

should be required—we should be required in all cases to have a warrant anytime there is surveillance of a US [sic] person located in the United States.”

In short, the Jackson-Lee amendment makes a good bill even better. For this reason alone, civil libertarians should enthusiastically embrace the RESTORE Act.

Nearly 2 centuries ago, Alexis de Tocqueville, who remains the most astute student of American democracy, observed that the reason democracies invariably prevail in any martial conflict is because democracy is the governmental form that best rewards and encourages those traits that are indispensable to martial success: initiative, innovation, resourcefulness, and courage.

Mr. Speaker, the best way to win the war on terror is to remain true to our democratic traditions. If it retains its democratic character, no nation and no loose confederation of international villains will defeat the United States in the pursuit of its vital interests.

Thus, the way forward to victory in the war on terror is for the United States country to redouble its commitment to the Bill of Rights and the democratic values, which every American will risk his or her life to defend. It is only by preserving our attachment to these cherished values that America will remain forever the home of the free, the land of the brave, and the country we love.

HONORS CHRIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF STRATFORD, CON-
NECTICUT AS THEY CELEBRATE
THEIR 300TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the Reverend Robert Stuhlmann, members of the congregation, and the Stratford community in extending my sincere congratulations to Christ Episcopal Church as they celebrate its 300th Anniversary. This is a milestone for this community treasure and I am proud to help them celebrate.

As we gather to celebrate this anniversary, we can also reflect on the inspiration the Christ Episcopal Church had in the creation of the United States of America. The Church holds a unique place not only in Connecticut's history, but in that of our nation as well. The first parishioners of this parish were actually forced to worship secretly in people's homes to avoid harassment by the then dominant Congregationalists who had fled to the New World to escape persecution by the Church of England. In fact, many of the twelve men who established the parish were jailed for their defiance of the General Court of Connecticut which deemed there could only be one church—and it was Congregational.

Reverend Robert Stuhlmann, the 30th pastor of Christ Episcopal Church, has described the birth of the Anglican Church in the United States as mirroring that of our nation. Just eighty years after the formation of Christ Episcopal, the Church would play a direct role in the creation of our Constitution. Among the Connecticut delegation, the framers of the Constitution, was William Samuel Johnson,

son of Samuel Johnson, the church's first resident priest. It is said that the Constitution took its final form based on the experiences of the Christ Episcopal parish as they encountered the opposition of an established religion in Connecticut. Samuel Johnson, who also served as the first president of Kings College, or what is known today as Columbia University, also left his mark on the Declaration of Independence. We all know the phrase “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” but what many may not know is that the phrase pursuit of happiness was one which Samuel Johnson frequently used in his preaching—believing that God desires humanity to be happy.

Since its inception in 1707, Christ Episcopal Church has been an integral part of our community and has now grown to its current 223 parish families like 100-year old Clint Brelsford who has derived happiness as a parishioner for 97 years. Our churches play a vital role in our communities—providing people with a place to turn to for comfort when they are most in need. By strengthening our bonds of faith, Christ Episcopal gives its members a place to find their spiritual center and to solidify and support their values. The members of this special parish have also given much to the Town of Stratford. Throughout the years, as their membership grew so did their commitment to the enrichment of our community.

Christ Episcopal Church is so much more than simply a place of worship—it is the center of spiritual and community life for its members. For three hundred years, Christ Episcopal Church has been a fixture in Stratford. Through their ministry and outreach efforts, they have left an indelible mark on our community and continue to enrich the lives of others. I am proud to stand today and extend my best wishes to them as they mark this milestone in their history. Happy 300th Anniversary!

TRIBUTE TO MR. SHAUN HEENAN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Shaun Heenan of the city of Dunkirk, New York, for his recent election as a member of the Chautauqua County Legislature. Following a close election victory on November 7, Mr. Heenan will represent the second district in the Legislature beginning January 1, 2008.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Heenan traveled that path with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of Chautauqua County.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong candidates with a desire to make this county the wonderful place we all know it can be. Mr. Heenan is one of those people, and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE
UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO LIONEL
HAMPTON INTERNATIONAL JAZZ
FESTIVAL

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in joining President George W. Bush in honoring the University of Idaho's Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival. President Bush presented the National Medal of Arts award to University of Idaho President Timothy P. White in a White House ceremony yesterday.

The University of Idaho, located in Moscow, Idaho, is the first public university to receive this award since it was created by Congress in 1984. The award honors one of the Nation's premier jazz festivals, named in honor of the late, great jazz musician Lionel Hampton. I should note that the University of Idaho holds a special place in my heart, as I attended the university's law school, graduating in the class of 1984.

As described by the University of Idaho, “The festival began in 1967 and grew in presence and prestige through the decades. In 1985, the festival was renamed the Lionel Hampton/Chevron Festival in Mr. Hampton's honor and was rededicated as the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival in 2006. Mr. Hampton died in 2002 at the age of 94.”

Lionel Hampton's vision of providing opportunities for professional musicians to mentor young, aspiring jazz artists has made the festival a remarkable success. A festival that began as a 1-day event has now evolved into a 4-day event that includes four concerts by professional jazz musicians, three student concerts and student performances that take place in 20 different locations on the campus and throughout the community. The festival also hosts a series of workshops.

This year's attendance included approximately 10,000 students from more than 300 schools, in addition to teachers, parents and local jazz enthusiasts. The festival has drawn leading jazz artists from around the world, including current director and six-time Grammy-nominated artist John Clayton, the late queen of jazz, Ella Fitzgerald, legendary trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie and renowned jazz innovator Bobby McFerrin, among many others. The festival will celebrate its 41st anniversary February 20–23 of next year. I urge all my colleagues to join me in congratulating University President White, Festival Director Clayton, and former festival director Lynn “Doc” Skinner in accepting this tremendous honor on behalf of the University of Idaho.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CARROLL
SENIOR HIGH AND CARROLL
HIGH SCHOOL ON THEIR 5A
GIRLS STATE CROSS COUNTRY
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor

the Carroll Senior High and Carroll High School's Lady Dragon Cross Country Team on their 2007 5A State Championship.

This is the Lady Dragon's first place win for the third consecutive year. The team learned days after the November 17th State 5A meet that they finished in first place. They were originally awarded second, following a tie breaker, but the University Interscholastic League later confirmed an error in the place results and awarded the Lady Dragon's with the top finish.

The Lady Dragon State Cross Country consists of 7 tremendous young women, including Seniors Taylor Stephens and Lauren Hill; Juniors Tara Upshaw, Lucia Xiong, Caitlin Gilbert and Jessica Ferber; and Sophomore Jessica Harper. They are coached by Robert Ondrasek.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Lady Dragon's on a great season and their State Championship. The Carroll Senior High School and the Carroll High School deserve public recognition for this great honor and I extend my congratulations to the outstanding runners and coaching staff.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARCI NOVAK

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marci Novak, the founder of For the Love of the Lake.

In 1995, Marci and a group of enthusiastic volunteers formed For the Love of the Lake, committed to the preservation and enhancement of White Rock Lake Park in Dallas, Texas. She envisioned turning a dirty, litter-filled lake into a clean and beautiful urban oasis. Under her leadership, For the Love of the Lake has expanded to thousands of volunteers and implemented creative new programs such as the White Rock 'n' Roll Run, Adopt-a-Shoreline, and the Celebration Tree Grove project.

Whether rain or shine, warm or cold, Marci has spent countless Saturdays at White Rock Lake over the years. As a result of her hard work, For the Love of the Lake has received countless contributions from the local community as well as grants from Dallas Park and Recreation Department. We share a common vision—a clean and magnificent environment where children can play and wild life can flourish. It was that shared vision that spurred my involvement, which began in 1995. I am grateful for Marci—for her getting me involved in such a wonderful and valuable organization and for her dedication, which has ensured that White Rock Lake Park can continue to be enjoyed by families, local citizens, and visitors.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues join me in expressing our heartfelt gratitude for her passion and hard work.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING KEVIN MILLER FOR WINNING THE DIVISION III STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT.

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Kevin Miller showed hard work and dedication to the sport of golf; and

Whereas, Kevin Miller was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Kevin Miller always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the green; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Kevin Miller on winning the Division III State Golf Tournament. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007 golf season.

A TRIBUTE TO JESSE L. BLANDING

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jesse L. Blanding. Jesse was born in Lugoff, South Carolina to Berggard and Mazie Blanding. He is 1 of 7 children, 2 boys and 5 girls.

Jesse was educated in the Lugoff School System, graduating from Jackson High School in 1962. Upon his graduation, he obtained a job with the City of Columbia as a laborer. He eventually worked his way up to machinist and later, bricklayer.

Jesse relocated to New York City gaining employment at Standard Plating where he was able to display his willingness to work hard. It all paid off when he received a promotion to foreman. After 5 years, he went to work for the Nice Fuel Oil Company. After 3 years he left Nice Fuel and went to work for Wally Fuel where he stayed for 17 years.

Jesse is a busy member of New Canaan Baptist Church. He has worked as the bus driver and maintenance person for New Canaan's bus company. Jesse's memberships in various ministries include: former president of the Male Chorus, Chairman of the Musician's Appreciation Committee, and membership in the South Carolina Club. He is instrumental in the renovation of New Canaan and its day to day upkeep.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the hard work and achievements of Jesse Blanding.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this kind and tenacious man.

TRIBUTE TO THE SNOWBOARD OUTREACH SOCIETY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the great work of the Snowsports Outreach Society (SOS Outreach), based in Vail, Colorado, which is dedicated to providing outdoor recreation and confidence-building opportunities to underprivileged youth.

The snow sports industry is an essential part of Colorado's lifestyle, economy and image. Colorado's mountainous terrain and world class resorts have set the standard for the ultimate experience in sliding on snow. As co-chair of the Congressional Ski and Snowboard Caucus and an avid skier myself, I understand the importance of this outdoor activity—in all its forms—for its physical health benefits and the recreation economy of Colorado and the country's ski resorts.

SOS Outreach complements the benefits of snow sports by providing dynamic programs to 2,500 youths in need nationwide. During the current season, 2,000 Colorado participants will be enrolled in a 7-year curriculum. I am proud to support the work that they do to grow the sport and promote positive self-esteem in their participants.

Now celebrating its 14th anniversary, SOS Outreach was founded in Vail, Colorado in 1993. SOS Outreach is a grassroots, 501(c)(3) organization. Through the work of its founder and executive director, Arn Menconi and former director of snowboarding for Vail Resorts, Ray Sforzo, a charity was developed that appealed to the mountain resort's desire to build the community by serving underprivileged youth.

SOS Outreach first introduced youth to the benefits of outdoor recreation during the 1995–1996 season when they taught 40 youths snowboarding. They were provided with one day of free lessons, equipment and lift tickets. Since their first season, SOS Outreach has partnered with mountain resorts, youth agencies, foundations, corporations and individual donors to expand their curriculum and serve over 7,500 youths. SOS Outreach is further leveraging their partnerships to expand their programs and include skiing. Over 7,000 program days will be provided at 29 resorts across the country, 13 in the State of Colorado.

SOS Outreach reaches out to its participants by providing a high quality, resilience-based program that positively impacts self-esteem and ability to participate positively within their communities; supports underserved youth through adult mentorship; and encourages personal character education through SOS Outreach's five core values of courage, discipline, integrity, wisdom and compassion. In using snowboarding and skiing as the carrot, SOS Outreach also sets personal, academic and athletic goals with kids and provides vocational skills training. Their curriculum is recognized nationally for its impact.

The dynamic programming they provide would not be successful without the substantial support of the following individuals and organizations. I would like to recognize and thank each of them for sustaining such a program in Colorado: