

Washington, DC, and has served there since 2009. He previously commanded the 304th Signal Battalion, 1st Signal Brigade, Camp Stanley, Korea from 2007 to 2009. Prior to serving in Korea, Lt. Colonel Francis served at the Pentagon, assigned to DISA's Joint Staff Support Center as Division Chief, NMCC Operations. He deployed in support of ENDURING FREEDOM between 2002 and 2005. He was assigned to Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schoeffer Barrack, Hawaii, serving as the Assistant Division Signal Officer/Deputy G6 and as the Executive Officer, 125th Signal Battalion and later as Deputy CJ6, CJTF-76.

Lt. Colonel Francis received his Bachelor of Science Degree and ROTC Commission as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Alabama A&M University in 1989. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology and Minor in Mathematics and a Master of Science degree in Quality Systems Management from the National Graduate School. Upon completion of the Signal Officers Basic Course, he was assigned to the 279th Signal Platoon, Kaiserlautern, Germany, where he served as a Platoon Leader and Exercise and Plans officer from 1990 to 1993.

Upon graduation from the Signal Officers Advanced Course at Fort Gordon, Georgia, he was assigned to 525th Military Intelligence, XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he served as Brigade Signal Officer, then Company Commander of A Company—327th Signal Battalion, 35th Signal Brigade (Corps, Airborne) from 1994 to 1996. He was then assigned to the Military District of Washington, where he served on the 1997 Presidential Inaugural Committee as Chief, Visual Information Branch, followed by assignments within the Defense Information System Agency, DISA, as a Commercial Satellite Communications Officer and as a Communication Watch Officer in the National Military Command Center, NMCC, Joint Staff, Pentagon from 1996 to 2000.

Lt. Colonel Francis' awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Staff Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korean Defense Service Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Joint Staff Badge, the Army Staff Badge and the Parachutist Badge.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Fredriksted, St. Croix, the U.S. Virgin Islands and indeed the entire nation are proud of Lt. Colonel Francis. He is an exemplary young American who serves as a role model to the young people of our islands and is a source of pride to his parents, Betty L. Wilson and Divincy "Tino" Francis. We salute him on the occasion of his promotion to Colonel.

HONORING SANTA ROSA
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Santa Rosa Community Health Centers

and recognize their contribution to health care in Sonoma County, California. They are celebrating their 15th year of leadership and collaboration in building a healthy community.

In 1996, five physicians and one nurse practitioner made it their mission to bring high quality health care to the Roseland area of Santa Rosa, where the predominantly Latino community had no access to medical care. These providers worked tirelessly for 4 years until their first clinic opened with the help of the Sisters of St. Joseph and Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital. Southwest Community Health Center opened its doors on March 19th, St. Joseph's day, and was warmly welcomed to the community.

Under the guidance of CEO Naomi Fuchs, the original clinic at Lombardi Court expanded its hours and its facility. Ms. Fuchs also responded to the needs of several other important community programs that were facing budget restraints that threatened closure. The Elsie Allen Health Center, Turning Point Satellite Clinic, Southwest Adult Day Services and the Family Practice Residency Program were all brought under the Southwest umbrella as well as the Homeless Clinic, Roseland Children's Health Center and HIV/AIDS care. As their service area expanded well beyond the southwest corner of the city, they assumed a name that better represents them: Santa Rosa Community Health Centers.

In order to better serve their patients, 2011 saw the opening of the Vista Family Health Center, a 42,500 square foot facility that provides primary care and obstetrics to an additional 10,000 residents. This beautiful new health center reminds patients, many of whom are low income, that a medical home with a caring medical team is a right rather than a privilege.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we congratulate Santa Rosa Community Health Centers on 15 years of ensuring that everyone who enters their doors is heard, valued and honored.

A TRIBUTE TO MAPLEWOOD
NEIGHBORS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Maplewood neighbors of Humboldt for being the recipients of the Good Neighbor Award at the 2011 Humboldt County Spirit Awards.

The Humboldt County Spirit Awards were established to recognize and honor outstanding groups and individuals who have worked for the benefit of all citizens of Humboldt County, to celebrate the accomplishments and activities of our communities, to acknowledge the value of volunteerism in the county, and to have a positive impact on community spirit.

Annually included in the Spirit Awards, the Good Neighbor Award is presented to an individual or group who exemplify true neighborhood spirit by lending a helping hand in a time of need. This was exemplified when Maplewood neighbors assisted a recently widowed and grieving neighbor by selflessly mowing her lawn, moving snow from her driveway, and

simply taking her on walks to remind her of the support she will always have in her neighborhood despite her current difficulties.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent the members of the Maplewood neighbors in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues will join me in commending them for their sincere dedication to establishing a better community and wish them continued success well into the future.

RECOGNIZING DAN KEIFER

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an environmental leader from Southeastern Michigan, Dan Keifer, as he retires from the Clinton River Watershed Council after 10 years of dedicated service to the Clinton River watershed.

Those of us who represent urban watersheds know that the health of the waterways that flow through our communities are often measured in terms of specific indicators. A recovering river has fewer beach closings, declining e-coli pollution counts, and less bank erosion and sedimentation. A recovering river also shows restoration of native riparian vegetation, improved habitat, healthier stream flows, and the return of a wide variety of fish and other aquatic organisms. All of these watershed characteristics are measurable.

Another quality of recovering waterways is harder to directly measure, but is no less essential. Recovering rivers and streams invariably have people who take the time and trouble to care for them and work on their behalf. Without such public advocates, water quality improvements simply don't happen. Dan Keifer has been a powerful advocate and force for good in the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair watersheds. He has been an invaluable asset to the Watershed Council's mission to protect, enhance, and celebrate the Clinton River, its watershed, and Lake St. Clair.

Dan joined the Clinton River Watershed Council staff in 2002 and has served as that organization's Development Director and, later, as the Community Outreach Coordinator. Along the way, Dan has coordinated countless projects, meetings, and outreach efforts in support of water quality in our area. In 2008, Dan was awarded the National Distinguished Service Award for Trout Unlimited for his work in coordinating the Watershed Council's Coldwater Conservation Project.

Dan has also been an important part of my own office's water quality work, including efforts to support the new Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and deploy resources from that program in the watershed. He has worked with my office on everything from grants, to efforts to battle the invasive Asian carp, to the emerging partnership to carry out the recommendations of the Lake St. Clair Management Plan. Through it all, Dan has been an invaluable resource to my office.

Over the years, Dan has traveled the length and breadth of the watershed to speak to groups and relate the 10,000-year history of the Clinton River Watershed, telling the story about the progress that has been made from the days when the Clinton River was one of