

Environmental Committee. The NSSGA member companies account for 90 percent of crushed stone and 70 percent of the sand and gravel used each year in the United States, and employs 115,000 American workers.

Mr. Boraston recognizes that we must all be good environmental stewards. He has made significant contributions in limiting emissions from naturally occurring asbestos to conform to the standards set by the California Resources Board. Mr. Boraston has coordinated summit meetings between government agencies and industry companies, and developed and implemented company-wide environmental management systems to address Granite Construction environmental issues. These are truly commendable actions that exemplify what one individual can contribute to the protection of the environment. We all look forward to Geoff Boraston's continued leadership on the NSSGA Environmental Committee to achieve environmentally sound operating practices.

Granite Construction is one of the Nation's largest heavy civil contractors and construction materials producers. The Watsonville company is a major builder of all types of rail system infrastructure, such as light rail, monorail, commuter rail and freight rail. Granite Construction is currently pursuing some \$12 billion in rapid transit and rail projects to be bid throughout the country over the next year.

HONORING CHRIS COX

SPEECH OF

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and give thanks to my friend and colleague, Chris Cox. After serving in the House for more than 16 years, Chris is now taking on a new challenge by serving as the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission. I think all of us can agree that our loss is most certainly their gain.

Following the redistricting of 2002, I became the newest member of the Orange County delegation and my newly drawn district shared a border with his. Chris immediately welcomed me to the delegation with open arms and graciously introduced me to a host of local government officials, business owners, and community leaders.

If anyone has spent time in his district and enjoyed its extraordinary coastal setting, they would agree that Chris must be a truly dedicated public servant for agreeing to spend so much time here in Washington. Thankfully, he possessed the will to serve in Congress and to be a leader for his county, State and Nation.

During his time in the House, Chris served with distinction in many different roles. Most recently, Chris made history by serving as the first Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee. In this capacity, Chris took on an unprecedented challenge and oversaw the most radical government reform in decades. As those who know Chris would expect, he was up to the task and eager to find out what was working and what needed to be fixed.

Chris came to Congress in 1988 after serving as Senior Associate Counsel to President

Reagan. While at the White House, Chris gained tremendous insight and invaluable experience, but I think he would tell you that the best thing he took away from his time there would be his wife, Rebecca.

I know Chris will take on this new challenge with the same tenacity and vigor that he showed so often on so many important issues here in Congress. I understand Chris wisely decided to keep his home in Orange County, and I look forward working with him in Washington and enjoying the warm California sun with him in Orange County.

ACKNOWLEDGING STUDENTS AND STAFF OF BERTSCHI SCHOOL IN SEATTLE, WA

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I acknowledge the students and staff of Bertschi School in Seattle, WA, for sending heartfelt greetings to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, I traveled to Houston to visit the evacuees who were housed in the Astrodome. I brought handwritten letters from citizens of my home town, Bainbridge Island, WA, and handed them out as I met so many courageous individuals who had lost everything; their homes, their jobs, their belongings, and in some cases, their families, during their hurried evacuation of New Orleans. As I handed out the letters written by citizens who live thousands of miles away, I witnessed how meaningful these words of compassion and support were to these displaced Americans.

Students at the Bertschi School in Seattle, WA, read about my trip and the positive impact the letters had on the hurricane victims and they wrote to me, asking if they could also send letters to families during my next visit with hurricane evacuees. While I was not able to return to Houston with their letters, I did have the pleasure of reading over their beautiful and inspirational words and art work before the letters made their way to Texas Children's Hospital, where some of the youngest hurricane victims were relocated.

It is among the greatest honors as a Member of the House of Representatives that I have an opportunity to meet and work with young people who are involved in their communities and who are deeply committed to making our country and our world a better place. Our future depends on these young people, who are capable of reaching out and showing support for their fellow citizens.

Though the students of Bertschi School are only in their elementary years, they already have a deep sense of civic pride and connectedness to the greater world and feel they have something to offer, even if it is, as in this case, sharing words of encouragement and compassion.

I commend the students and staff of Bertschi School for their efforts and wish them continued success in the years ahead.

IN HONOR OF THE COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc. CAB on the occasion of its 40th anniversary. CAB was created in October 1965 to meet the challenge of President Lyndon B. Johnson's "War on Poverty," and as such is committed to meeting the needs of low-income people.

Since its inception, CAB has assumed responsibilities of great import to the community by providing vital preventative, emergency, and intervention services. They created and administer many programs in Santa Cruz County including Head Start, Second Harvest Food Bank, Legal Aid Society, Housing Authority, Women Infants and Children nutrition program, Senior Citizens Legal Services, Foster Grandparent Program, Women Ventures Project, Natural Resources and Employment Program, and CalWORKS Emergency Payment Program.

CAB played an important role in disaster relief for low-income residents following the devastating Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989 and the 1995 Pajaro River flood. Many of the programs and policies nurtured by CAB successfully reduce poverty and increase independence and self-sufficiency.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the Community Action Board for its 40 years of leadership in the community. I applaud the many contributions and achievements of the Community Action Board, and am proud to have such an exemplary organization fighting poverty and caring for the needs of the most vulnerable citizens in Santa Cruz County.

SUDAN HIRES WASHINGTON LOBBYIST

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 17, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, here we go again. First it was Patton, Boggs trying to polish the image of Saudi Arabia. Then we had Akin, Gump trying to assist China in buying a U.S. oil company. Now comes the shocking news that a Washington lobby shop has landed the Government of the Republic of Sudan as a client. Where will the lobbying wheel of fortune stop next?

The Government of Sudan has hired Mr. Robert J. Cabelly, managing director, C/R International, to lobby on its behalf. How can an American company use such bad judgment and represent a country whose leaders are suspected of organizing and arming militias to commit genocide? And why did the United States State Department sign-off on such a plan?

While shocking to some, it may not be all that surprising for anyone familiar with Mr. Cabelly's history. After working at the State Department for more than a decade where he