

namesake that this institution has fostered the personal progress of countless students and, moreover, the growth of a more vibrant place to live, work, and play.

Lyndon Baines Johnson School is a community public school with a dedicated staff that continues to nurture the intellectual development of hundreds of students. Its partnerships with the private and public sectors have strengthened this institution's programs thereby enabling comprehensive support services, encouraging parent participation, and connecting families. Additionally, through the exceptional leadership of Principal Jeanette Sosa and Assistant Principal Stuart Spector, this award-winning school has effectively advanced a culture of civic, socially-minded students devoted to the interests of Bushwick—and our Nation.

This unwavering commitment to advocacy and respect for individuals has been the cornerstone of this remarkable learning institution throughout its 100-year existence. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the students, faculty, and parents of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Public School 151K on this momentous occasion.

RECOGNIZING ALABAMA STATE
SENATOR GARY TANNER FOR
HIS DEDICATED, FAITHFUL PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to recognize Alabama State Senator Gary Tanner for his dedicated, faithful public service to the citizens of Mobile County.

Senator Tanner is a distinguished member of the Mobile, Alabama, community and a tremendous advocate for all of south Alabama. He began his public service career as a Mobile County Commissioner in 1992 and was elected to the Alabama State Senate in 2002.

During his career in the Alabama State Legislature, Senator Tanner worked tirelessly on behalf of south Alabama and served as chairperson of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Of particular significance, Gary was awarded the Tillman's Corner Citizen of the Year award in 1980 by the Tillman's Corner Area Chamber of Commerce. In 1989, he was selected as Business Associate of the Year by the Mobile Bay Chapter of the American Business Women's Association. He has also received the Able Helmsman Award in 2000 by the Mobile Labor Council, the State Employee's Rusty Hook Award in 2002, and the Mobile Democratic Executive Committee's Award of Distinction in 2004.

Mr. Speaker, the faithful service of outstanding Americans like Gary Tanner has aided in an immeasurable way to the well being of our community. I would like to offer my congratulations for his many personal and professional achievements. I know his daughters, Bonita Tanner and Dawn Tanner-Smith; his grandchildren, Benjamin, Sarah, Will, and Drew; and his other family and many friends join with me in honoring his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts on

behalf of the people of Mobile and the entire State of Alabama.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE MICHAEL G. OXLEY UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2006

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I have the honor to recognize a fellow colleague from the Great State of Ohio, Chairman MICHAEL OXLEY. Chairman OXLEY has served with distinction in this House for 25 years and is retiring at the end of the 109th Congress.

Many people know Chairman OXLEY either from his work on the Financial Services Committee, his tireless work for the constituents of the Fourth District of Ohio, or his years of participation as a player and manager of the Republican Baseball Team. Chairman OXLEY is also a tireless advocate of the military and especially the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center—Lima, formerly known as the Lima Army Tank Plant.

The Joint Systems Manufacturing Center—Lima traces its history back to WWII when it prepared and processed more than 100,000 combat vehicles. The plant today is the sole producer of the M-1 Abrams tank.

Chairman OXLEY worked with the Department of Defense over the years to encourage the utilization of the workforce and available space at the facility. Through his efforts, the plant has grown beyond its original mission, providing a wide variety of cutting-edge military vehicles for the Army, Navy and Marine Corps.

Most recently, Rep. OXLEY was successful in working with Task Force LIMA during the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure to ensure the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center remained a strong and continued asset for the Nation, the State of Ohio and the greater Lima community. Chairman OXLEY was also able to restore funding for the modernization of the M-1 tank, further ensuring our men and women in uniform remain the best equipped fighting force in the world.

Chairman OXLEY is a distinguished member of the Ohio Delegation and of this House. He has made his mark on this Nation not only through his ardent support of the financial service industry, but also his unwavering support of the military. His tireless support of the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center—Lima has placed it in a strong position for the future. As Chairman OXLEY sometimes quotes former President Reagan's farewell address, "My friends, we did it. We weren't just marking time. We made a difference." For 25 years, Chairman OXLEY has made a difference not only for Ohioans but for all Americans. The House of Representatives has benefited from his ideas and leadership.

TRIBUTE TO DETECTIVE GREG BRASHEAR

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and all of my colleagues to pause for a moment to listen to a story about an everyday American who died before we could thank him for his selfless service to others.

Police homicide detective Greg Brashear, is like so many who walk among us each day. They quietly protect and defend us and are rarely noticed or thanked before they are gone.

Detective Greg Brashear was such a man. Just months ago, he lost his life. But his legacy lives. His story continues to touch others as it is spread by those who only learned of it while he lay in a hospital fighting for his life.

Baltimore, Maryland Police Department Homicide Detective Greg Brashear had a full life of his own. Last January, off-duty and en route to a celebration with a loved one, he stopped on the side of a highway to help a woman with a flat tire.

He was struck by another car while aiding a woman he'd never met. Detective Brashear spent the next 7 months hospitalized in intensive care trying to recover and return to those he loved.

He never left the hospital. But while he was there . . . his name, and the kind of selfless man he was, became known to hundreds and thousands more, as his struggle began to touch more lives each day, moving beyond the hospital walls—even beyond state lines.

Greg had not followed his father and brother into their family's law practice in Texas. He chose the less compensated and lower profile path of fighting for those who could not defend themselves when he became a detective in the Violent Crime Child Abuse Section of Houston's Police Department.

He moved to the Baltimore Police force saying he wanted to continue to "do something that mattered; to help people by keeping the world safer", which is what he did for the last 26 years until the day he noticed one more person in need of his help—someone stopped on the side of the highway hoping someone would notice her despair.

And that's why we stop what we're doing right now and reflect on Detective Greg Brashear. Because he and thousands of other Americans like him, notice every day the people around them who are wounded or helpless. They do not turn their backs on them. And they do not ask for pats on their own backs.

Today, may we give back to Detective Brashear what he did not ask for or get in life: his country's recognition of his service, of his humility, and his invaluable role in our society. We give him our deepest thanks.

I ask you to join me in offering that same recognition to all the "Greg Brashears" who daily walk unheralded among us. We do not know your names, but we know you are there.

If no one has thanked you, if no one has noticed the depth of your personal commitment or sacrifice—consider it noticed today. And consider that our thanks to you, and to Greg, will never be enough for all you have done.

TRIBUTE TO MGM BRAKES ON ITS
50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MELVIN L. WATT

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor MGM Brakes, headquartered in Charlotte, NC, on its 50th anniversary.

MGM Brakes is a division of Indian Head Industries, Inc., also headquartered in Charlotte, NC, and maintains manufacturing facilities in Cloverdale, CA and Murphy, NC.

MGM Brakes was founded in 1956 and is a leading U.S. manufacturer of spring parking brakes and actuators for vehicles with air brakes. Fifty years ago the company's founders (Miller, Gummer and Meyers) invented the spring brake actuator to prevent air braking failures in heavy, over-the-road vehicles that usually resulted in runaway vehicles. MGM Brakes is now a leading world-wide supplier to the commercial vehicle industry and its actuator products have become standard equipment on more than 125 makes of commercial vehicles currently manufactured in over 40 countries.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute to MGM Brakes and its employees for 50 years of pioneering technology and innovative products that have helped increase the safety of commercial vehicles, transit buses and school buses across the states and around the country.

HONORING JEANETTE L. STERNER
OF HOLLY LAKE RANCH

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the outstanding contributions of COL Jeanette L. Sterner of Holly Lake Ranch in Wood County, Texas. Colonel Sterner has spent a lifetime in service to her country in the United States military and in the process has earned a multitude of honors including: the Meritorious Service Medal; an Army Commendation Medal; an Army Achievement Medal; an Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal; a National Defense Service Medal; a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; an Armed Forces Reserve Medal; an Army Service Ribbon; and a Sharpshooter Badge.

During her years of service to the United States, she also earned five State awards: the Oklahoma Meritorious Service Medal; the Iowa Achievement Medal; the Iowa Commendation Medal; the State of Texas Medal of Merit; and the Texas Adjutant General Individual Award.

Jeanette's service to her country does not end with her military heroism. She has also served her local community in a variety of ways including youth involvement. She has worked as a school psychologist for Sacred Heart Catholic School, for Mount Saint Mary's High School, for Christ the King School, and has even managed to find time to serve as a youth director for her church.

She has earned numerous civilian awards and memberships for her efforts, including

Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges, Who's Who in America, Who's Who in the South and Southwest, Biographee for the Directory of Distinguished Americans, and Personalities of the South.

Jeanette currently serves as president of the Homeless Veterans Services of Dallas, working diligently to obtain single residence housing for homeless veterans. In addition, she serves as president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Greater Hawkins Veterans Association, maintaining a memorial in honor of local veterans.

Without a doubt, Jeanette's service to her community is extensive, and on behalf of the people living in the 5th District of Texas, I applaud her for her commitment to both her community and her country.

THANKING MR. WILLIAM CHAMP
FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement this month, we rise to thank Mr. William Champ for his long career of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

William Champ has been an employee of the Furniture Division, Cabinet Shop of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House for 30 years. During that time, he has earned the respect and admiration of his fellow co-workers. Bill is a person of great character and will leave behind a legacy of professionalism, hard work and dedication to the institution. His list of accomplishments is far too lengthy to include in this tribute, but includes the lecterns in the House Chamber of the U.S. Capitol Building that every Member of Congress uses during each session, a key fixture seen by millions of people all over the world. Bill was a key member of the team that designed and constructed the lecterns. He was also instrumental in the renovation of the audio/video upgrade of the Ways and Means Committee Room.

Bill's retirement is bittersweet; the House will lose an individual who from day one of his employment made a long term commitment to excellence. His performance has always been exceptional and above and beyond expectations. His legacy will live on in the Chamber of the U.S. House of Representatives as we wish him many wonderful years of happy retirement.

GOODBYE TO COLLEAGUES

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, as our colleague, the Honorable gentleman from New York, SHERWOOD BOEHLERT, prepares to retire from the Congress, I want to join the entire New York delegation in wishing SHERRY a fond farewell and in commending him for a job very well done.

SHERRY BOEHLERT has served the people of the 24th Congressional District, which includes all or parts of Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Herkimer, Oneida, Ontario, Otsego, Tioga, Tompkins, and Seneca counties, for 12 consecutive terms. He has been my congressional neighbor to the west for as long as I have been in Congress. We have had the opportunity to work together on many issues, such as the Tech Valley initiative in upstate New York, the FAIR Alliance for transportation funding, and, of course, rooting on our beloved New York Yankees.

With expertise and leadership in so many different fields, from the environment and the sciences, to transportation and homeland security, SHERRY has not only capably served the people of his district, but also every citizen of New York and the United States.

SHERRY has earned the opportunity to spend more time with his wife, Marianne, their four grown children and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call SHERRY BOEHLERT a respected colleague and a dear friend. His presence and strong voice will be missed during the coming debates. There is no doubt, however, that his proud legacy of committed public service and bipartisan achievement, will live on for generations.

PRAISING THE GOALS OF THE 2006
NATIONAL RAIL SYMPOSIUM

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, on November 15, 2006, I had the opportunity to address the 2006 National Rail Symposium, presented by Citizens for Rail Safety, Inc. at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

Attended by rail worker union representatives, rail industry experts, transportation scholars, and local and Federal political leaders, the symposium served to further highlight the glaring gaps in America's rail security and specifically, bring attention to the lack of basic emergency and anti-terrorism training for our Nation's rail workers.

Notably, the symposium marked the release of a key rail security study prepared by the National Labor College (NLC) entitled: "Training in Hazmat and Rail Security: Current Status and Future Needs of Rail Workers and Community Members." As noted by the NLC, our Nation's rail workers currently lack basic and necessary emergency prevention and response training, particularly with respect to Hazmat incidents, and must work in rail cars and on rail tracks, yards, and basic infrastructure that are poorly secured.

The NLC's study comes on the heels of a 2005 rail worker safety report prepared by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Rail Security Conference, entitled "High Alert: Workers Warn of Security Gaps on Nation's Railroads." Based on over 4,000 surveys completed by members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen and the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division, the report reveals that 84 percent of the rail workers surveyed indicated that they had not received any or additional terrorism prevention and response training within the last year and that 64 percent indicated that