

her dreams. Jessica gives the credit of her achievements to her parents, Ms. Lisa Thompson and the late Thomas Thompson, and her twin sister, Eboni, because their support has shaped her into the young woman that she is today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Jessica Thompson for her unwavering dedication to education, and striving to improve not only her life but the lives of others.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH 250TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
AND WAR OF 1812 COMMEMORATION

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a storied institution of faith in Virginia's Third Congressional District. This year, Trinity Episcopal Church in Portsmouth, Virginia is celebrating its 250th anniversary, and I would like to take a moment to reflect on the history of this esteemed church and its contributions to the greater Hampton Roads community.

The story of Trinity Episcopal Church begins in 1752 with William Crawford, the founder of Portsmouth, when he designated space at the intersection of High and Court Streets for a parish church. Between 1761 and 1762, the Vestry of Trinity Church was formed. Reverend Charles Smith served as the first parish priest.

During the American Revolution, the church was used by the British garrison, and Trinity's old church bell was cracked celebrating General Cornwallis' surrender. During the War of 1812, Captain Arthur Emmerson III, a lay leader in the congregation, was instrumental in the American victory at the Battle of Craney Island. During the Civil War, the crew of the ironclad C.S.S. Virginia—commonly called the Merrimac—worshipped at Trinity before boarding the ship to fight in the first battle of the ironclads against the Union ship, U.S.S. Monitor.

Over the years, Trinity continued to grow and expand, and its congregation felt a great sense of community responsibility, contributing to the well-being of the City of Portsmouth, surrounding neighborhoods and area churches. In the 1890s, Trinity founded the King's Daughters Hospital, which later became Portsmouth General Hospital. In the 1960s, under its noted Rector, the Rev. C. Charles Vaché, the congregation was active in the civil rights movement and endorsed the equality of all persons. Its members support organizations such as Portsmouth Volunteers for the Homeless, Oasis Social Ministry Center, and other social agencies, providing breakfasts, dinners, overnight accommodations, and financial support to those in need. Trinity is best known for its Annual Children's Christmas Shoppe, where hundreds of children, guided by members of the parish and community disguised as "elves," can do their own shopping for loved ones. The Episcopal Church Women and the Brotherhood of Trinity take on additional local, national and even international community service projects of their own.

Yet another longstanding Trinity tradition worthy of note is its music. Mentions of organists and accompanying choirs date back to 1823. Instruments housed at Trinity are revered as representative early-American works by their crafters. The choir has received acclaim dating back to the 1860s, when the Rt. Rev. John Johns, Bishop of Virginia, called the Trinity Choir "the best in the diocese." Today, the Trinity Music Series features local musical ensembles and world-renowned artists, working with the Virginia Arts Festival and other community organizations to provide quality music services, recitals and concerts to the public free of charge.

As Trinity Episcopal Church gathers to celebrate this historic milestone, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on its future. I would like to congratulate Rev. John R. Throop, D. Min., and all of the members of the Trinity Episcopal Church on the occasion of their 250th Anniversary. I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the community.

IN TRIBUTE TO RON PLOTKIN

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to a constituent and friend, Ron Plotkin, who will be rightfully honored this weekend by the Republican Jewish Coalition at its 2012 RJC Summer Bash.

An ardent Zionist and member of the Republican Jewish Coalition's Board of Directors, Ron has committed himself to educating the voting public and supporting Republican candidates who understand the unique relationship between Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, and the United States.

In addition, Ron is a highly successful Los Angeles-based international business executive and philanthropist who has made his mark in corporate marketing and advertising. As a partner and Chief Operating Officer of TMP Worldwide, he was instrumental in building the company into the world's largest "yellow pages" advertising agency.

The next global move was to cofound and develop the largest jobs website on the Internet, Monster.com. He is now Chief Executive Officer of Directional Marketing at Monster Worldwide.

Ron is an active investor in small technology start-up companies based on unique concepts that have the potential to be cutting-edge ground-breakers in very competitive fields.

His career in Yellow Pages began in 1975 with the L.M. Berry Co. where he held a number of positions that progressed to sales management at its headquarters in Dayton, Ohio. In 1986, he became an equity partner in CPC (Communications Planning Corporation) and shortly afterward, he entered into a partnership arrangement with TMP Worldwide, and officially joined the company on July 1, 1988.

He is also an Executive Advisory Board Member of the Cabrillo Music Theatre, Inc. and a Board Member of the Association of Directory Marketing, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure my colleagues join the Republican Jewish Coalition and me in

honoring Ron for his tireless efforts on behalf of democracy both here at home and with our strong ally Israel.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF
HILLSBOROUGH'S ADOPTION OF
H&H COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION,
327TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 1ST
BRIGADE, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the City of Hillsborough for its adoption in 2007 of H&H Company, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.

In 1967 a soldier in Vietnam named Sgt. Joe Artavia wrote a letter to his sister, Linda Patterson, asking her to convince the City of San Mateo to adopt his company. He thought an adoption would lift troop morale "as high as the sky." Patterson rallied the community to support her brother and his comrades. Within three months the San Mateo City Council passed a resolution to adopt the company.

Tragically, Artavia was killed three weeks later rescuing a fellow soldier, and the people of San Mateo joined together in mourning. Artavia's death solidified San Mateo's commitment to its adopted company and, in fact, in 1972 San Mateo was the only city in the United States to hold an official homecoming parade honoring Vietnam veterans.

Working with Patterson and the city of Burlingame, Hillsborough adopted its own company of the 101st Airborne Division in 2007. Since that time the city has continuously supported the H&H Company, 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, sending care packages, writing letters and supporting the families of soldiers who are deployed.

In a few months Hillsborough's adopted company will be re-deployed for another tour in Afghanistan. In commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the original welcoming-home parade, a new parade and festival are being held to honor past and present soldiers of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives join me in honoring the city of Hillsborough for supporting HHC 1st Brigade Combat Team 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and its brave men and women who fill its ranks, especially those who gave their lives for our freedom.

YIMI SERRANO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Yimi Serrano for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Yimi Serrano is an 11th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because his determination

and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Yimi Serrano is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Yimi Serrano for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK HALL

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a good friend of mine, Frank Hall. Frank passed away June 15, 2012 in Norco, CA. A resident of Norco, CA, for 35 years, he was a pillar of the community and he will be deeply missed.

Frank was born March 2, 1938 in Los Angeles. He grew up in Newport Beach, graduating from Newport Harbor High School and Orange Coast College, with additional studies at Pacific State University and Riverside Community College. As a youth, he worked for his uncle renting boats. Frank served the County of Orange from 1959 to 1995 in the General Services and Environmental Management agencies in the field of Right-of-Way Engineering, Property Management and Facilities Planning, and served honorably in the United States Naval Air Reserve as flight crew on anti-submarine aircraft from 1961 to 1969.

After retiring from the County of Orange, he became involved with Norco city government, serving as a City Councilman for 12 years and Mayor for 8 years. Frank was a visionary in Norco; he maintained the community's rural spirit while encouraging commercial and business development in the Inland region. As a Councilman, he held several appointed positions, including Riverside Transit Agency, RTA, where he was Chairman in 2007; Riverside County Transportation Commission, RCTC, Commissioner; Western Riverside Council of Governments where he was Chairman in 2001–2; Member of the Military Affairs Committee for the Norco-Corona Area, which was successful in retaining the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Norco; and Member of the City of Norco Economic Development Advisory Council, among many others. At the time of his death, he had been appointed by Supervisor John Tavaglione as an additional alternate to Riverside Transit Agency and the RTA Transportation-NOW coalition.

It is hard to imagine that Frank would have any free time on his hands yet he always found time for his community. He was a member of many local and regional organizations, including the Citizens Advisory Group at the Norco College, the Death Valley 49er's Association, the Pacific Crest Trail Association, the Norco High School Agricultural Advisory Committee, and the California State Parks Foundation. He was active in the Corona-Norco YMCA and was President at the time of his

death. Local clubs he belonged to were Norco Lions Club, Residents of Norco Urging Protection of Rural and Animal Keeping Lifestyle, RURAL, American Legion Post 328, Norco Historical Society, Norco Regional Conservancy, Saddle Sore Riders, Riverside Recreational Trails, and Norco Senior Citizens and Pet Relief Fund. A longtime horse lover, Frank belonged to a number of equestrian sports organizations. He was a life member of Equestrian Trails, Inc., the California Horseman's Association, and the Norco Horseman's Association, which he founded and served in for 18 years as President in 1991 and Treasurer from 1992 to 2012.

Frank is survived by his wife of 37 years Sharon; son Steve (Brenda) Hall, son William (Kate) Hall, and son Robert (Robin) Hall; six granddaughters, Kristin Hicks, Ashley Hall, Heather Hall, Holly Hall, Vanessa Hall and Lauren Hall, as well as two great-granddaughters Joie Lynn and Abbylynn. Frank is also survived by brother Howard (Kathleen) Hall.

On Friday, June 22, 2012, a memorial service celebrating Frank's extraordinary life will be held. Frank will always be remembered for his incredible work ethic, generosity, contributions to the community and love of family. His dedication to his family, work, and community are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Frank's family and friends; although Frank may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

IN MEMORIAM AND REMEMBRANCE OF FIRST SERGEANT ACKEEM PAUL GREEN 369TH HARLEM HELLFIGHTERS—HARLEM YOUTH MARINES, INC.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to share the news of a devastating loss to Harlem and the greater New York City community. We joined with many family members and friends at Memorial Baptist Church to celebrate the life of Harlem Youth Marine Cadet First Sergeant, Ackeem Paul Green, who passed away Sunday, June 3, 2012, from a fatal gunshot wound.

On behalf of our beloved Village of Harlem, my wife Alma and I want to extend our most sincere and heartfelt sympathy, support, and love to my beloved friend, Col. Gregory E. Collins, and the entire family of the First Sergeant Ackeem Paul Green. At the age of 25 he was indeed a promising young man continuing the honorable legacy of his father to better not only himself, but his fellow peers as well.

Extraordinary young men like Ackeem are a rare commodity in this world and serve a higher purpose in making it a better place. First Sergeant Ackeem Paul Green lost his life on the urban battlefield, from gun violence right here at home, while enjoying a game of basketball with friends on a Sunday afternoon. First Sergeant Green was shot in the back by an illegal gun in the hands of a misguided youth. Gun violence has taken the lives of so

many of our promising youth and it has taken over every urban neighborhood in the United States of America.

Every time I hear the news that one of our young sons, daughters, fathers, mothers, husbands and wives are struck down by illegal guns in the wrong hands of our misguided people—it pains my heart with anger. What makes this very difficult for me is that it has taken the life of a young man whose very focus in life was to mentor his peers and others to provide them with a positive direction through the principles and leadership of the Harlem Youth Marines and with the values and courage of the United States Marine Corp.

Since the age of 15 Ackeem has committed a tremendous amount of time and effort to the Harlem Youth Marine Cadets (HYMC). Once Ackeem reached the age limit to serve as a cadet, he remained dedicated and continued to serve the organization through volunteer work. He took mentored young cadets, served as a positive influence in the community, and was a much needed role model to many of our youth both in and outside of HYCM.

The Harlem Youth Marines, Inc. (HYCM) provides instruction in military grooming and development to students willing and eager to learn. This program has supported the youth in my district for over 30 years with an emphasis on youth development through education and discipline. They also provide cadets with the opportunity to engage in basic military skill training activities such as rappelling, marksmanship, and weapons safety. The children of Harlem have thoroughly benefited from this program through the development of body, mind, and spirit. Ackeem was a remarkable testament of their success.

Mr. Speaker, I know that we, the Village of Harlem, will honor Ackeem's life by ensuring that its young infant son, Ackeem Paul Green, Jr., honorable legacy remains alive. We must bring a realistic end to gun violence because it is destroying the lives of our children, families and communities. I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring this ambitious young man and an impassioned mentor whose legacy shall be far remembered and everlasting.

HONORING PRESIDENT TED MARTINEZ

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr. as the eighth Superintendent/President of Rio Hondo College. A Texas native, Dr. Martinez has dedicated himself to education and been a strong role model for Latinos in academia.

Dr. Martinez has worked throughout his career to insure that all students have access to quality higher education. In his capacity as Superintendent/President of Rio Hondo College he has been committed to maintaining fiscal stability while enabling student success, high-level learning outcomes, and the completion of the \$245 million building program. His leadership provided a new platform for Rio Hondo College to utilize its resources in partnering with community and business leaders.