

sweetheart, Lula, on April 13, 1964. He also attended Cisco Jr. College and was an active member of Plum Street United Methodist Church. For over 18 years, Claudie was employed by the Keebler Cookie Company.

Abilene remembers Claudie for planning many community activities and for his boldness in executing these plans. He dedicated his life to the youth, the elderly, the truly disadvantaged and those in the community who were not being treated fairly. He encouraged others to become involved in the community.

In 1980, Claudie organized an annual march honoring the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Today that annual march and associated activities are widely acknowledged and participated in by the citizens of Abilene. In 1981, Claudie was the driving force behind the development of a park constructed in the community of Pasadena Heights in Abilene. Through Claudie's influence, the park was named to honor Mr. Nelson Wilson, Sr., a community leader and long time resident of the city. In 1989, Claudie established H.O.P.E., a successful organization devoted to stopping and preventing youth drug use. In 1995, he was honored with the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Services Award. After his death, the Abilene City Council permanently named February 15 as Claudie C. Royal Day to honor him.

Claudie was a strong Christian and family man. Claudie and Lula had 5 children: Michael, Cedric, deceased, Michelle, Mitchell and Matthias Royal, and five grandchildren: Mylles, Michael Ryan, BriAnna, Myller, and Mylliah.

During Black History Month, we pay tribute to generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity and made great contributions to shaping our Nation. We should keep in mind those who made a difference in their communities, and Claudie Royal truly made a difference in Abilene, Texas. The 19th Congressional District thanks Claudie for the imprint he left on his community. Even though he is no longer with us, we remember his devoted service to Abilene.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 18, I was unable to vote because my arrival in Washington from Iowa was delayed by severe winter weather. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING PAUL WHITE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Paul White upon being honored with the "Trail Blazers Award" by the African American Museum. Mr. White will be honored at the African American History Month Celebration and Banquet on Saturday, February 6th, 2010 in Fresno, California.

Mr. Paul White was born on March 23, 1947 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. At age eleven his mother passed away and he, along with his five siblings, moved to Fresno, California to be raised by their grandparents. He graduated from Edison High School in 1962 and attended Fresno City College where he played basketball. He graduated from California State University, Fresno with a Bachelors of Arts degree and a Masters degree in Public Administration.

Mr. White served the Fresno community for over thirty years with distinguished careers in health care administration, human resources and social services. He was the first African American Assistant Administrator at Saint Agnes Hospital, Valley Medical Center and the Fresno County Health Department. Mr. White served as the Assistant Executive Director of Fresno County Economics Opportunity Commission for many years.

Outside of work, Mr. White was heavily involved with various community organizations including: the Black Infant Health Project, Babies First, the Marjaree Mason Center, March of Dimes, the California Transplant Donor Network, United Network of Organ Sharing, Minority Affairs Committee, Boy Scouts of America and he served on the Board of Directors for West Fresno Health Care Coalition, Inc. For his dedicated service, Mr. White has also been recognized and awarded by many organizations including: Fresno Metro Ministries, the California Transplant Donor Network, the United Black Men of Fresno, former California Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante and the California State Senate and Assembly. Mr. White passed away on March 17, 2005. He and his wife, Sheila, had been married for forty years. Together they raised six children and had nine grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Paul White. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and wishing the best for his family.

HONORING EVAN LYSACEK

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Evan Lysacek on winning an Olympic gold medal in men's figure skating. Evan skated a breathtaking routine in both the short program and free skate to reach the pinnacle of his sport on its greatest stage. All of us in the Chicago area are proud not only of what he has accomplished but also the way he has represented himself, his family, the state of Illinois and all of the United States.

Born in Chicago and raised in Naperville, Evan attended Neuqua Valley High School, where he graduated with honors. In Vancouver, he became the first American man to win gold in figure skating since Brian Boitano in 1988. Evan was the U.S. Champion in 2007 and 2008 and World Champion in 2009, but did not skate his best at the 2006 Olympics in Torino, finishing fourth. His story of triumph and redemption is one we can all learn from. I wish Evan the best of luck in his figure skating career and beyond, and am so proud to recognize him today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably absent on Monday, February 22, 2010, due to a death in my family. Had I been present for the two votes which occurred, I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 4425, rollcall No. 49 and H.R. 4238, rollcall No. 50.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Priority Name: Thunder Radar Pod (TRP)

Appropriated Amount: \$1.6 million

Account: Air Force—RDT&E

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mid-American Precision Products

Address of Requesting Entity: 1927 West 4th Street, Joplin, MO 64801

Description of Request: The use of taxpayer funds is justified because the Air National Guard (ANG) has an essential requirement to provide its F-16 fighter forces with all-weather, day & night strike and situational awareness capability that will complement its current EO/IR capability with the Advanced Targeting Pods. This capability can only be provided with an airborne Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) that is capable of seeing through cloud cover, inclement weather, and smoke obscured targets or areas of interest. Lack of an all weather targeting capability will continue to limit the USAF's ability to effectively fulfill its Destruction of Enemy Air Defense (DEAD) tasking regardless of weather and allow the enemy to operate unfettered in poor metrological conditions. This all-weather DEAD capability will not be realized until approximately 2018 with the fielding of a like capability in the F-35, making the procurement of the TRP in the near-term time frame critical.

RETIREMENT OF MARIE RICHARD

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, after more than fifty years of working for The Beaumont Enterprise newspaper, Marie Richard has decided to retire. She is the longtime assistant to the editor and very well known throughout the company and the community.

She began her newspaper career in 1959. At the age of twenty, she started working for the Beaumont Enterprise newspaper, and now at the age of seventy, she is ending her wonderful career.

She is recognized for fortifying relationships with the newspaper's customers; an aspect of her job she has enjoyed the most. She is also recognized for her work with the newspaper's