

global economy. It is estimated that road traffic crashes cost \$518 billion globally each year. In developing countries, road traffic crashes have a dramatic impact on their fragile economies, costing an estimated \$100 billion, often exceeding the total amount received by these countries in development assistance.

The real tragedy is that road traffic crashes are predictable and can be prevented. It is critical that America play an active role domestically and internationally to address traffic accidents. Many countries have achieved sharp reductions in the number of crashes and the frequency and severity of traffic-related injuries by addressing key issues, but this progress can be enhanced by encouraging governments to create lead road safety agencies in the image of our lead road safety agency, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Additionally, the Congressional Caucus on Global Road Safety, which I am privileged to co-chair with Congressman Chris Van Hollen of Maryland, is involved in efforts to encourage governments to improve reporting standards for deaths of their citizens abroad from road crashes so that more light can be shed light on the impact of this global epidemic.

As more Americans travel globally and more of our college students participate in study abroad programs in developing countries around the world, many of them will be at risk of injury or death due to hazardous traffic conditions. Now is the time to do whatever is possible to keep them safe, and it is essential as the international community stands together in remembrance of global road traffic victims that the United States join the United Nations, NGOs, and foreign governments in commemorating this important day and work swiftly to implement policies that will prevent further accidents and the needless loss of life.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. OVIDIO JOSEPH  
FALCONE

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Dr. Ovidio Joseph Falcone. Dr. Falcone, born in Salerno, Italy and raised in Yonkers, New York, displayed a passion for science, math, and sports from an early age, attending Manhattan College and obtaining his BS degree in Biology.

Dr. Falcone began his medical career in 1982, when he entered the New York College of Podiatric Medicine, obtaining his D.P.M. and beginning his residency at the Interfaith Medical Center in 1986, serving as its Chief Resident from 1987 to 1988 and later as its On-Site Director.

Dr. Falcone later became the Director of the Podiatric Surgical Division in 1998, developing one of the strongest Podiatric Surgical Residency Programs in the country as well as a dedicated, vibrant Podiatric Surgical Service at IMC.

Dr. Falcone is a member of the American Board of Podiatric Surgery, a Fellow of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, and is a member of the Council on Podiatric Medical Education. In addition to these responsibilities at Interfaith Medical Cen-

ter, Dr. Falcone has private practices in Queens and Brooklyn.

Dr. Falcone has a deep love for teaching the art of surgery, a strong commitment to family, and a passion for patient care. He is committed to serving the underprivileged and he believes that there is a sense of fulfillment in knowing you participated in helping those that are in need.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Dr. Ovidio Joseph Falcone for his extraordinary accomplishments at the Interfaith Medical Center.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Dr. Ovidio Joseph Falcone.

HONORING STEPHEN BAKER

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with Congressman RADANOVICH to congratulate Stephen Baker upon his induction into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame. Mr. Baker will be honored at the 50th anniversary enshrinement dinner of the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame on Thursday, November 6, 2008.

A sportswriter once said that Stephen Baker, at 5-foot-8, 160 pounds, was built more for gymnastics than for football. But with his lightning quickness, sure hands and gritty toughness, the wide receiver earned one of the game's enduring nicknames—"the touch-down maker." He was given the catchy moniker at West Los Angeles College, where he scored 31 touchdowns in two seasons, before starring at California State University Fresno for two seasons and playing six seasons with the New York Giants (1987–1992). With the Bulldogs, he was a frequent target of NCAA record-setting quarterback Kevin Sweeney, burning opponents for sixty-two receptions, an amazing 26.3 yards per catch and sixteen touchdowns over two seasons. He closed his collegiate career by catching a thirty-six yard scoring pass that gave the West All-Stars a victory in the Japan Bowl.

Drafted in the third round by the New York Giants, Mr. Baker earned the respect of Coach Bill Parcells with his ability to elude defenders and hang onto the ball. Over the course of his NFL career, he lost just one fumble. He started fifty-three games for the Giants and finished his career with one hundred and forty-one receptions, an 18.3 yards-per-catch average and twenty-one touchdowns. His best season was 1988, when he hauled in forty passes and scored seven times. The highlight of Baker's NFL career came in Superbowl XXV, as the Giants defeated the Buffalo Bills 20–19. He caught two passes—one of them a fourteen yard touchdown pass from Jeff Hostetler with just twenty-five seconds left in the first half to cut the Giants' deficit to 12–10.

Madam Speaker, we rise today to commend and congratulate Stephen Baker upon his achievements and induction into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Baker congratulations on his many accomplishments.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE MENDOCINO  
STUDY CLUB

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Mendocino Study Club for outstanding and distinguished service to citizens of the village and north coast of Mendocino, California, on the occasion of its centennial anniversary.

Since its founding by seven women on October 30, 1908, when Mendocino was still recovering from the California earthquake and fires of 1906, the Mendocino Study Club has been an intelligent and considerate force adapting to and addressing the issues of the times. The original members traveled by horse and buggy for the first decade in order to get together on the isolated and rugged Mendocino Coast.

In the early years Study Club members met to discuss reading assignments and international cultural and historical topics. It wasn't two years before they were also a contributing force to worthy causes. For many years the MSC was in charge of the local American Red Cross Drive. Active during the First World War, they gave to war related causes, and during the Depression focused on local needs. Health and dental care, education and safety became the stalwart causes for which the MSC has been particularly philanthropic.

In 1943, the MSC began its scholarship program with \$100 to study nursing. Since then, members have granted more than \$178,400 to high school graduates, as well as to recipients for reentry and job upgrade pursuits, and to economic enterprises. Their Country Christmas bazaar of handcrafted items supports the club programs including scholarships, and humanitarian and civic projects. The Mendocino Community Library is the longest running legacy, initiated by the Study Club in 1947 and incorporated in 1979. In 1988 the Mendocino Community Library moved into its own building which continues to be staffed and supported by the MSC.

Throughout the decades the MSC has been active in improving the quality of life for local residents through their support of such vital entities as the Mendocino Coast District Hospital, Mendocino Historical Research, Inc., Sherwood Oaks nursing home, Meals on Wheels, Hospitality House, a new firehouse, soup kitchens, the Senior Lunch Program and the Food Bank, to name a few. In addition to financial and volunteer support MSC has advocated on issues on behalf of school lunches to Congress, for highway safety to the state of California, and rural community libraries to the County of Mendocino.

Their 2008 centennial activities have included heritage rose plantings, a centennial quilt, and, in honor of the history of the unique village of Mendocino, the creation of walking tour brochures as a birthday gift to community.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Mendocino Study Club for 100 years of good deeds on the Mendocino coast. This exemplary organization lives up to its purpose to promote the highest spiritual, intellectual and cultural opportunities for its members, to provide for leadership of women

in the community, and to provide service to the community. It is with pleasure that I have the honor to commend the good work and future of the Mendocino Study Club.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL TOBIN

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, Michael Tobin was an exceptional academic leader, a devoted and loving family man, and friend to many. While his passing brings great sadness, the memories of this extraordinary man bring solace to our community.

Early in life, Michael attended the University of Connecticut, where he was an active participant in ROTC. Following graduation, he entered the Air Force and served as a Second Lieutenant. He subsequently earned his PhD from the West Michigan University and would go on to teach at Southern Connecticut State University.

Between 1976 and 1992, Michael was a professor at Southern Connecticut State University. During his tenure, he taught educational leadership to students from our community and communities across the Nation and abroad. His professional work inspired countless students and instilled the qualities that we need in our future educational leaders.

Beyond these professional achievements, Michael was a devoted and loving family man. In his passing, the love shared by his extensive family reflects the strong bond that he shared with each.

Throughout these journeys, Michael called Vernon, Connecticut his home since 1963. He was an excellent neighbor and even better friend and his presence will certainly be missed. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and my constituents in honoring his life and offering condolences to his family.

HONORING JERRY PRIETO, JR.

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jerry Prieto, Jr. upon being honored with the 2008 Greater Fresno Area Chamber Agriculturist of the Year. Mr. Prieto was honored at a luncheon November 5, 2008, held at the Radisson Conference Center in Fresno, CA.

Jerry Prieto, Jr. is a native of Corcoran, CA. He is the son of a former migrant farm worker

and was raised in a small town with a small family. Mr. Prieto attended California State University, Fresno and obtained his bachelor's of science degree in Plant Science. In 1973, he began working for the Fresno County Department of Agriculture as a Seasonal Agricultural Aide assigned to track the removal and planting of permanent crops. He quickly became a Seasonal Agricultural Inspector assigned to the inspection of cantaloupes and grapes. In 1974, he worked on the Citrus White Fly eradication project and on June 28th was hired as a full-time Agricultural Inspector assigned to the Fresno District performing plant quarantine and pest detection inspections. He also performed inspections on pesticide use, farm worker safety, seeds, and nurseries. In 1977, he was transferred to the egg inspection division where he performed egg quality inspections.

Mr. Prieto was appointed as the Supervising Agricultural Biologist in charge of the egg inspection program in 1979. Within a year he was promoted to the position of Deputy Agricultural Commissioner in charge of the Grower and Consumer Protection Division responsible for the enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to fruit, vegetable, and egg quality. In this position he was also responsible for gathering crop statistics and producing the Annual Crop and Livestock Report. By 1984, Mr. Prieto had transferred to Deputy Agricultural Commissioner of the Environmental Protection Division, where he enforced the laws and regulations pertaining to pesticide use, farm worker safety, and the coordination of the installation and implementation of the Fresno County Department of Agriculture's first computerized restricted use pesticide permit.

In 1989, Mr. Prieto left the Fresno County Department of Agriculture and took a position as a Senior Personnel Analyst with the Human Resources Division of the Fresno County Personnel Department. He supervised the county's labor relations, recruitment and exam programs. In 1993, he was appointed Fresno County Resource Manager. He was responsible for solid waste issues throughout the county and operated the American Avenue Regional Landfill, the Southeast Regional Landfill and the Coalinga Landfill. He was also responsible for providing road maintenance, street lighting, garbage collection, parks, and sewer and water services to 90 special districts.

Mr. Prieto was appointed to the position of Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weight and Measures exactly 25 years after he began working for the department. He was responsible for promoting and regulating the Nation's highest agriculture producing area. Mr. Prieto was appointed Chairman of Secretary Kawamura's AB 771 Honeybee/Seedless Mandarin Co-Existence Work-

ing Group. Mr. Prieto also served as a member of Governor Gray Davis' State Committee on Terrorism and the Western Weights and Measures Association Board of Directors. He served as the first Chairman of the California Agriculture Commissioners and Sealers Association's Food Safety and Agriculture Security Committee. He served as Chairman of the Fresno County Department Heads Council for 4 years. He is a member of the California State University, Fresno Agricultural Plant Science Advisory Committee and the Fresno County Farm Bureau. He is the Chairman of the Fresno County Council of Governments Model Farmland Preservation Committee and the Fresno County Land Conservation Committee. He is a past president of the California Agriculture Commissioners and Sealers Association. Mr. Prieto served as a judge for the Future Farmers of America California State Final competition for 23 years. For all of his service he has been honored with the "Distinguished Service Award" from the Fresno County Farm Bureau, and the "Service Award" from the Fresno-Kings Counties Cattleman's Association.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Jerry Prieto upon being awarded as the 2008 Greater Fresno Area Chamber Agriculturist of the Year. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Prieto many years of continued success.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 20, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.