

As the auto industry continued to expand, Taylor grew as well. At the time of incorporation as a city in 1968, Taylor had a population of over 70,000 and was one of the largest cities in southeast Michigan. Residents like to say that "all roads lead to Taylor," a statement justified by the many major transportation arteries that flow through the city. Taylor has taken wonderful advantage of this fact by becoming not only a community that it is necessary to drive through, but also a community that is necessary to stop in and enjoy.

Taylor continues to thrive today as a result of active involvement and partnership from its corporate and individual citizens alike. Taylor is home to numerous industries and businesses, a large and impressive new SportsPlex, and many beautiful new municipal buildings and community centers. Of particular pride to the city and the region, Taylor is the annual host of the Junior Little League World Series—a week-long tournament that features teams from across the globe.

Madam Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in honoring the City of Taylor on its 40th Anniversary. The City of Taylor is home to vibrant and stable neighborhoods, significant industrial production, world-class youth sports, and numerous commercial business opportunities.

In celebrating Taylor's 40th Anniversary, we are honoring a city that truly represents the best of American history and progress.

HONORING MARIAN LOFTIN AND
THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND
OF ALABAMA FOR 25 YEARS OF
SERVICE TO THE CHILDREN OF
ALABAMA

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Marian Loftin and the Children's Trust Fund of Alabama for 25 years of dedicated service to protecting the children of Alabama.

Created in 1983 by the Alabama legislature, the Children's Trust Fund was created to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect. The Children's Trust Fund was unique in the fact that it specifically focuses on solving the problem of child abuse before it occurs.

This state agency, which has its own board, funding and staff dedicated solely to preventing child abuse, is the state of Alabama's only agency designated to preventing child neglect and maltreatment.

Through education initiatives and community involvement, the Children's Trust Fund has worked to increase awareness, prevent the abuse and neglect of children, find new and effective solutions for preventing child abuse before it occurs, and strengthen Alabama families to prevent such tragedies in the future.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating both Marian Loftin and all of those at the Children's Trust Fund on 25 years of service to the children of Alabama and their families. For all their accomplishments, I extend my heartfelt thanks for their continued service to the children of Alabama, the First Congressional District, and the state of Alabama.

HONORING DR. CARROLL L. ESTES
PHD OF HEALDSBURG, CALI-
FORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER, Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY, and you as Speaker of the House of Representatives, to honor the contributions of Carroll L. Estes, PhD. Dr. Estes is one of our country's most highly acclaimed leaders in the field of aging, who has combined distinguished scholarship with a sustained commitment to public sociology.

Dr. Estes was raised in Texas by her mother, Carroll Cox Estes, an artist and writer, and her father, the late U.S. District Judge Joe E. Estes. She received her AB in Sociology from Stanford University, her MA in Sociology from Southern Methodist University, and her PhD from the University of California, San Diego. Her first book, *The Decision Makers: The Power Structure of Dallas*, published in 1963, gained notoriety on both local and national levels at the time of President Kennedy's assassination.

Over her 40 year career, Dr. Estes has been passionately devoted to improving the health and economic security of vulnerable and underserved populations, with special concern for women, older persons, and ethnic and racial minorities. Through research, teaching, and public service, she has steadfastly worked to advance the public good and the interests of America's most powerless and disenfranchised populations. She is an internationally recognized policy advisor in the field of social insurance, Social Security, Medicare, and long term care.

Dr. Estes has authored and co-authored eight books and more than 150 scientific articles and coedited 15 books. Her research, including her groundbreaking book, *The Aging Enterprise* (1979), has contributed to understanding of the impact of social policy on the elderly. Her latest book, *Social Insurance, Social Justice and Social Change* will be published in 2009.

Dr. Estes's current scholarship is focused on the social movements surrounding the privatization of social insurance programs for the elderly. She is also working on the missing feminist revolution in old age policy and studies of the long term care ombudsman program and access to elder mental health services.

In 1979, Dr. Estes cofounded the Aging Health Policy Center, and in 1985 it was approved by the University of California Board of Regents as the Institute for Health & Aging (IHA). Dr. Estes was appointed its first director and served for nearly two decades. She was also chairperson of the Department of Social & Behavioral Sciences in the School of Nursing from 1981 through 1992.

Dr. Estes's service extends far beyond academia. She was a consultant to U.S. Commissioners of Social Security and the U.S. Senate and House Committees on Aging and was a member of Federal commissions, committees of the Institute of Medicine and the National Academy of Sciences, and private foundation boards. She is past president of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA), the Amer-

ican Society on Aging (ASA), and the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE), and past national vice-president of the Older Women's League. Dr. Estes is a long-time member of many advocacy organizations including: the Gray Panthers, Responsible Wealth, the Older Women's League (of which she was national vice president). She worked directly with both Tish Sommers and Maggie Kuhn, who continue to inspire her activism.

In 2006 Dr. Estes received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, where she is currently vice chair. She is also a current member of the Sonoma County Council on Aging.

Most important among Dr. Estes's many contributions is that of mother and grandmother to her daughter Duskie Estes, her son-in-law John Stewart, and her precious granddaughters Brydie and Mackenzie.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate that Dr. Carroll L. Estes, PhD, is being honored at a University of California, San Francisco, symposium celebrating her 40 years of policy research and leadership in health and aging. We are grateful for her many contributions as a distinguished scholar, inspiring teacher, influential policy advisor, institution builder and advocate for the most vulnerable in our Nation.

A TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH SELLERS,
JR.

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Joseph Sellers, Jr., President and Business Manager of Sheet Metal Workers Local 19 Union. Throughout his career, Mr. Sellers has exemplified exceptional labor leadership for the Sheet Metal Workers, the city of Philadelphia, and beyond.

Mr. Sellers began his career as a sheet metal worker apprentice in 1980, and became a journeyman four years later. In the years since, Mr. Sellers has been honored with a number of leadership positions within the Sheet Metal Workers Local Union 19. He was first appointed Training Coordinator in 1996, and was then elected to the position of Business Representative four and a half years later. Just two years after that, he was unanimously appointed by the Local 19 Executive Board to his current position as President and Business Manager. He was overwhelmingly elected to the same position in 2003 and 2006, and is currently serving a three-year term.

During his current tenure, he also holds a number of prominent leadership positions, including President of the Pennsylvania and New Jersey State Councils of Sheet Metal Workers, Vice-President of the Philadelphia AFL-CIO, President of the Mechanical Trades District Council of Delaware Valley, President for the Metropolitan Association of Presidents and Business Representatives, and many other prestigious positions. Mr. Sellers has also been active on behalf of a number of charities throughout his career, and is a long time supporter of the Unico Salute to Labor.

Mr. Sellers's unwavering dedication to organized labor is commendable, as are his enthusiasm and proficiency in leadership. He truly

embodies the Unico motto, "Service Above Self."

RECOGNIZING COOPER BARNES, TUCKER BARNES, CONNOR MAGID, AND STEVEN PARKER OF VENETA, OREGON

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. DeFAZIO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cooper Barnes, Tucker Barnes, Connor Magid, and Steven Parker of Veneta, Oregon. These Veneta Elementary School students are 2008 National ExploraVision winners. The team earned first place in the grade 4–6 division for designing an underwater energy generator to harness the power of ocean waves.

The team accepted the challenge of this extracurricular activity with enthusiasm, determined to create a technology for clean energy generation that was simple and cost-effective. They were supported and encouraged by their teacher and project coach, Michelle Beller, and Mentor Scottie Barnes. Their working prototype, the Wavemaster, successfully fused science, technology, and imagination, and it worked!

ExploraVision, now in its sixteenth year, is sponsored by the National Science Teachers Association and Toshiba. The competition highlights the natural curiosity and creativity of kids. The student projects showcase their innate desire to explore, experiment, invent, and ask really good questions.

Congratulations to Steven, Connor, Tucker, and Cooper for their outstanding achievement. I am proud to represent these young Oregon scientists and excited about the potential of the Wavemaster.

HONORING THE WORK OF WELCOME HOME TROOPS

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of the efforts of the Welcome Home Troops, a Southern California based organization dedicated to "Returning the Hearts of Our Soldiers to our Homeland."

Welcome Home Troops is a non-profit organization based in Lake Elsinore, California. Its efforts extend beyond California to Texas, Kentucky, and future expansion to additional states. Dedicated to the reintegration of The Global War on Terrorism veterans back into the community, Welcome Home Troops provides support services to help servicemembers transition comfortably from combat to home, restore personal relationships, and encourage a productive and positive life after military service.

Welcome Troops sponsors job fairs, college fairs, financial aid counseling, relationship counseling, drug abuse counseling, Vets to Vets mentoring, and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) counseling. According to the National Center for PTSD, at least 18% of

those serving in Iraq and at least 11% of those serving in Afghanistan will suffer from PTSD. Welcome Home Troops aspires to provide services that will lessen the effects of war time stresses.

In honor of Memorial Day, Welcome Home Troops will involve the community with a Military Appreciation night in Lake Elsinore, California on May 24, 2008. This full afternoon and evening will be filled with assistance outreach opportunities and family fun activities to be capped with an evening game of baseball.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to please join me in congratulating Welcome Home Troops for their dedication this Memorial Day and beyond to our returning servicemembers and their families.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF CEDAR HILL CITY SECRETARY FRANKIE LEE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Frankie Lee on the occasion of her retirement as City Secretary for the City of Cedar Hill.

Frankie Lee began her service to the City of Cedar Hill on September 20, 1977, when she joined the City as the Purchasing Agent/Secretary. She is currently the longest serving employee of the City of Cedar Hill, holding a 30 Year Service Certificate.

Frankie was Appointed City Secretary on April 1, 1984, upon the retirement of then-City Secretary Marie Vincent.

During her tenure with the City of Cedar Hill, Frankie has been associated with seven Mayors, four City Managers and numerous Council Members. She has been a first-hand witness to the growth and progressiveness of Cedar Hill, growing from a population of approximately 6,800 in 1980 to 46,000 in 2008.

In her early years as City Secretary, Frankie was in charge of Human Resources, insurance, payroll and zoning. Her current role as City Secretary includes Official Meeting Notices, Minutes, City Public Information Coordinator, Records Management Officer and numerous other duties. For several years she was one of Cedar Hill's Alternate Members of the North Central Texas Housing Finance Corporation.

She has also been responsible for the City's general and special elections and has worked closely with the Dallas County Elections Department to insure the proper management of ballots, early voting, Election Day Voting, and results. It is estimated that in her over 24 years as City Secretary, Frankie has overseen approximately 50 elections.

Frankie has been an active Member of the Texas Municipal Clerks Association, North Texas Municipal Clerks Association, and International Institute of Municipal Clerks. Through the years she has attended many Training and Certification Courses and Professional Seminars presented by these organizations, as well as the Texas Attorney General and Secretary of State.

In 2005, she was a Texas Municipal Clerks' Honor Roll "Honoree".

Frankie attended the University of Texas at Arlington and is a Graduate of the Leadership Southwest Class of 1996–97.

She is an active Member of the Cedar Hill Lions Club, serving on the Board of Directors, and has Chaired the Annual Pancake Breakfast for the past three years. Lion Tamer-Elect for 2008–09, she was recently Honored at the Lions District Convention as the Cedar Hill Lions Club "Grass Roots Lion" for 2007–08.

A Member of First United Methodist Church of Cedar Hill, Frankie has two grown daughters and one grandson.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate Frankie Lee on all of her accomplishments. Her numerous years of service and dedication to the City of Cedar Hill is worthy of recognition. It is an honor to represent Frankie Lee in the 24th District of Texas and I wish her continued success in the years to come.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2419, FOOD, CONSERVATION, AND ENERGY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 2419, the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act. It has been a long road to this point, and while I must say that I am not entirely pleased with the final bill, I do believe that it makes important steps forward to reforming the priorities of our farm policy.

Michigan has had a tough go of things lately—and farming is no exception. Just last spring and summer Michigan experienced severe weather and droughts that caused enormous damage to local farms, leading the USDA to designate 83 Michigan counties as disaster areas. I have long said that farming is an inherently risky enterprise and with the recent downturn in the economy and fickle Michigan weather, it is clear to see why.

I will be frank and say that this bill is far from perfect. Personally, I would have liked to see greater reforms in the areas of conservation and fruit and vegetable programs, however, I do think Michigan will benefit from the bill. Like the farm bill the House passed last summer, I am pleased to note that most of our farmers in the 15th District of Michigan will not see any significant negative changes if the farm bill is enacted. All of the safety net programs from the 2002 farm bill are maintained with minor changes—including direct payments and the counter cyclical and the marketing loan programs.

However, the conference report does take measures to curb wasteful spending and distribute our resources to those in need. This bill places a cap on payments to those with an adjusted gross income (AGI) of \$500,000 or more, and puts in place the first-ever cap for farm income at \$750,000 for fixed direct payments. In addition, the bill would eliminate the "3-entity" rule that allows producers to collect payments for multiple ownership interests.

As a diverse agricultural state, Michigan has the second-widest variety of farm products after California, this legislation will provide great support for specialty crops. In 2006 Michigan produced 825,470 tons of fresh market and processing vegetables and the state