

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Colby John Buehler for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout. I am honored to represent Colby in the United States House of Representatives.

IN TRIBUTE TO NICK TOPPING

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life and work of Nick Topping, a highly respected, social justice activist, music impresario and business owner. Mr. Topping died on May 9, 2007, at the age of 89.

Mr. Topping earned a degree in history and communications from the University of Wisconsin—Madison. During World War II, he was drafted and served in Army intelligence. When he returned, he founded a store named Topping and Company International House that he ran for over 50 years. The store stocked Greek and Middle Eastern food, books, and records from all over the world.

Mr. Topping was one of nine children born to Greek immigrant parents who ran a grocery store at South 4th Street and West National Avenue. Mr. Topping was born Nick Topitzes and changed his name at the age of 18 because of the discrimination Greeks faced at that time.

Nick Topping spent much of his lifetime working for peace and social justice. He marched with Father James Groppi over the 16th Street Viaduct during Milwaukee's civil rights struggle and took his daughters along on the marches with him. He belonged to the NAACP and became an early local protestor against the Vietnam War. Mr. Topping was also active in the growing south side Latino community and in the Chicano rights movement.

Mr. Topping was a promoter of ethnic and folk music concerts in the 1950s and '60s including singers such as: Miriam Makeba, from South Africa; Pete Seeger; Josh White; Peter, Paul & Mary; Bob Dylan; and Greek composer, Mikis Theodorakis, music composer for the movie *Zorba the Greek*. Nick Topping secured his place in modern Milwaukee history by securing the Beatles for their one and only Milwaukee concert on September 4, 1964. The concert quickly sold out with the most expensive ticket selling for \$5.50.

Nick Topping is survived by his wife of 56 years, Harriet; two daughters, Adele Fatemi-Topping and Alexandra Topping; a brother, Agamemnon (Memo); and a sister, Sandra Topitzes Brown, all of Milwaukee.

Madam Speaker, Milwaukee has experienced a profound loss with the passing of Nick Topping. Today, I thank him and his family for their immeasurable achievements. I mourn his loss and I salute his legacy.

TRIBUTE TO FRAN LUS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Fran Lus for his 12 years of service to Chautauqua County. Mr. Lus is a wonderful example of what public service should be.

I would like briefly to touch on the many areas of service that Fran has been involved with. Fran was first elected to the Chautauqua County Legislature in 1995 as a representative of district 23 in Portland. He served as the Chairman of the Public Safety Committee. Mr. Lus is also a member of the Public Facilities Committee and serves as a delegate to the Inter-County Association of Western New York and is a member of the Cornell Co-operative Extension Board of Directors.

I must also acknowledge Mr. Lus' other interests. He serves as a member of the Stop DWI Committee, the Southern Tier Extension Rail Authority Board, is a life long member of the Southwestern N.Y. Volunteer Firemen's Association and an exempt fireman of the Brocton Fire Department. He was also a member of the Portland Volunteer Fire Department for 3 years. Fran was recently elected to the Brocton Central School Hall of Fame.

I am proud to mention that Mr. Lus served his country during the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1954 as a member of the United States Air Force and is a life member and former commander of the John W. Dill post 434.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating Fran on his wonderful job well done in the Chautauqua County Legislature. Fran, you will be missed by all of the constituents whose lives you touched. Enjoy your retirement!

HONORING DR. SPENCER FOREMAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, for more than two decades Dr. Spencer Foreman's leadership has made Montefiore Medical Center (MMC) one of the most forward thinking and academic medical centers in the country. He is a national health leader, and a respected expert in hospital administration and medicine. Dr. Foreman is a member of the National Academy of Science's Institute of Medicine, a former chairman of the Association of American Medical Colleges and a past trustee of the American Hospital Association. Annually, MMC treats more than 60,000 new patients, has more than 400,000 home visits, and 1.8 million outpatient visits. That, plus an annual budget of more than \$1.9 billion, makes it one of the largest academic medical centers in the country.

For more than a century, MMC has had a long and distinguished history of meeting the healthcare needs of New Yorkers and patients from around the world.

MMC is one of the most innovative medical centers in the country with a staff of brilliant doctors, nurses and associates on all levels

dedicated to giving every patient the highest quality care and service.

This did not happen by accident. The leadership of Dr. Foreman for over two decades led MMC to the top of its class.

I have always been proud to tell people that Montefiore Medical Center is in my Congressional district. It is a mainstay of health care in the Bronx which is famous throughout the world.

But more than that, I have always been delighted to say that Dr. Foreman has been my friend. Dr. Foreman took charge at Montefiore about the same time I came to Congress. For over 18 years we have worked together to better the healthcare system. I count him among my trusted advisors on the state of healthcare in our Nation.

What he has accomplished will continue for generations. He has created a model of health care efficiency to which it can truly be said that thousands owe their lives and well-being. I am proud of the work of Montefiore Medical Center. I am proud of the accomplishments of Dr. Foreman but even more so I am proud of my friend Spike.

IN HONOR OF THE SAINT FRANCIS
SOUP KITCHEN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of the Saint Francis Soup Kitchen, which recently celebrated its 25th year of service in the Santa Cruz community. St. Francis is an organization founded and run by volunteers who love to help others. In the 25 years that it has been around, St. Francis has fed and clothed countless people who are in need. The city of Santa Cruz has approximately 400 people who are homeless, yet St. Francis is one way in which the community is trying to help the problem.

Father Peter Carota deserves special recognition as the founder of the St. Francis Soup Kitchen. In 1981, when still a layman, Peter sold his home and used the money to start St. Francis. Feeding the poor out of the back of a van, Peter Carota began his dream of running a soup kitchen to feed the homeless. A few years later, in 1983, Peter and some volunteers purchased the property of the current soup kitchen and St. Francis was born. Peter has since become a priest, but his work at St. Francis is carried on by devoted volunteers.

The soup kitchen was founded to help people in need and that is exactly what it does. The kitchen never turns a hungry person away and feeds up to 180 people at lunch every weekday. St. Francis not only provides free lunch every day to the homeless, it also operates a clothing room that provides donated clothes free of charge to guests. However, St. Francis could not function without the support of the dedicated volunteers and the help drawn from churches, high schools, UC Santa Cruz, and the broader community.

Madam Speaker, the St. Francis Soup Kitchen has contributed so much to the city of Santa Cruz and the surrounding community; I have only scratched the surface of its beneficial and compassionate dedication. I commend the St. Francis Soup Kitchen for all that