

IN RECOGNITION OF DONNA YEE

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 14, 2009*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Dr. Donna L. Yee for her ongoing efforts to improve and strengthen services to older persons in the Sacramento region. As Donna's colleagues, friends and family gather to honor her work, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing this outstanding individual.

For over thirty-five years, Donna has been helping those in need of long term care. Since making Sacramento her home for the last decade, she has diligently worked and provided leadership to assure that social services are available, accessible, and acceptable to all elders.

Donna received her Master of Social Work from the University of Washington and her Ph.D. in Social Policy at the Heller School, Brandeis University. Prior to moving to Sacramento, she had most recently worked for the National Pacific Asian Center on Aging in Seattle and for the Institute for Health Policy at Brandeis University.

Since 2000, Donna has served as Chief Executive Officer of the Asian Community Center in Sacramento, which is one of the largest and most successful nonprofit organizations in my district. By identifying, developing, and providing culturally sensitive health and social services for older adults, the Asian Community Center enhances the general welfare and quality of life for a wide group of Sacramentans.

Donna has brought national recognition to the many programs that the Asian Community Center operates. The Center's Rides Transportation Program, which gives rides to seniors who can not drive themselves, won the Senior Transportation Action Response Special Recognition Award from the Beverly Foundation in October, 2008. In addition, the Asian Community Center's Nursing Home has earned the highest rating of five stars from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Agency.

Throughout her career, Donna has focused on capacity building, Medicare access, client-centered care, adult day care, assisted living, case management, hospital services for the aged, and has consistently provided support for the elderly and Asian Pacific Communities. In doing so, Donna has made her mark as one of Sacramento finest leaders.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Dr. Donna L. Yee for her lifetime of efforts to promote the quality and access of services for our senior citizens. She has done a tremendous job at the Asian Community Center and on behalf of the people of Sacramento and the Fifth Congressional District of California, I ask all my colleagues to join me in acknowledging her work.

RECOGNITION OF ARMED FORCES DAY: UNITED IN STRENGTH

**HON. MARK H. SCHAUER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 14, 2009*

Mr. SCHAUER. Madam Speaker, I am proud and it is my distinct privilege today to honor the men and women who have served our country. President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday, Armed Forces Day, for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country. On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Days. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under one department—the Department of Defense—and acknowledges the sacrifices Americans have made for freedom. Armed Forces Week has been celebrated every May since 1950. This period of time gives civilians a chance to appreciate the sacrifices of the men and women currently on active duty, those serving in the Guard and Reserve, and all those who served before them.

Sons and daughters of Michigan have answered their nation's call. We are humbled by those who show us that there is no greater love than this: to lay down your life in service to your neighbor. We honor those who take this risk every day. Today we remember those who have shown this greatest love and remember their families. As we gather today let us honor and commend the men and women who have served and currently serve in the military, for which we are forever grateful. May they know of the high esteem in which they are held by their family, their friends, their community and the great State of Michigan.

HONORING DOWNTOWNTOWN AREA SENIOR CENTER ON ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 14, 2009*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Downingtown Area Senior Center as it celebrates 35 years of outstanding service to senior citizens in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

The extremely hard-working and exceptionally dedicated staff at the Center provides an array of positive and informative programs that allow seniors to make new friends, enrich their lives and remain engaged in the community.

Madam Speaker, the Downingtown Area Senior Center will celebrate its 35th anniversary on Friday, May 15th, 2009, and I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the Center for reaching this special milestone and recognizing the valuable contributions the Center provides in improving the quality of life for the Downingtown area's senior citizens.

RECOGNIZING DR. H. RAY HOOPS ON HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA

**HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 14, 2009*

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Dr. H. Ray Hoops on his outstanding service to the University of Southern Indiana (USI). Dr. Hoops is retiring after 15 years of extraordinary service to USI and the community.

During his tenure as USI's second president, Dr. Hoops has increased university enrollment, forged important partnerships with community leaders, and improved the university's academic record. His leadership has left a lasting mark on USI's physical appearance too, with many new state-of-the-art facilities.

Dr. Hoops is also an influential and visionary leader in the Evansville community. He serves on the Deaconess Hospital Board of Directors, the Evansville Education Roundtable, and the Southwest Indiana Economic Development Task Force. He is a former director and chair of the Indiana Conference of Higher Education.

Dr. Hoops has served as a tireless advocate for the students and faculty of USI. As an alumnus, I appreciate his work to bring additional opportunities and support to this outstanding educational institution. He will be missed, but I'm sure he's ready to spend his days hunting for pheasant instead of hunting for endowments. I wish him all the best.

TRIBUTE TO DEWAR'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 14, 2009*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a leading small business in our community, Dewar's Family Candy and Ice Cream Parlor, which is celebrating 100 years of operation in Bakersfield, California this weekend.

James H. Dewar started this family business in 1909 with a belief in quality ingredients no matter the cost. He felt that his customers should get the same quality every time they tasted a Dewar's chew, and they have been for the past 100 years. Dewar's is original from the bottom up; they still grind their own nuts, and make their own ice cream, ice milk, and peanut butter. The same recipes are being used by the current keepers of the legacy, Michael Dewar and Heather Dewar Cook, grandchildren of James Dewar.

I have been going to Dewar's my whole life, and particularly enjoyed a quick trip to Dewar's after school when I attended Bakersfield High School down the street. My children, Connor and Meghan, join my wife Judy and me in enjoying Dewar's on a regular basis in the same old-fashioned ice cream parlor we enjoyed in our youth. I always order a George's Special—that combination of homemade vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce and banana in a milkshake that cannot be

beat. Dewar's chews are popular snacks in my office, and a wonderful way to share a little piece of Bakersfield.

Dewar's is a keystone of our small business community that measures success in its loyalty from generations of local customers. I thank Dewar's for its 100 years of tasty service to the people of Bakersfield and wish them the very best in its next 100 years.

A TRIBUTE TO CLAIRE POMEROY,  
UC DAVIS VICE CHANCELLOR  
FOR HUMAN HEALTH SCIENCES  
AND DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE

**HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 14, 2009*

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Doctor Claire Pomeroy, who is receiving the distinguished United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Sacramento Humanitarian of the Year Award.

Overseeing the UC Davis Health System, Doctor Pomeroy has brought international recognition to cutting-edge discoveries; contributed to the training of doctors and medical investigators; and spearheaded new initiatives to provide comprehensive clinical care for the greater Sacramento community and our nation.

Most notably, Doctor Pomeroy has outstandingly served the public through the founding of the Center for Reducing Health Disparities and the establishment of Rural-PRIME, a program specifically designed to prepare physicians to practice in underserved rural communities.

The United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Sacramento should also be commended for the work that they do for all people with developmental disabilities. They have improved the quality of life, independence, and productivity for many citizens in my district, and have truly lived up to their motto of providing a "life without limits for people with disabilities."

It is an honor to recognize the United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Sacramento for their immense dedication to improving the wellbeing for so many individuals and also Doctor Claire Pomeroy for her commitment to academic excellence, innovation, collaboration, equality and social justice. Both have served my district and our nation proudly.

RECOGNIZING ARMED FORCES DAY

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2009*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of H. Res. 377, "Recognizing Armed Forces Day and the exemplary services of the members of the United States Armed Forces." This resolution was introduced by my distinguished colleague Representative CALVERT of California. The Armed Forces are an important part of the American society, and they deserve a day of admiration during National Military Apprecia-

tion Month. I am proud to today and offer my support to our Armed Forces as I publicly acknowledge their commitment and contributions to our country.

I do not believe there is a person in this House, or a person in this building, who does not feel a remarkable pride in the presence of the men and women who serve in our nation's military. The success of the Armed Forces depends on the dedicated service of its members, their families, and the civilian employees of the Department of Defense and the Coast Guard. Their incredible sacrifices and courage in the face of innumerable hazards have been critical to the preservation of the freedom, security, and prosperity enjoyed that we as Americans have come to love, enjoy, and even expect.

Armed Forces Day is an important part of National Military Appreciation Month. It is a day to celebrate and appreciate all the Armed Forces. The Armed Forces in our country are truly an admirable group of individuals who demonstrate the strength, unity, and community that the United States stands for. It is important we recognize the Armed Forces as individuals and as a group for all that they contribute to our great nation.

H. Res. 377 is essential to demonstrating the Congress's support and acknowledgement of such an important day. The Armed Forces are a substantial entity of our nation and greatly contributes to our strength as a nation on a very real and global level. H. Res. 377 will further emphasize this importance, and more importantly, focus on a genuine appreciation for all military involvement across the United States. To remain as a world leader, the United States must maintain a well-trained and well-equipped army. As a Representative of the Federal Government, we must encourage the people of the United States to recognize the values and principles of our nation which the military encompasses and the sacrifices made for our country by individuals and military entities.

The Armed Forces has greatly contributed to our nation, and it is only right they we demonstrate our support, appreciation, and gratitude for their service to our nation. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution, and I extend a personal thank-you to those in the Armed Services. I hope that you all know your worth and to extend that you contribute to our country.

TEXAS

In the Iraq War, Texas has suffered over 222 resident casualties, second only to California. As a Representative for the 18th District of Texas, H. Res. 377 is very close to the hearts of those I represent. Many Texans hold a passion for protecting the integrity and strength of their nation, and as the recruitment numbers show, they often exercise their passion by joining the military. In past studies, Texas has been the number one state for military recruitment; therefore, recognition of military involvement is an important issue in Texas and in Houston.

Texas is home to more than 194,965 military personnel including a number of Army, Navy and Marine, Air Force, and Coast Guard bases. H. Res. 377 will encourage the citizens of Texas to reach out to those who are involved with the military and extend their gratitude for all that they do for our nation. Because there is a large population of military personnel in Texas, it is critical that we show

them the support of their nation and their state for all the positive contributions they have brought. I firmly believe that H. Con. Res. 84 is a positive step for the recognition, acknowledgement, and gratitude that should be given to our military personnel, and I hope to see the National Military Appreciation Month become a special time for the state of Texas to recognize the national contributions.

21ST CENTURY GREEN HIGH-PERFORMING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHAKA FATTAH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 13, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2187) to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to State educational agencies for the modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities, and for other purposes:

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Chair, noise is an environmental hazard similar to air, water, and ground pollution. Too much exposure to noise in an environment has a direct impact on the human body. Children, whose bodies and brains are still developing, more so than adults, are adversely affected by noise. A student's ability to hear and understand speech in the classroom is vital for learning. Unfortunately, noisy classrooms reduce the ability to learn. Noisy classrooms occur when the background noise and/or the amount of reverberation in the classroom are so high that they interfere with learning and teaching. We know that when classrooms are noisy it affects speech understanding, reading and spelling ability, behavior in the classroom, attention, concentration, and academic achievement. Learning in an excessively noisy environment is similar to trying to read in poorly lit room or obstructed by steps while in a wheel chair.

Therefore, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) recommends an appropriate acoustical environment for all students in educational settings. ASHA endorses ANSI S12.60-2002 Acoustical Performance Criteria, Design Requirements, and Guidelines for Schools (ANSI S12.60-2002) as the national standards for classroom acoustics. It is well recognized that the acoustical environment in a classroom or other educational environment is a critical variable in the academic, psychoeducational, and psychosocial development of children with normal hearing as well as children with hearing loss and/or other disabilities (e.g., auditory processing disorders, learning disabilities, attention deficit disorders). Inappropriate levels of reverberation and/or noise can deleteriously affect speech perception, reading/spelling ability, classroom behavior, attention, concentration, and educational achievement. In addition to compromising student function, poor classroom acoustics may also negatively affect teacher performance and increase vocal pathologies and absenteeism. Thus, all educational settings have an incentive to develop acoustical conditions that meet national standards. For children with hearing loss and/or other disabilities, the acoustics of the proposed educational setting(s) should be considered and addressed