter-agency regional advisory councils, and volunteers on Planning Board #5, working with the committee on education. Additionally, she works diligently with students to help them get credit for community services.

Ms. Wooten is one of the founders of the American College of Counselors, for the New York Branch, and was recently honored by the Department of Education for 41 years of service. She has received numerous honors and awards for her work, including: an award from Medgar Evers College as one of its first graduates; the Brooklyn Club of the Negro Business & Professional Women's Club Sojourner Truth Award; and the Van Siclen Block Association Education Award. Ms. Wooten has been honored by organizations such as the Women's League of Science and Medicine, Inc., National Sickle Cell Research and the Latin Souls Little League Baseball.

A very active member of her community, Ms. Wooten serves on numerous boards and is the Chair of the North East Committee of Elections. Ms. Wooten has been a faithful member of Grace Baptist Church for the past 35 years. One of 10 children of the late James and Estella Hunt Corely, Ms. Wooten has encountered many challenges during her life and has embraced them all with courage and dignity.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the work of Queenie Mary Wooten. Her deep commitment to her community makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

HONORING FEDERAL JUDGE PAUL
BROWN

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to one of the outstanding Federal judges in our Nation, U.S. District Judge Paul Brown, who is retiring after 21 years of distinguished service on the bench in the Eastern District of Texas. Judge Brown has been my good friend for many years, and he is a respected and beloved Judge and member of the community in Sherman, Texas.

Judge Brown represents the finest qualities of jurisprudence. Hanging on his wall in the Sherman Federal Courthouse are Socrates' four qualities for a good judge—to hear courteously, to answer wisely, to consider soberly, and to decide impartially. Judge Brown embodied all of these qualities, and he dispensed justice accordingly. He was highly regarded, well-respected, and was a role model for many.

Paul Brown was the youngest of a family of six raised on a farm near Pottsboro, TX. He graduated from Denison High School and although underage, he got his parents' consent to join the U.S. Navy when World War II broke out. He served as a minesweeper in both the Atlantic and Pacific Theaters and as a part of the occupation forces in Japan. He was discharged as an Electrician's Mate 2nd Class in June 1946.

He returned to his studies and received a law degree in 1950 from the University of

Texas before being recalled to active duty in the Korean war. He saw combat aboard a minesweeper which was sunk by mines, and he received an honorable discharge in December 1951.

Judge Brown began his practice of law following the war and following President Dwight Eisenhower's election, he went to work as an assistant U.S. Attorney in Texarkana under U.S. Attorney William Steger, who would become his mentor, good friend, and fellow colleague on the bench in the Eastern District until Judge Steger's passing this year. He served as Assistant U.S. Attorney from 1953 to 1959, then followed in Judge Steger's footsteps as U.S. District Attorney from 1959 to 1961.

While in Texarkana, Judge met and married Frances Morehead, and the two returned home to Sherman, where Judge Brown practiced law for a number of years. In 1985 Senator Phil Graham recommended him to President Ronald Reagan for a new judge's position created for the Eastern District of Texas, and Judge was confirmed that year. He held court in Beaumont, Paris, Sherman, and Texarkana, and as the caseload in Sherman grew, he eventually presided over the Sherman courthouse exclusively.

Premiere cases over the years included intellectual property, patent cases, and criminal cases precipitated by the bank and savings and loan failures of the 1980s and 1990s. In recent years he noted the increase in drug cases and expressed his regret that, in spite of all the efforts that have been made to prosecute drug dealers, the Nation is not making much progress in curtailing the use of drugs. No matter what type of cases came before him, Judge Brown always enjoyed the work and ran an efficient and orderly courtroom. His personal work ethic and judicial integrity have been remarkable, and his reputation for punctuality has been legendary.

At his retirement reception, hundreds of local attorneys, area judges and friends and family paid tribute to Judge Brown. The Eastern District Chief Judge, Thad Heartfield, speaking for the 15 judges on their court, has recommended that Congress name the U.S. District Courthouse in Sherman the "Paul Brown U.S. Courthouse." Judge Heartfield noted that Judge Brown has demonstrated the finest qualities of a U.S. district judge: knowledge of the law, courtesy, patience, wisdom and compassion. It will be my pleasure to introduce legislation to that end.

As we near adjournment of the 109th Congress, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of a great American, outstanding public servant, and respected jurist, the Honorable Paul Brown, U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BONNIE
SCHOFIELD

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Bonnie Schofield for her dedication to the community and families she served.

Bonnie has been serving 22 families in Hiko, NV, as a postmaster relief since 1973, 6

hours a day, 6 days a week. Last year, she became postmaster. Bonnie's families picked their mail up at the post office in front of her house in an old-fashioned way. Instead of using the modern-day post office boxes, the mail was sorted into old-fashioned sacks Bonnie handmade herself and then hung onto pegs. Families would then pick up their mail while the traditions of past generations stayed intact.

For the 30 years prior to her appointment as postmaster, Bonnie's mother-in-law held the position. Her daughter also continues the family tradition for she was named postmaster for 2004 in Alamo, NV. Bonnie also has served the National Association of Postmasters of the U.S., NAPUS, as state president, on its state council, and representing Nevada in Washington, DC.

On December 1, 2006, Bonnie retired from her position as postmaster and, with her, lay to rest the traditions of Hiko's community. What she will miss the most is the customer interaction and personalized service. Now that she is retired, she plans on nurturing her garden and traveling with her husband of 49 years. Bonnie also plans on spending more time with her 4 children, 18 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the gracious efforts of Mrs. Bonnie Schofield. Her diligence and dedication are to be admired. I wish her luck with all her future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ERSILIA
CRUZ

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a woman who made a difference to so many people in the community of Pueblo, CO.

Ersilia Cruz left her community a better place.

Ersilia Cruz, who was a driving force for Hyde Park and "remodeling the West Side," as she put it, died of a stroke Friday. She was 75.

She helped bring the Cesar Chavez Academy and, most recently, the Dolores Huerta Preparatory High School to Hyde Park. She was director for many programs at the Hyde Park Community Center, was active at church and, her family said, had strong interests in the community and children.

Her son Steve said that Ersilia decided to stay alive long past when she was supposed to because "she wanted to talk to everyone before she left. She wasn't going until everyone in the family talked to her, and the whole week was like that. She was all family. That's what she stood for, and it was a neat experience for our family."

The recipient of several local, State and national awards, Cruz's most distinguished was probably the Dorothy Richardson Award in 2003, for which she was flown to Washington.

That same year she also had a street in Hyde Park named after her, called Cruz Court.

In the 1970s, Cruz operated G&E Grocery Store and later worked for Kwik Way and PDQ convenience stores, from which she retired while a manager.

Cruz is survived by her husband of 59 years, George. The two met and wed in Mora, NM.

Mrs. Cruz also is survived by 20 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and a great-great-granddaughter.

The entire community of Pueblo, CO, will miss Ersilia Cruz.

TRIBUTE TO FRED J. SHALTZ

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant and a close friend, Fred J. Shaltz. Fred recently retired as a Genesee County Michigan Commissioner after serving seven consecutive terms in office.

Fred's career in public service started long before he was elected to office. After attending the University of Michigan, Fred passed the State of Michigan examination and was licensed as a land surveyor in 1963. Two years later he founded Delta Land Surveying and Engineering, Inc. and Delta Aerial Photography. At the same time his career in community service began.

He has served as either a current or former board member of the following organizations: Flint Jaycees, Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan, Rubicon-Odyssey House, Eastern Michigan Mortgage Banker's Association, Builder's Association of Metropolitan Flint, Fenton City Local Development Finance Authority, Fenton Chamber of Commerce, Mott College Foundation Board, Valley School Trustee, and served as the vice president of the Flint Area Chamber of Commerce.

During his tenure as a Genesee County Commissioner, Fred carried out his duties by serving in the following capacities: member of the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission, as chair of the Public Works Committee, member of the Lobdell Lake Board, chair of the Courthouse Square Committee, member of the 911 Consortium, the Valley Area Agency of Aging, the Genesee County Mental Health Board, Genesee County Recycling Coalition, chair of the Finance Committee, a member of the Leadership Committee, member of the Genesee County Mass Transit Authority, Greater Health Coalition, Genesee County Retirement Board, New Paths, County Park and Recreation, Chair of the Community Economic Development Committee, the Genesee County Board of Review, and the Flint City Planning Commission. Fred also served as the vice chair of the board of commissioners from 1995–1996 and 2000–2004. He was the chairman of the board during 1997 and 1998.

Recognized by his peers, Fred has received the following awards: Young Democrat-of-the-Year Award, Knight of the Month K of C Council 695 Flint, the 1966 Speak-Up and Spoke Award Flint Jaycees, Michigan's Community Leader, Flint Beautification Commendation, Women's Council of Flint Board of Realtor's Award, Feat Foundation Award, American Congress on Surveying and Mapping Fellow, Michigan American Legion Appreciation Award, Outstanding Service Award Greater Flint Area Chamber of Commerce, Community

Mental Service Award, Flint City Council Appreciation, City of Fenton Community Service Award, Life-Member Award from Michigan Association of Realtors, Key to City of Flint, 2000 Dare Program, Burton Health Center Leadership Recognition, 1986 Associate of the Year from Home Builder's Association of Metropolitan Flint, Appreciation Award from Bureau of Business Practice, Patriotic Citizen Award from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Dedicated Service Award from Genesee County Park and Recreation, Appreciation Award from the County Board of Health, Award from Valley Area Agency of Aging.

Between the years 1968 to 1992 Fred was appointed by different mayors to serve on 11 city boards. He was also appointed by three different Michigan Governors to the board of licensing for architects, land surveyors, and Michigan's Small Business Council. He was the second vice president of the Home Builder's Association in 1985, and repeatedly recognized by the National Engineering Society on Education, Qualifications and Examiners. Fred was a founding member of the Fenton Rotary Club and a founding member of the Fenton Township Service Club. His article on excellent business practices appeared in a 1988 issue of Inc. Magazine and he was a contributor to the magazine's book "301 Great Management Ideas" published in 1991. He contributed an article to a University of Michigan textbook on business, management, and leadership. In 2004 he was inducted into the Builder's Association of Metropolitan Flint Wall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be able to congratulate my friend, Fred Shaltz, as he retires undefeated in office after 7 terms with the Genesee County Board of Commissioners and 43 years of public service. I wish him the best as he embarks on this new phase of his life.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2006 KENWOOD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ROBOTIACS TEAM

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and enthusiasm that I take this time to recognize the 2006 Kenwood Elementary School Robotiacs. The team, which competes as part of the FIRST LEGO League (FLL), recently finished in first place for robot design and second place overall at the local competition held in Hammond, Indiana on November 11, 2006. With their success, the Robotiacs have advanced to the State competition, which will be held at Indiana University—Purdue University in Fort Wayne, IN on December 9, 2006.

The FLL is the result of an alliance between For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, FIRST, and the LEGO Company. The purpose of the FLL is to allow students to be creative and, with the assistance of mentors, solve real-world engineering challenges, develop important life skills, and learn to make positive contributions to society.

Kenwood Elementary School has been no stranger to success in this competition. This is the 4th consecutive year they have won first place awards at the regional level, which includes awards for research and robot design,