

In 1972, Chief Westphal started his service as a jailer and was promoted through the ranks until 2002, when he became Chief of Police for the Mesquite Police Department.

Chief Westphal pioneered several student, anti-drug campaigns such as "Slama Bama Jama," "What If," and the "Cheese Anti-drug Initiative." Esteemed by his community and peers, Chief Westphal was named "Hometown Hero" by Town East Mall and "Top Cop" 2006 by the Texas Police Chiefs Association.

In addition to faithfully serving his community, Chief Westphal is a husband to Susan, a father of three children, and a grandfather.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I am honored to recognize Chief Gary Westphal for his courage in protecting and serving the citizens of Mesquite.

HONORING DR. IRA SARISON

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Ira Sarison, a constituent and friend of mine from Boynton Beach, who passed away unexpectedly on January 11, 2008 while traveling in Argentina.

Dr. Sarison was a native of the Bronx, New York, and had a distinguished career as an educator, last serving as Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Oceanside, New York. Following his retirement in 1988, he relocated to Florida where he established a successful elder care management practice in my congressional district. He also served as the founding past president of the Democratic Club of Greater Boynton Beach. Dr. Sarison will best be remembered for his life-long passion for and commitment to education and for his tireless work helping those who needed it most in his community.

Ira Sarison is survived by his wife, Rivalee, his children Lynn and Robert, his sister and grandchildren, his extended family, and a large circle of friends, of which I am honored to be a part.

Everyone who knew Ira Sarison loved him dearly, and he will be deeply missed.

HONORING THE STATE OF MICHIGAN SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the State of Michigan school board members in observance of School Board Recognition Month for their service and unwavering commitment to our children and our schools.

The Michigan Association of School Boards was founded in 1949 to provide a united voice for the thousands of men and women who champion the cause of public education as board members. Michigan's 4,100 school board members contribute hundreds of hours each year leading their districts by adopting policies, hiring superior personnel and administrators, and listening to staff, parent and stu-

dent concerns. Through their tireless motivation and many contributions, school board members have distinguished themselves as compassionate individuals who are deeply committed to educating our children. These members have sought to ensure every child is given the opportunity to learn and succeed. Also, their many contributions serve as a fine example to inspire others.

The Michigan Association of School Boards launched the National School Board Recognition program in Michigan in 1989, in which only five states chose to celebrate this special month. Subsequently, the National School Board Association's Delegate Assembly resolved to initiate National School Board Recognition Month in 1995. Other States followed suit by annually recognizing their local school board members' service and commitment to their children and schools. January 2008 marks the annual observance of this year's School Board Recognition Month. This year's theme is "School Boards Lead Strong." This theme reflects school board members' combined commitment to leadership and accountability in ensuring all children succeed.

Madam Speaker, for 59 years, Michigan state school board members have exemplified civic duty by making decisions which fundamentally enrich the quality of education for over 1.7 million Michigan students. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these school board members upon observance of School Board Recognition Month; and recognizing their years of loyal commitment to education which has, undoubtedly, helped to create exceptional scholars and citizens.

HONORING DR. DAVID DENNIS DUNN

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Dr. David Dennis Dunn for his dedication to his country, exemplary service during World War II and contributions to the medical field and the Erie, Pennsylvania community. This honorable citizen will soon celebrate his 95th birthday on February 6, 2008.

WW II is filled with stories of heroism, selflessness, patriotism and a relentless desire to secure a future for the United States of America and the international community. Brave men left their ordinary lives in order to serve a cause greater than themselves. Dr. Dunn was among those great men to make that sacrifice.

Contributing his medical skills to that noble cause, Dr. Dunn served more than four years in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, including overseas duty in Iceland, England, Ireland, France, Germany, Luxembourg and Austria. He attained the rank of Captain serving in the 5th Medical Battalion, 5th Infantry Division and later served in the 30th Field Hospital. Dr. Dunn was awarded five Battlestars and the Bronze Star among a variety of other medals of commendations for his service.

Dr. Dunn pursued a 50 year career in General Surgery, starting as an instructor at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, completing a residency in surgery at the

Lankenau Hospital in Philadelphia and practicing general surgery at Hamot Hospital in Erie. He reached the pinnacle of his remarkable medical career when he was ultimately appointed Chief of Surgery at Hamot and later became a traveling guest lecturer at the highly esteemed Harvard University.

Not only has Dr. Dunn contributed to society professionally, but he also has had a great impact through his volunteer efforts in the Erie community of Pennsylvania's 3rd district. He is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and has served on the boards of multiple community organizations, notably as Founder and Board member of Hospice of Metropolitan Erie. He also was actively involved in Meals for Wheels, the Erie Community Foundation and the Erie Cemetery Association.

I am often reminded that America has been blessed with great people and leaders; Americans who rose to the challenge when their country was in need. I take great pride in representing a district with such honorable men in history.

I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Dr. Dunn for his admirable service to our country. His lifetime of achievements in the medical field and the community is certainly deserving of recognition, celebration and a great deal of gratitude.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY COMPONENT PRIVACY OFFICER ACT OF 2008

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. CARNEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. CARNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Department of Homeland Security Component Privacy Officer Act of 2008.

In the Homeland Security Act of 2002 Congress created within the Department of Homeland Security a Chief Privacy Officer.

The Privacy Officer is responsible for ensuring that an individual's privacy rights are not infringed upon by the creation of Department of Homeland Security policies and programs.

The DHS Chief Privacy Officer is unique within the structure of the Federal government insofar as it is a statutory position that is intended to be involved at all levels of the Department's activities—from policy formation to its implementation.

However, time has shown that the Chief Privacy Officer needs help in achieving this goal.

This bill will create Privacy Officers that will report directly to the Chief Privacy Officer in the following DHS Components: TSA, the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, CBP, ICE, FEMA, the Coast Guard, the Science and Technology Directorate, the Intelligence and Analysis Directorate, and the National Protections and Programs Directorate.

The level of public confidence and trust in the Department's handling of privacy matters remains abysmally low.

Moreover, there is also a major concern regarding the Privacy Office's involvement at the outset of the policymaking process, as intended by Congress.

This was made clear in testimony before the Committee on Homeland Security when it was