

longtime executive with Exchange Bank who devoted himself to his family, his community, and his fly fishing.

Born in Chicago in 1924, Andy grew up in Omaha, Nebraska, and Pebble Beach, California. He joined the Army in 1943 and distinguished himself fighting in France where he won numerous honors including the Combat Infantryman's Badge 1st Award and the Bronze Star. After his discharge in 1946, Andy attended Stanford University, graduating in 1949 with a degree in Economics. He soon joined Exchange Bank as a teller, working his way up to CEO in a career that spanned 60 years.

By 1969, Andy was appointed CEO and President of the bank, a position he held until 1991 when he was named Chairman of the Board. Upon his retirement in 2003, Andy served as Chairman Emeritus and continued to visit his office until a few months ago, despite being debilitated by a bone marrow disorder.

Andy was known as a banker's banker, and his years of leadership at Exchange Bank were marked by solid investments that assured good dividends combined with innovations such as being one of the first banks in the community to introduce ATMs and drive-through tellers. He also set a priority on personable customer and employee relations, which he exemplified with his own ready smile and kind words. During his tenure the bank grew from three offices to 19, with a focus on small account-holders.

But it is his promotion of Exchange Bank's greatest gift to the community—the Frank P. Doyle Scholarships—that truly marked Andy's banking career. The scholarship program, founded by Frank Doyle almost 60 years ago, provides bank dividends for a fund which assists students at Santa Rosa Junior College. Over the years, \$78 million has been awarded to more than 112,000 students. Unfortunately, the bank has recently had to suspend these dividends, but Andy was confident that, with the bank's long-term stability, they will be restored. He also founded and/or served on the boards of numerous community organizations such as the Community Foundation Sonoma County, Santa Rosa Symphony, Memorial Hospital, Heart Association of the Redwood Empire, and United Way.

Andy also had active leadership roles in two key banking organizations, the California Bankers Association and the American Bankers Association as well as the Independent Bankers of Northern California, the American Institute of Banking and the Conference of State Bank Supervisors. Among his numerous awards are the California Human Development Corporation Aztec Award, Pacific Coast Banking School Hall of Fame, Santa Rosa Junior College Floyd Bailey Award and President's Medallion, and the Junior Chamber of Commerce Boss of the Year.

In 1993, Andy married Mardi Casebolt who shared his passions for golf and fly fishing. Andy was proud of his chairmanship of the Ladies Professional Golf Association and enjoyed his time at a fly fishing lodge he co-founded in Colorado which has been featured on national television fishing shows. In addition to Mardi, Andy is survived by daughters Marcy Lyons and Susan Ball, stepdaughters Debbie Bird and Trece O'Donnell, four grandchildren, and five step grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, Andrew Shepard's life leaves a deep imprint on the banking industry,

on the Sonoma community, and on his many friends and family. He was an inspiration to me, and I will miss him so much. Thank you, Andy, for all your wonderful work and commitment and for your friendship.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, this historic year marks both the inauguration of this country's first African-American president, Barack Obama, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's (N.A.A.C.P.) 100th anniversary. February 12, 1909 was chosen as the founding date of the N.A.A.C.P. to commemorate President Abraham Lincoln's 100th birthday, with the hopes of realizing his vision of a unified nation overcoming racial and ethnic hatred and discrimination.

The following decades have seen the emergence of new challenges along America's journey towards equality. Yet the N.A.A.C.P. has persisted and has overcome these obstacles. It currently bears witness to numerous advancements that may have never taken place had it not been for the collective will of the many N.A.A.C.P. members who were willing to fight for what they believed was right.

Without the N.A.A.C.P., it is hard to say where this country would be if it never fought for African-Americans to have increased access to the ballot box.

Without the N.A.A.C.P., it is hard to say where this country would be if it never fought against discrimination—from schooling to housing, and from marriage to employment. After all, the NAACP's Legal department, headed by Charles Hamilton Houston and Thurgood Marshall, undertook a campaign spanning several decades to bring about the reversal of the "separate but equal" doctrine enshrined in the Supreme Court's decision in *Plessy v. Ferguson*.

Without the N.A.A.C.P. and the courageous men and women who risked their lives and livelihoods in order to promote the rights of everyone, regardless of the color of their skin, it is hard to say where this great country would be.

In fact, it is hard to imagine an America without the N.A.A.C.P. My life and the life of this nation would be much different if it were not for the organization's efforts to tear down the barriers of racial discrimination and hatred.

The N.A.A.C.P.'s work, however, is not yet finished. If the last century is any indication though, as long as there is an N.A.A.C.P., all Americans will continue to have a powerful advocate for fairness, equality, and justice.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on rollcall Nos. 54 through 59.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on each.

TRIBUTE TO DAWN REMSBURG

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the excellence in education in the 4th Congressional District of Iowa, and to specifically congratulate Dawn Remsburg of Ames Community School District, who earned the National Board Certification—the highest level of certification in the teaching profession.

National Board Certification is a voluntary assessment program designed to recognize and reward great teachers. National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) have successfully demonstrated advanced teaching knowledge, skills and practices. Certification is achieved through a rigorous, performance-based assessment that typically takes one to three years to complete. Certification is offered in 25 different subjects, covering 97 percent of the subjects taught in K–12 schools.

I congratulate Dawn Remsburg on her well-deserved certification, and I'm certain that she will continue to touch the lives of many youth in her community. It is a great honor to represent Dawn in the United States Congress, and I wish her continued success.

EXPRESSING REGRET FOR AUSTRALIA'S LOSSES AS A CONSEQUENCE OF WILDFIRES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my deep regret for the loss of life and destruction of property that is occurring in Australia as a consequence of wildfires, and to extend my condolences to the Australian people.

Although wildfires are common during the Australian summer, strong winds, extreme temperatures and dry conditions have combined in recent days to fuel fires, which have ravaged Australia's southern State of Victoria with unparalleled force. Despite the prompt and earnest efforts of rescue crews and firefighters, 181 deaths have been confirmed and, according to yesterday's edition of Australia's Sydney Morning Herald, police fear that as many as 300 people have already passed. More than 750 properties spanning 350,000 hectares of land have been destroyed. Whole communities have been decimated; in the town of Marysville, which was hit by a 60-mile-long fire front, it is feared that 100 of the 519 residents have been killed. Tragically, these numbers are likely to deteriorate further, there being approximately 23 fires which remain uncontained.

Encouragingly, the size of the tragedy has been matched by the size and speed of the response. I extend my sincere appreciation to the emergency rescue crews, firefighters and Australia's Federal and Victorian Governments for their well-coordinated response to this calamity. The loss suffered would have been far

greater were it not for the skill, dedication, compassion and sacrifice of these emergency responders.

I also extend my best wishes to law enforcement authorities as they investigate the causes of this tragedy. Unfortunately, preliminary investigations indicate that some of the fires may have been deliberately lit. I have full confidence that the Australian authorities will bring anyone responsible for this death and destruction to justice, and take such other action as is necessary to minimize the likelihood of future calamities of this nature.

Madam Speaker, the fires that continue to burn in Southeast Australia have caused loss and destruction on a catastrophic scale. The Australian people will truly be in my thoughts and prayers over the coming weeks. I wish the affected communities the very best as they fight to retain and rebuild their lives, and encourage my colleagues to do so as well.

CONGRESSIONAL PAY RAISE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Speaker PELOSI for agreeing to block the next scheduled congressional pay raise.

As government acts to cap executive compensation, and as millions of Americans watch their incomes shrink, a pay raise for Members of Congress would have seemed glaringly out of touch.

If we are going to talk the talk of fiscal discipline, we must also walk the walk of self-restraint. The American people are not getting a raise this year. Neither should Congress.

I also wish to thank Dr. RON PAUL and 107 of our colleagues—Republicans and Democrats—who were willing to support H.R. 156, the Stop the Congressional Pay Raise Act. Without the leadership of these Members—so many of them new Members—we may not have taken this important step.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately last night, February 10, 2009, I was unable to cast my votes on the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1, H. Res. 114, H. Res. 60, H. Res. 143, H. Res. 128, and H. Res. 134 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 54, on the Motion to Instruct Conferees to H.R. 1, stating that the Economic Stimulus bill must be made available for 48 hours before a final vote, I would have voted "aye." It is unbelievable to me that we are more than likely going to be asked to vote on an \$800 billion piece of legislation, that will be drafted behind closed doors, after having less than 24 hours to review it. We owe it to our constituents to take our time with this bill, study it extensively and ensure that the stimulus will actually create jobs.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 55, on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 114, Supporting the goals and ideals of "National Girls and Women in Sports Day," I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 56, on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 60, Recognizing and commending University of Oklahoma quarterback Sam Bradford for winning the 2008 Heisman Trophy and for his academic and athletic accomplishments, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 57, on a motion to table H. Res. 143, the personal resolution offered by Rep. JOHN CARTER to ensure that Chairman CHARLIE RANGEL steps aside during his ethics investigation, I would have voted "no." Over the past couple of years we have had an unbelievable number of ethics violations by Members of Congress that have deteriorated the trust that the American people had for its Representatives and it is about time we took a hard line on ethics violations. Rep. RANGEL has admitted that he has made mistakes and the House ethics committee is currently investigating him on numerous separate cases. To make clear to the American people that this is a House of integrity, I must ask Chairman RANGEL to step aside until the ethics committee can complete its work.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 58, on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 128, Honoring Miami University for its 200 years of commitment to extraordinary higher education, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 59, on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 134, Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s visit to India, and the positive influence that the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi had on Dr. King's work during the Civil Rights Movement, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO JUDITH MONGIN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the excellence in education in the 4th Congressional District of Iowa, and to specifically congratulate Judith Mongin of Ames Community School District, who earned the National Board Certification—the highest level of certification in the teaching profession.

National Board Certification is a voluntary assessment program designed to recognize and reward great teachers. National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) have successfully demonstrated advanced teaching knowledge, skills and practices. Certification is achieved through a rigorous, performance-based assessment that typically takes one to three years to complete. Certification is offered in 25 different subjects, covering 97 percent of the subjects taught in K–12 schools.

I congratulate Judith Mongin on her well-deserved certification, and I'm certain that she will continue to touch the lives of many youth in her community. It is a great honor to represent Judith in the United States Congress, and I wish her continued success.

CONGRATULATING THE "MISS MADISON"

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, February 14, 2009, the *Miss Madison* will be crowned the 2008 National Championship Winner by the American Boat Racing Association in Madison, Indiana. I regret that I will not be able to attend the event, but want to reiterate my heartfelt congratulations to those responsible for the win and the entire Madison community.

Miss Madison is a real source of pride to Southern Indiana, and rightfully so. As the only city-owned hydroplane race boat, the *Miss Madison* is not only this year's champion, but holds the record for most consecutive seasons run at 47. *Miss Madison* has been racing since 1961 and can boast of a Turbine Engine motor capable of reaching about 19000 rpms.

Congratulations, again, to the *Miss Madison*, its fans and supporters. I look forward to attending award banquets in the future for this powerful boat.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION ACT OF 2009

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join with Congressman MIKE PENCE in introducing the Free Flow of Information Act of 2009. We are joined by Judiciary Committee Chairman JOHN CONYERS, Judiciary Committee Vice Ranking Member BOB GOODLATTE, and 35 other original cosponsors.

Our bipartisan legislation provides a privilege in federal court proceedings for reporters to refrain from revealing their confidential sources of information.

The privilege is similar in nature to that currently offered by 36 states and the District of Columbia. Such broad-based support for assuring the confidentiality of journalists' sources at the state level lays bare the glaring lack of similar protection at the federal level.

The ability to assure confidentiality to people who provide information is essential to effective news gathering and reporting on highly sensitive and important issues.

Typically, the best information about corruption in government or misdeeds in a private organization will come from someone on the inside who feels a responsibility to bring the information to light.

But that person has a lot to lose if his or her identity becomes known. In many cases, the person responsible for the corruption or the misdeeds can punish the source through dismissal or more subtle forms of punitive action if the source's identity becomes known.

It is only by assuring anonymity to the source that a reporter can gain access to the information in order to bring it to public scrutiny.

I have long thought that the ability to protect the confidentiality of sources is so essential to