

marriage to the late Ed Dembowski, her three children, Michael, Rebecca and Patrick and her eight grandchildren.

It is with great pride and honor that I rise on behalf of the citizens of Indiana to salute not only State Representative Nancy Dembowski's personal achievements and her contributions to our community, but also the generosity, courage and spirit that made her a remarkable public servant and a dear friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANDREA
GORMAN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Andrea Gorman for her tireless advocacy for Social Security. Ms. Gorman is a long-time constituent of mine and a leader within the Local 1584 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers in the East Bay. She has triumphed over adversity, and her story is a compelling reason to protect Social Security.

As a child in the 1940s, Andrea suffered the loss of her father; her mother unable to financially care for her eight children was forced to surrender Andrea and her siblings to an orphanage and foster homes. Fortunately a safety net was there and Andrea's family qualified for Social Security survivor benefits, which would reunite her with her siblings and their mother. Her first encounter with Social Security saved her family; her second, her home.

Forty-five years later, after fighting for her right to work among the men in the male dominated machinist industry, Ms. Gorman was injured on the job and unable to work. She required Social Security disability benefits in order to survive and keep a roof over her head. Once again Andrea was grateful to a social program she calls "her guardian angel".

Now retired, Andrea continues to advocate for the protection of Social Security and she is a trustee for Local 1584. Andrea's life is a leading example of why Social Security is one of our nation's most vital safety net programs and why we must protect it.

I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing a woman who has overcome adversity and life's struggles through determination, bravery, and hard work. I urge my colleagues to take Andrea's story to heart and work to protect Social Security for future generations.

HONORING CHIEF MICHAEL
FALESE

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to congratulate Bartlett Fire Protection District Chief Michael Falese on being named the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association's "Chief of the Year."

Chief Falese began his career of service and commitment to the community with the Elgin Fire Department in 1983, where he rose

to the rank of Fire Chief, and remained until 2007. In 2010, Falese became a Fire Chief at Bartlett Fire Protection District.

For the past two years, Falese has served as one of the Illinois fire service representatives sent to Washington D.C. to discuss Illinois fire service issues with elected officials. He has also served as a member of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association (IFCA) Board of Directors for the last two years and will become IFCA's President this coming October. In a large scale train derailment that took place last November, which involved more than 30 local, state, and federal agencies, Falese exhibited strong leadership as in command of the response.

Falese continues to devote his time to the community. He is currently President-elect of the Bartlett Rotary Club. He has made sure that the Fire District is represented at every U.S. troop homecoming in Bartlett. He is an esteemed partner to the Village of Bartlett, DuPage County, and Hanover and Wayne Townships.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Chief Michael Falese for this highly-respected distinction.

HONORING DOROTHY BERTUCCI

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dorothy Bertucci, a leading citizen of Petaluma, CA, who passed away February 23, 2012. She died peacefully at home at the age of 93 after a lifetime in her hometown where she was best known for her promotion of libraries and her kind spirit.

Dorothy was born in Petaluma, at home. Her parents, the prominent Mattei family, owned a men's clothing store downtown, not far from the house. She attended St. Vincent de Paul High school and graduated from UC Berkeley (Cal) in 1941. With a degree in library science and history, she then worked in the libraries at both Cal and UCLA.

Later at Cal, she also met her husband Andy Bertucci. In 1949, the two went to a Cal game on a blind date, married in 1950, and enjoyed a 49-year marriage. Andy worked in the family clothing store, and the couple raised their four children in Petaluma. After Andy's retirement in 1977, the two traveled together frequently and enjoyed many games of golf till Andy's death in 1999.

Dorothy was active in the City, including its political campaigns, but libraries were her true mission. She knew libraries represented the heart of the community, a place where everyone had access to information and a gateway into the magic of reading. She was a librarian and a member of the Library Board of Trustees in Petaluma as well as serving on the Sonoma County Library Commission and the California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners (including a stint as President).

Straightforward, dedicated, and optimistic, she was the ideal person to help in the campaign for a bond measure for a new library in Petaluma. It passed in 1976 on the fourth try, with Dorothy championing the effort all the way. In 1974, she was honored as Petaluma's Citizen of the Year for her involvement.

Dorothy is survived by her four children John, Paul, Tom, and Ann and their partners as well as three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, citizens like Dorothy Bertucci remind us what caring people can accomplish for their communities. Please join me in honoring her life and accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DOUG
SUTHERLAND

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career and accomplishments of Mr. Doug Sutherland, an alumnus of the University of Wisconsin—Superior.

Doug is one of the most accomplished athletes in the history of the school and was recently named to the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) All-Time Team in football. He has also been chosen recently as a member of the inaugural class of the WIAC Hall of Fame.

In 1970, Doug was chosen in the 14th round of the NFL Draft by the New Orleans Saints. He went on to have a 13-year career with the Saints, the Minnesota Vikings and the Seattle Seahawks. He appeared in three Super Bowls with the Vikings and, in 2010, was named one of the 50 greatest Vikings.

In addition to distinguishing himself on the football field, Doug was a six-time conference champion in track and field throwing events and participated in three National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics meets.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to help recognize Doug's incredible athletic record and ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating him on his accomplishments.

OUR HERITAGE FORESTS: AN
AMERICAN LEGACY

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article, which is authored by my friend Jason Hartke, and discusses the important role of our nation's Roadless Areas. Roadless Areas protect 58.5 million acres of pristine wild forests and provide clean drinking water to over 60 million Americans.

OUR HERITAGE FORESTS: AN AMERICAN
LEGACY

(By Jason Hartke)

"If there is one thing that should unite us as a country across generations, parties, an time, it is love of the land." President Clinton made this remark at the National Arboretum on January 5, 2001, where he announced the Roadless Area Conservation Rule which protected the last, best wild lands in the nation. This initiative encompassed 58.5 million acres of forests in 39 states. Combining this accomplishment with the 22 National Monuments that he designated and protected, President Clinton left office having saved more land in the contiguous United States than any administration since Theodore Roosevelt.

Yet, like liberty, the price of environmental protection is eternal vigilance. The individuals and organizations who are fighting to protect these magnificent forests have embraced the dream of President Clinton and millions of people across this country. They will not stand aside while the fight for America the Beautiful is in the balance. From the time of Teddy Roosevelt, leaders have stepped forward to ensure that future generations will inherit an epic legacy of timeless beauty.

In this initiative, as in others, President Clinton operated on the principle that economic progress and environmental protection can and must go hand in hand. He made this point clearly in a speech at Reddish Knob in the George Washington National Forest where he called on the Forest Service to formulate a policy to preserve the roadless areas: "It is no longer necessary to grow a modern economy by destroying natural resources and putting more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. In fact, we can create more jobs by following a path of sustainable development."

President Clinton realized that the country was changing. People were attracted to pristine environments where they saw opportunities for outdoor recreation. Whether it be hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, wildlife photography, or other forms of outdoor activities, people are increasingly seeking out places where they can find solitude, enjoy the wonder and contentment found in nature, and in their own individual way, experience a renewal of the human spirit. To accommodate these popular activities, companies are finding an ever growing and powerful market, giving a helpful hand to local economic interests.

While standing up for the public good is always the right thing to do, it is rarely the easy thing to do. Despite the fact that President Clinton's executive action was steeped in precedent, pioneered by Theodore Roosevelt and other presidents throughout the 20th century, his action was immediately challenged in lawsuits that have spanned the last decade. Some of the opposition may have arisen from the mistaken belief that the Roadless Rule was a last minute action in the final days of the Clinton Administration. In truth, the final adoption of the Rule was the culmination of an exhaustive rule-making procedure, including a thorough and well reasoned environmental impact statement.

As early as December of 1997, one hundred and sixty nine scientists wrote to President Clinton urging him to develop a science based policy for roadless area protection. The public response was enormous. The forest protection idea sparked the largest grassroots environmental campaign in US history, eliciting an unprecedented one million six hundred thousand comments from the public. More than 1.2 million Americans provided comments over a 60 day period alone. Of those comments, an amazing 96% of the citizens voiced support for protecting these irreplaceable natural treasures.

Other opposition wrongly assumed that these forests were crucial to the viability of the logging industry. Yet here again, the truth was that these roadless regions accounted for a very small percentage of the logging industry, while the cost of extraction meant that any effort to log in these areas would have to be subsidized.

These old forests are important to people who do not directly use the forests. Scientists have accelerated their documentation of the massive value of free ecological services that are derived from forests. These services help to clean our drinking water, prevent soil erosion, clear the air of pollution, and sequester carbon that otherwise would contribute to climate change.

The old dichotomy between preservationists and utilitarians is increasingly becoming blurred due to the ubiquitous use of these free ecological services. It turns out that everybody has a stake in these ancient forests, because the magnificent landscapes are essential to the integrity of the great life support systems of the planet.

Although forests are under the control of sovereign nations, they also represent a trust responsibility to the world. Deforestation, for example, is one of the biggest contributors to adverse climate change. Forests soak up prodigious amounts of carbon dioxide. Therefore, every person on the earth and all future generations are affected by every forest on earth, regardless of which country they call home.

The eminent historian, Dr. Douglas Brinkley, observed in his book, *The Wilderness Warrior*, that Theodore Roosevelt's conservation record became "the template future presidents followed." His historical perspective rings true.

President Clinton, shortly before he left office, reflected on the environmental policies of his Administration: "We had done our best to be faithful to Roosevelt's conservation ethic and to his admonition that we should always be taking what he called 'the long view . . . Working together, we can ensure that not only our generation, but each generation to come, will have the resources to leave an even better land for those who follow.'"

President Clinton's leadership by example, practicing at home what he advocates abroad, adds to our credibility in the international community and gives hope to people everywhere that living up to our global responsibilities does not impede, but rather sustains economic opportunity and vitality.

Saving the beauty, diversity, and life of the planet is not bad economics; rather, it is fundamental to human survival and the advance of civilization.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF POPE SHENOUDA III

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the passing and celebrate the life of Coptic Christian Pope Shenouda III of Alexandria. For more than forty years, Pope Shenouda was the leader of the Coptic Orthodox Church—a denomination with more than ten million followers in Egypt and throughout the world.

As its religious leader, he ensured that the Egyptian Coptic community was, and is, an integral pillar of Egyptian society. We will miss him, especially during this time of political transition in Egypt, as his voice reminded us of that country's long history of peace and religious tolerance.

I join the members of Michigan's Coptic Community and the St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Church in my district to mourn the passing of Pope Shenouda. As President Barack Obama eloquently stated "we will remember Pope Shenouda III as a man of deep faith, a leader of a great faith, and an advocate for unity and reconciliation."

RECOGNIZING WYNNBROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Wynnebrook Elementary, a school in my district that exemplifies all that is right with America's public education system. Under the guidance of Principal Jeffrey Pegg and his talented faculty, Wynnebrook has been rated an "A" school by the State of Florida nine years in a row.

I toured this fine school on March 15, 2012 and saw for myself everything that makes it great. I met wonderful teachers and spoke to classroom after classroom of happy children who were clearly excited to learn.

Wynnebrook Elementary's students are overwhelmingly minority children, and most come from low-income families. Despite these challenges, writing scores on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) are in the 90th percentile, with reading scores close behind. Scores in nearly all core subjects are over 80 percent as well.

There is no lack of enthusiasm at Wynnebrook. Several teachers were eager to tell me how pleased they are with the continued excellence of Wynnebrook. They are certainly a large part of its success, with several having taught at Wynnebrook for over 30 years. Additionally, the children were eager to ask me questions about my occupation and career. I was especially impressed with the number of students who told me they would like to become doctors or lawyers.

Wynnebrook is proof that when schools get the funding they need, they will turn out intelligent, well-adjusted children who want to succeed in life. What I saw that day served as a reminder of the importance of Title I funding in ensuring that our nation's students receive the education they deserve, regardless of their financial background, and reinforced my determination to work for increased funding for public education as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Principal Pegg, reading instructor Leslie Millar, and all the fine teachers and staff members I met at Wynnebrook Elementary, and I look forward to even greater success from its administrators, faculty, and students in the years to come.

CELEBRATING STATE REPRESENTATIVE CHET DOBIS'S RETIREMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense gratitude and the utmost respect that I take this time to honor a dear friend and one of Indiana's finest citizens, the Honorable Chet Dobis, Indiana State Representative. For his many years of public service and his countless efforts toward improving the lives of Northwest Indiana residents, Chet will be honored at a celebratory reception at Gamba's Ristorante in Merrillville, Indiana, on Monday, March 19, 2012.