

Voters re-elected Virginia for six consecutive terms on the board of trustees. After her retirement, the board named her the first trustee emeritus.

"She was a stalwart throughout," Fred Logan, former JCCC board chair, said. "She is one of the founders but not just a founder. She has been an important part for 40 years. That kind of service will always be remembered."

On Nov. 20, the JCCC Board of Trustees will interview eight finalists to fill Virginia Krebs' term, which ends June 30.

The candidates are: Laura S. Byrne-Harris, Leawood; William A. Dean, Overland Park; Ronnie Metsker, Overland Park; Michael M. Morales, Olathe; Melody L. Rayl, Olathe; Kurtis M. Ruf, Overland Park; Mary R. Tearney, Leawood; and Sandra K. Willis, Overland Park.

The new trustee will begin Dec. 11. The seat is up for election in April 2009.

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ROBERT MASSEY

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, on November 8, 2008, Robert Massey died in Fair Oaks, CA. Born on November 5, 1921, "Farmer Bob" (as he is known) contributed to the community throughout his life. As a local historian, Bob frequently shared his knowledge of the area and made a habit of correcting media reports and the Fair Oaks Historical Society whenever their reports conflicted with his own expertise. Bob was a member of the Sunrise Center Toastmasters, sharing with others his great oratory skills and motivational tactics. Many families enjoyed a visit to Farmer Bob's pumpkin patch and truck farm.

While Bob made many great contributions to our region, perhaps his most important work was his strong advocacy for the Auburn Dam. The Auburn Dam Council's website describes Bob as President of the council from 1921–2008. This is an appropriate title for someone who understood the need for greater flood protection and was willing to work for the safety of so many others living nearby. Unfortunately, the dam has yet to be built, but when that day comes it will be in large part thanks to Bob's efforts.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bob's loving wife of 65 years, Beryl, and the rest of his family and friends. Bob brightened the lives of so many people, and he will be truly missed by those of us who were fortunate enough to have known him.

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PRESIDENTIAL RANK AWARD OF  
MERITORIOUS EXECUTIVE TO  
DR. L. BRUCE SIMPSON

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the selection of Dr. L. Bruce Simpson for Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Executive for 2008. Each year, the President recognizes and celebrates no more than 5 percent of career Senior Executives

with this award. Recipients of this prestigious award are strong leaders, professionals, and scientists achieving results and consistently demonstrating strength, integrity, industry, and a relentless commitment to excellence in public service to America.

Dr. Simpson is Director of the 308th Armament Systems Wing, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida and is a 27-year veteran of the Federal civil service. He leads a wing of over 900 personnel and executes a portfolio of programs valued at more than \$46 billion. The wing's programs include the Joint Direct Attack Munition, Small Diameter Bomb, Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile, High-Speed Anti-Radiation Missile Targeting System, Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile, Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile Extended Range, Miniature Air Launched Decoy, Aerial Target Systems, P5 Combat Training System, Sensor Fuzed Weapon, Wind-Corrected Munitions Dispenser and Joint Stand-Off Weapon System. These programs are all key elements in enabling our warfighters to engage high-value targets and are vital weapons in the Global War on Terror.

Selected for Senior Executive Service in 2003, Dr. Simpson has served as Deputy Manager of the Armament Product Group, Director of the Air Armament Center Special Projects System Program Office, and Director of the Directed Energy Directorate at the Air Force Research Laboratory. Dr. Simpson has been honored as a Distinguished Fellow at Mississippi State University and received Annual Technical Achievement Awards from the Air Force Research Laboratory and Air Force Systems Command.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate Dr. L. Bruce Simpson on this most prestigious Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Executive. America and the United States Air Force depend heavily on the selfless service and leadership he provides. I sincerely wish Dr. Simpson many more years of dedicated public service to this great country.

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HONORING FRANK MECHAM

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank Mecham, a resident and community leader from Paso Robles, California, for his outstanding and exemplary leadership while serving as the mayor of Paso Robles from 2000 through 2008.

Frank has been a longtime leader in local government, reflecting the same success, enthusiasm, care, and commitment to his community as nine generations of Mecham Californians and five generations of San Luis Obispo County Mechams before him. His great-great grandfather, Don Joaquin Estrada, was a member of the first County Board of Supervisors in 1852, and his father was Fire Chief at Fort Hunter Liggett for over 20 years. Carrying on this tradition of public service, Frank served our country in the United States Navy and later began his political career on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Planning Commission for the City of Paso Robles. He was elected to the City Council in 1998 and served for two years. In 2000, Frank

was the first mayor of Paso Robles to be directly elected by the voters (in the past, the mayoral post had rotated between elected city councilmembers).

In 2003, Paso Robles felt the devastating effects of the San Simeon Earthquake. Frank showed strong leadership and composure throughout this natural disaster and guided the City through the aftermath and recovery efforts. Through his tireless efforts, the City of Paso Robles was able to rebuild faster and move forward onto the road to recovery quicker than anyone had expected. In addition, as mayor, he also oversaw the completion of the Barney Schwartz Park, the Public Safety Center, the Robert Rader Memorial 13th Street Bridge, and the Niblick Bridge expansion.

In addition to his public service, Frank has also remained active in the Paso Robles community. Frank is a member of the Twin Cities Community Hospital Board of Governors, the Nacimiento Water Commission, and the Paso Robles High School Technology Academy. He has also coached youth baseball and football for over two decades in the community, established a youth football league which continues to this day, and created the first Youth Commission for the City in 1999. In 2004, Frank was honored by the Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce as Roblan of the Year in recognition of his outstanding service to the local community.

In a City named for its strong oak trees, Frank has stood strong in times of challenge, and helped create prosperity through a commitment to fiscal responsibility and transparent and accountable government. I commend Frank for his service and leadership as mayor of Paso Robles, and wish him and his family well as he continues to serve our community as a supervisor on the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors.

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HONORING TRAVIS WEBB

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 19, 2008*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Corporal Travis Webb from Adrian, Michigan who was injured in an improvised explosive device (IED) blast in Mosul, Iraq on January 22, 2007. He lost both legs and his best friend Nicholas Brown died in his arms after the blast. The following poem is dedicated to a true American hero, Travis Webb.

A SOLDIER'S STORY

Throughout our Nation's history  
Such magnificent men of honor and glory,  
have so been seen  
Who so went, where angel's feared to tread  
Who went off to war  
All for us, the ones who so lived and died and  
so bled  
All so we could be here!  
As this is a soldier's story!  
All about Heartbreak, Faith and Glory  
All about life and death  
As he put himself in harm's way, as his best  
friend died in his arms that day  
When courage comes to crest!  
All about a young man from Michigan . . .  
Travis, and his heroic stand  
As all of us, he would so bless  
Who came out of such hell and fury!