

On behalf of the 24th District of Texas, I would like to welcome Heartland Church to its new location in Carrollton, Texas. I am certain that Heartland Church will succeed and continue to be an example of Christ's love to others in the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House Floor during four recent rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 1215, H. Res. 1222, H. Res. 1041, and H. Res. 1042.

HONORING WILLIAM CLAY FORD ON HIS SELECTION AS A MICHIGAN GREEN LEADER

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of William Clay Ford Jr. Mr. Ford has been chosen as one of 16 people and institutions by the Detroit Free Press as a Michigan Green Leader. Selected from over 300 nominations, Mr. Ford will be recognized on April 22 as part of a 40th anniversary celebration of Earth Day. Green Leaders are people or entities who have had exceptional impact on the community through their leadership and contributions in their efforts to protect our environment.

Born May 3, 1957, in Detroit, Michigan, Mr. Ford is the great-grandson of both Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone. He received a bachelor of arts degree from Princeton University in 1979 and a master of science degree in management as an Alfred P. Sloan fellow from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1984. Immediately after graduating from Princeton, Mr. Ford went to work as a financial analyst for Ford Motor Company. In his first 10 years with Ford he held 11 jobs. In 1987 he became managing director for Ford Switzerland and in 1990 he was head of business strategy. In 1992 he was appointed general manager of Climate Control Division where he created the company's first wildlife habitat at a plant and established the first automotive plant to use 25 percent post-consumer materials in all of its plastic parts. Under his lead, the division won the President's Commission on Environmental Quality Award for the substitution of water for hazardous chemicals in a production process. He was elected vice president and headed the Commercial Truck Vehicle Center in 1994 and in 1995 took the chair of the board of directors finance committee. He was elected chairman of the board of directors and took office at the start of 1999, served as Ford's chief executive officer from October of 2001 to September of 2006, and was subsequently named executive chairman.

Mr. Ford is a lifelong environmentalist and throughout his time at Ford he has not only given to our environment through personal choices, but has proposed rigorous environmental policy changes for the company. The company published its first corporate citizenship report in 2000 with him at the helm. The report assessed the environmental, economic, and social ramifications of the company's projects and products around the world. In 2004, while Mr. Ford was CEO, the company finished the world's largest brownfield reclamation project with the Ford Rouge Center in Detroit. As a long-time advocate of hybrid vehicle technologies, Mr. Ford not only owns a hybrid, but has overseen the launch of expansive plans to offer electric and hybrid-powered automobiles to consumers.

In addition to his work with Ford Motor Company, Mr. Ford is a vice chairman of the Detroit Lions and has championed the environmentally friendly stadium in Detroit. He chairs the Detroit Economic Club board, co-chaired the National Summit in 2009, is the vice chair of the Business Leaders for Michigan, serves on the board of directors of eBay, and is a member of the board of trustees for The Henry Ford.

This is the first year the Detroit Free Press has held the Green Leaders event. Mr. Ford is a superb choice. His great drive and dedication are assets to us, our community, and our environment.

RECOGNIZING NEW YORK LGBT HEALTH MONTH

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize March 2010 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender, or LGBT Health Month in the state of New York. The health and happiness of all LGBT individuals in New York and across the country is of tremendous importance. I applaud the efforts of the Healthcare Committee in organizing LGBT month for March 2010, and I look forward to seeing this tradition grow and thrive in the years to come.

The Healthcare Committee of the NYS LGBT Health and Human Services Network, in conjunction with the Empire State Pride Agenda, declared the theme of this year's inaugural event "31 Ways for 31 Days." The Committee has gathered 31 simple and useful health tips, one for each day in March, to serve as a resource for the LGTB community.

LGBT Health Month is an opportunity for the LGTB community, and all New Yorkers, to unite around the common goal of good health. In following the 31 Ways for 31 Days, we are all reminded that a healthy community is also a happy community.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing March 2010 as New York LGTB Health Month.

HONORING WILMA PEARL MANKILLER

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1237 to honor Wilma Pearl Mankiller, the first female Chief of the Cherokee Nation, who passed away on April 6, 2010.

Wilma Mankiller was a remarkable human being and served as Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation from 1985 to 1995. While Cherokee culture has traditionally embraced the concept of both male and female leadership, this custom had fallen out of practice in recent years. At the time she became Chief, the hierarchical system of the Cherokee Nation had become male dominated, and Mankiller faced numerous gender barriers in becoming and serving as Chief. During her tenure, she would go to great lengths to resurrect the balance of male and female leadership in the Cherokee Nation, and additionally, she worked to reinvigorate the Nation through community projects and programs.

Throughout our daily lives, we rarely stop to reflect on the remarkable accomplishments of women across the country and world. I am emboldened by people like Wilma Mankiller who worked diligently for others and tore down gender barriers in the process. Today young girls know that they too can grow up to become Indian Chiefs and it is because of the work and life of Wilma Mankiller that this is true.

Madam Speaker, Wilma Mankiller was a great leader and extraordinary advocate for the Cherokee Nation. I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today in honoring her memory and celebrating her distinguished life and work.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,831,193,383,690.69.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,192,767,637,396.89 so far this Congress. The debt has increased \$4,813,927,403.84 since just yesterday.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.