

The faculty, staff, students, and parents of Roosevelt High School have received many awards and grants. Roosevelt was awarded the California High Schools Network grant in 1993 and the SB1510 Technology grant in 1994. The School was presented with the National Science Teacher of the Year Award in 1996, the California School Boards Association Golden Bell Awards for parent and community involvement in 1995 and 1997, and the State Board of Education Distinguished Schools Award in 1996. Two student volunteers and one adult volunteer for the school have received Fresno County Volunteer Bureau Volunteer of the Year awards for 1995, 1996, and 1997.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate Fresno Unified School District's Roosevelt High School for winning the California School Board Foundation's Golden Bell Award. The students and faculty of this school exemplify a care for the community and a dedication to hard work. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Roosevelt High School many more years of success.

#### FIGHTING HUNGER 365 DAYS A YEAR

#### HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 1998*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to share with our colleagues remarks made by Wayne S. Bell, who serves as Trustee and Secretary of the Ralphs/Food 4 Less Foundation. Around the holidays, individuals are much more likely to donate food to the needy, but then contributions typically decrease over the remaining months. This organization works to call attention to the problem of hunger that exists throughout the year. They recently awarded \$100,000 in grants to thirteen recipient organizations that are leading the fight against hunger in Los Angeles. Wayne's remarks reflect the seriousness of this cause and the need for all communities to join together to do more in addressing the issue of hunger.

Wayne's remarks follow:

Thank you Joe [Haggerty],<sup>1</sup> and good morning everyone.

The Ralphs/Food 4 Less Foundation is proud to join with United Way of Greater Los Angeles in the fight against hunger. Tragically, as the statistics show, over 1 million people are affected by hunger in Los Angeles County on a daily basis. Our partnership with United Way in this effort came about as a result of our independent commitments to address the problem of hunger.

United Way has long been a leader in assessing need and delivering funding to programs that positively and favorably impact the lives of people throughout the Los Angeles community. Joe has told you about United Way's Impact Goals, which are in essence a blueprint to tackling some of the more serious concerns of those who live in poverty.

The Ralphs/Food 4 Less Foundation established its Foundation Hunger Program with a modest goal of allocating nearly \$300,000 per year to help organizations that serve the needs of those faced with hunger due to poverty, homelessness, emergency circumstances, and/or illness. In the course of

examining the persistent problem of hunger, which, as we all know too well, sadly perpetuates the cycle of poverty, we became familiar with United Way's commitment to institute measurable Impact Goals to increase awareness of the problem and to improve access to available food programs for those in need. It became clear that we could be much more effective in our independent efforts if we combined forces.

The joint program of The Ralphs/Food 4 Less Foundation and United Way of Greater Los Angeles is aptly called "Fighting Hunger 365 Days A Year" to bring attention to the constant, year round problem of hunger and the additional burden on service providers when donations drop-off after the December holidays. While giving is good at any time, too often it falls off dramatically or ceases altogether following the holidays. We hope to set an example for other corporations, businesses, individuals and foundations, and invite them to join with us and United Way to assist organizations that are on the front lines in the fight against hunger.

Please join me in applauding the 13 grant recipients who are here today. They are truly making a difference by Fighting Hunger 365 Days A Year. Congratulations to all of the recipients.

Thank you.

#### A TRIBUTE TO A.J. NASTASI: PENNSYLVANIA'S ALL-TIME HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL SCORING LEADER

#### HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 1998*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a young man who has made an athletic accomplishment that many people thought would probably not be broken. A.J. Nastasi, a student at Northern Bedford High School located in Loysburg, Pennsylvania, broke the Pennsylvania Boys High School Basketball Scoring record on Saturday, February 7, 1998, with 3,627 points. I was fortunate enough to be in attendance for this historic game, watching A.J. and his teammates take on my hometown's team from Everett, Pennsylvania. A.J. has demonstrated great poise and maturity throughout this exciting basketball season, a trait no doubt attributed to his family. It should be noted that the previous record holder is a former colleague of mine here in the House of Representatives, former Representative Tom McMillen of Maryland. Tom set the state record in 1970 at Mansfield High School, scoring 3,608 points, and went on to a successful college and professional basketball career before coming to Congress. It was a privilege to be invited to honor A.J. and celebrate this momentous occasion with the many fans, friends and family members in attendance. Next Fall, A.J. will be attending West Virginia University as a scholar-athlete. A.J. has become part of an esteemed group of athletes through his accomplishment. I wish A.J. the best in his future endeavors, and hope that he continues his success on and off the court.

#### TRIBUTE TO PATSY WATKINS

#### HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 1998*

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Mrs. Patsy Watkins, who is retiring as Director of the Shelby County Board of Elections.

Patsy Watkins has served the citizens of Shelby County on the Board of Elections for the past 17 years. In addition to her duties at the Board of Elections, Patsy has served on Congressman Mike Oxley's service academy review board and as chairperson of the Shelby County Republican Central Committee. On top of all this, she finds the time to be a loving, devoted wife, mother and friend.

Patsy is a quiet leader and confidante to many. While representing Shelby County, I have appreciated her words of wisdom and her friendship. She has never been shy about telling it like it is.

Abraham Lincoln said, "A good leader avoids issuing orders, preferring to request, imply or make suggestions." Like Abe Lincoln, Patsy Watkins attained success, admiration and a positive image by practicing these principles. Patsy proved to be an effective leader; choosing a subtle, softer path rather than a heavy-handed approach. For this reason, among others, Patsy has become the backbone of the Republican Party in Shelby County.

It is no coincidence Shelby County voters are energized. Through Patsy's leadership and hard work, Shelby County has enjoyed Republican success in recent years. She has worked to promote conservative values and elect those who share her vision for better government. Congressman Mike Oxley, who represented the citizens of Shelby County prior to 1992 said, "Patsy epitomizes the Republican Party in Shelby County."

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and admiration that I rise to recognize Patsy Watkins for her service to the citizens of Shelby County. For those of us who know her for service to her community, we are grateful. For those of us who are fortunate to call Patsy friend, may God bless her with a long and fruitful retirement.

#### CONGRESSIONAL RECORD STATEMENT UPON THE RETIREMENT OF JOHN DAPONTE

#### HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 1998*

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, on December 31, John DaPonte retired from U.S. Government service and returned to his home state of Rhode Island after having served at the FTZ Board since 1968. The retirement of a federal official happens most every day. However, I believe it is important that John DaPonte's career in government be remembered because of the impact that he and the Foreign-Trade Zones Board have made on U.S. trade policy, U.S. companies in the global marketplace, and the economic development of a wide range of communities in the United States. There are

<sup>1</sup> President, United Way of Greater Los Angeles

few federal government officials who have made such a direct positive impact on the subject they manage.

The agency for which he worked, the Foreign-Trade Zones Board, is one of the smallest federal agencies in Washington, DC with only nine employees. It is so small that it does not have a line item in the federal budget. In 1968, zone projects existed in only 6 states and Puerto Rico and were very modest in size; today, Foreign-Trade Zones Board activity is in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. During his tenure at the Board, the Agency's zone projects increased from 9 in 1968 to 586 in 1997, a yearly growth rate of 221%; domestic merchandise receipts grew from \$18 million in 1968 to \$125.6 billion in 1996, an average yearly rate of 24.933%; and employment increased from 1,200 jobs in 1968 to 370,000 jobs in 1996, an average yearly rate of 1138%. There are few, if any, federal agencies with this growth record. John DaPonte deserves a thank you for managing an important U.S. trade program that grew rapidly over the last 30 years with very modest resources.

The Foreign-Trade Zone program is an economic development tool for communities providing financial assistance to many troubled U.S. industries, as well as to foreign-based firms interested in establishing U.S. production operations, by helping them be competitive in the global marketplace. Foreign-trade zones place U.S. production facilities on an equal footing with foreign operations. This benefit requires investment and jobs in the U.S. as opposed to another country. Industry groups become involved in the Foreign-Trade Zone Program in order to solve trade problems. Major industries involved in the program include shipbuilding, motor vehicles, oil refining, pharmaceuticals, information technology, etc.

The growth of the Foreign-Trade Zone Program required a very significant amount of effort by the staff of the Foreign-Trade Zones Board. The Foreign-Trade Zones Act or laws pertaining thereto were amended in the 1968 to 1997 period on thirteen (13) occasions. Mr. DaPonte implemented many new procedures at the Foreign-Trade Zones Board including Minor Boundary Modifications and Grant Restrictions to assist in managing the very rapid growth of the program in a balanced manner and without major funding or personnel. In 1968, 2 Applications for new projects were filed; in 1997, 85 Applications were filed. Board Orders approving new zone projects grew during the period from 3 Board Orders issued in 1968 to 78 Board Orders issued in 1997.

In order to effectively manage the development program, a wide range of Customs management changes were necessary. The Board supported these changes when it issued Board Order 103 on November 27, 1974, encouraging Customs to manage zone projects in a new and innovative manner. In 1981, the U.S. Customs Service published its first Foreign-Trade Zone Manual, which has been subsequently updated. In 1986, the U.S. Customs Service Regulations were totally rewritten to reflect the many necessary changes to the zone program. Special new procedures introduced to expedite activity included valuation of manufactured products, recognition of industry inventory methods, Customs audit management, direct delivery, daily CF 214s, and weekly entries.

In order to undertake its activities, the Foreign-Trade Zones Board actively interfaces

with a wide range of U.S. government agencies. Most importantly, was the Board's continuing involvement with state and local governmental organizations that carried out most zone activity. At a time when Washington is trying hard to empower states and localities, it would do well to look at the positive program developed under John DaPonte's leadership. The Foreign-Trade Zone Program, from the beginning, has been one that actively engaged states, counties, cities, and port authorities on a wide range of bases to encourage local economic development activities. Literally hundreds and thousands of meetings and reports and articles were written over the period that Mr. DaPonte was at the Foreign-Trade Zones Board on all of these issues.

It is clear that during John DaPonte's tenure at the Foreign-Trade Zones Board, the program experienced extraordinary growth. He managed this high level of growth effectively with extremely modest personnel and budget resources. No other Federal agency has created such a positive impact on our nation's balance of trade with such limited resources. John DaPonte's involvement in the Federal Government is a classic example of the federal government at its best. Today, we remember the positive contributions of John DaPonte in Washington, DC to U.S. trade. This Congress thanks him for his efforts and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO GARY SUDDUTH

#### HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 1998*

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to acknowledge a great man from Minneapolis who was an outstanding leader in Minnesota's African American community. In honor of Black History Month, I would like to take this opportunity to once again pay tribute to Gary Sudduth, who died suddenly on July 28, 1997, at the young age of 44.

As we celebrate the final week of Black History Month, I thought it appropriate to resubmit my commemoration of the life of Gary Sudduth, who made a profound impact on the African American community as well as everyone who knew him. He is sadly missed. The following is my July, 1997 tribute to Gary.

Minnesota lost a passionate voice for social and economic justice when Gary Sudduth, the Minneapolis Urban League President, died suddenly on July 28, 1997, at age 44. His untimely death strikes a blow to the community and efforts to make our cities better places to live, work and learn.

For years, Gary's reputation as an effective force for social change was well-known, not only in Minnesota, but across the nation. In the process, he touched and improved the lives of millions.

Gary was born and raised on the North side of Minneapolis with his eight brothers and sisters. He continued to live there until his death. In 1977, he joined the Minneapolis Urban League, and I first knew him as the young, active director of its juvenile advocate program. Later, he became director of the Street Academy and then vice president of community outreach and advocacy programs. In 1992, Gary was named president and chief executive officer.

Throughout his tenure, Gary united people from all walks of life to focus on a common

goal—improving the social and economic conditions for people in urban areas. He knew how to negotiate with his adversaries and to prod his friends—all in the name of implementing policies that would revitalize cities and benefit their inhabitants. At the same time, he sought long-lasting solutions for problems, not quick fixes. Above all, he listened and he led, sustained by the belief that every problem had a solution.

Gary demanded fairness, excellence and accountability from the government, from our schools and from the legal system. He challenged the establishment and the status quo to accomplish the changes he saw necessary—all the while speaking out for minorities, the poor and for children. His moderating style and negotiating skills often brought calm, compromise and peace to Minneapolis at times when crisis and unrest threatened to destabilize it.

It will be difficult for the community to replace the talents and drive of Gary Sudduth, who made the work of the Urban League his mission. The way he lived his life was an example for us all—in fact it was his greatest asset. The city of Minneapolis, the state of Minnesota, and indeed the nation are better off for his commitment and his contributions. That is his enduring legacy. I hope his example has inspired a new generation of leaders and urban advocates who will try to emulate his life's work.

#### THE SKILLED WORKFORCE ENHANCEMENT ACT

#### HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 24, 1998*

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make the point that as this Nation prepares for the 21st century, we are facing a severe shortage of skilled workers in the metalworking industry. For years we have relied on inefficient, big-government programs to train our workforce. This approach has obviously failed and the time has come to change.

The metalworking industry covers precision machinists, die makers, mold makers, as well as tool and die designers. These workers can make just about anything. They produce the parts that are shipped off to larger companies, such as Ford Motor Co. or Boeing, just to name a couple of examples. If you ask a person in the industry "What do you make?", he'll respond, "What do you want?" and proceed to produce your tailor-made products. These companies are the backbone of manufacturing in America. Without them, mass production of manufactured goods would not be possible. That is why it is imperative we act to help this industry recruit and train new skilled workers. Something must be done.

In my district in St. Louis, we have a large number of small precision machining plants. These plants have good jobs available at good pay but cannot find trained employees. The tax burdens placed on these small firms makes it nearly impossible for most of them to even consider taking on the high costs of training new workers themselves.

The Department of Labor estimates that the need for skilled labor in these trades is 2 percent annually of the current workforce. But with little new blood entering the industry, that percentage climbs to 5 percent when you take into account the aging factor. Indeed, the majority of workers in the industry are fast approaching retirement age.