

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING KEVIN BOREN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kevin Boren of Grain Valley, Missouri. Kevin is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1228, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kevin has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Kevin has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kevin Boren for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MRS. MONICA (RUHL) KINNEL

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I rise today to inform our colleagues of a milestone event that occurred yesterday for a very special lady in the Grande Ronde Valley of Oregon. Mrs. Monica (Ruhl) Kinneel turned 100 years old yesterday and celebrated over the weekend in Island City, Oregon with many generations of her family and a legion of friends and admirers. Monica is an amazing lady who has led a remarkable and exciting life, and The Observer newspaper in La Grande, Oregon recently chronicled her adventures to date and I'd like to share with you some highlights from it.

In July 1892 a land purchase was made on the outskirts of Alicel in modern day Union County that became the seminal grounds for a ranching/farming family that has spanned five generations in the Grande Ronde Valley. Monica's grandparents, Henry and Anna Ruhl, purchased 338 acres near Alicel for \$10,000 and assumed a \$2,500 debt on the land. Their son Harry continued operation of the Alicel ranch and married Maude Gaskill whose parents owned a farm less than two miles away.

Maude designed a ranch home that her father-in-law Henry built on his land. Built with brick from the La Grande brickyard and mortar made from sand from the Grande Ronde River, the home was completed in 1906. Two years later on June 2, 1908, Monica was born. Monica lives with her daughter and son-in-law, Sharon and Bob Beck, in the house she was born in 100 years ago.

Harry and Maude were fun-loving and curious and involved Monica in life's happenings. Monica remembers an outing to Boise with her father when he bought a toaster. Monica asked him what he was going to do with it since they didn't have electricity. Harry replied, "We'll be ready."

Monica was married to Bob Kinneel in 1930. They took over the family ranch, raising Hereford cattle and farming. They added more farm land adjacent to the Ruhl ranch and the whole became the Kinneel Ranch where they raised their family and lived until Bob's untimely demise at the age of 43 in 1955. Monica and Bob made a real team and raised three lovely daughters, Suzanne (who passed away in 1999), Joanne and Sharon. Sharon recounts that her parents had "a love affair so powerful and so joyful that the two of them seemed to know something that no one else knew."

Willis Ketchum, who now owns a neighboring farm, and the girls who were then in their early 20s, rallied around Monica and pitched in to save the ranch. In the fall of 1956 Monica hired on a scrapping, ranch-raised young man from Telocaset named Bob Beck. In just over a year he married Sharon and together they have added their own chapter to the family saga.

Monica traveled the world with daughter Joanne and the United States with other family and friends. Monica's legacy of love and laughter has been imparted to her grandchildren and great grandchildren as well. Anecdotes abound, like the time she brought grandson Rob a male tarantula from California. He built a terrarium and the next year she took Rob to the same desert to release him. Another is when grandson Brad and some contractor working on the house witnessed Monica—then in her 80s—leave the house with a fishing pole and satchel "to go catch breakfast" and came back within 30 minutes with a 22-inch rainbow trout.

Monica has always taught her family to live in the now, don't put things off til later as there may not be a later. Given the choice of describing her life as a hard-working, tenacious and productive ant or a carefree, live-for-the-moment grasshopper, Monica chose the grasshopper without hesitation. Her philosophy is "live and let live." Fortunately for Monica and her family, she continues to live an exhilarating journey.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I wish Monica Kinneel a very happy 100th birthday!

CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to praise the contributions of the Caribbean-American community to this Nation's history

and development. Since before the 1770's when Jean Baptist Pointe DuSable moved to what is now my hometown of Chicago this community has played a vital and positive role in the development of this country.

With over 4.6 million Caribbean-Americans in this country the contributions of this community should not be overlooked. This Caribbean-American community has brought to us such notables as Alexander Hamilton, Sydney Poitier, W.E.B. Dubois, Malcolm X, and former Secretary of State Colin Powell.

Madam Speaker, without the contributions of these individuals the United States would not be the country we see today. Without Hamilton, would we have been the Constitutional Republic that allows us to be here today? Without Dubois when might we have realized that "The cost of liberty is less than the price of repression." Without Malcolm X would our youth understand that "The future belongs to those who prepare for it today."

Madam Speaker, in preparing for that future I believe it is fundamental that we remember our roots. I thank the Caribbean-American community for their contributions to society and look forward to what is yet to come.

HONORING MR. PETER QUINN

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable man and his equally remarkable family. Mr. Peter Quinn of Wallingford, PA is a man of many talents—each of enormous value to our community. He is deeply spiritual, with extraordinary compassion for those in our society who struggle with a wide range of personal challenges. A graduate of Villanova University and a peerless teacher and guidance counselor at Bishop McDevitt High School in Philadelphia, Pete Quinn possesses a unique capacity to positively influence young people. That quality was never clearer than when he left Bishop McDevitt to become a founder and prime mover behind "The Bridge" at Fox Chase. This creative residential substance abuse treatment program is a safe harbor for teenagers from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware and a model behavioral health service program. While at The Bridge, Pete worked tirelessly to see that young men with substance abuse problems received innovative treatment and, most importantly, that they had a role model for life in the person of Pete Quinn.

Following that signal achievement, Pete became a valuable member of the Philadelphia business community while serving as the Government Relations Director and Community Outreach Coordinator for one of the world's largest pharmaceutical firms. For nearly a decade he promoted responsible corporate programs to help the community he loves so dearly. In June 2008, Pete Quinn will complete

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

his fourth impressive career when he retires as founding executive director of the Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Association (TMA). In that capacity Pete contributed directly to the economic vitality of the 7th Congressional District by advancing hundreds of transit improvements, including the 422 River Crossings Projects, I-76/I-476 TSM project and many more.

Without doubt, however, Pete's greatest accomplishment is his loving and devoted family. His wife Maryanne, the love of his life and best friend, has been one of the area's finest Latin teachers for nearly two decades at the Haverford School. Their daughter Maryanne, her mother's namesake, scholarly equal and successful business leader, is married to Mr. Bryan Hancock with 2 beautiful children, Will and Hugh. Pete Quinn Jr, husband to Kristen and father of Warner and Anderson, reflects the best of his father. A graduate of the US Naval Academy and F-18 Hornet pilot, he's currently serving our nation as we fight wars on two fronts.

Madam Speaker I ask that we pause and salute Pete and Maryanne Quinn, their exceptional children and grandchildren for representing the epitome of a life well lived in loving service to one another, their community and our great nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE JOINT
VETERANS COMMISSION OF CUYA-
HOGA COUNTY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Joint Veterans Commission of Cuyahoga County as they commemorate Flag Day 2008, Naturalization Day and the two hundred and thirty-third anniversary of the U.S. Army at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum.

I stand today in recognition of the individuals and organizations who make up The Joint Veterans Commission of Cuyahoga County: Army and Navy Union, Catholic War Veterans, Jewish War Veterans, Korean War Veterans Association, Marine Corps League, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Polish Legion of American Veterans, Reserve Officers Association, Southwest Asia Veterans, Ukrainian American Veterans, United Spanish War Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, Waves National, and the 82nd Airborne Division Association. Their collective and individual efforts ensure a memorable celebration of this year's Flag Day, Naturalization Day and the 233rd Birthday of the U.S. Army.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of The Joint Veterans Commission of Cuyahoga County as they commemorate Flag Day 2008, Naturalization Day, and the 233rd Birthday of the U.S. Army, and in recognition of the individual and collective commitment of the members and organizations to the Greater Cleveland Area.

CLYDE HAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Clyde Han, of Cameron, Missouri. On May 31, 2008, after 25 years of service, Clyde retired from the Cameron, Missouri Fire Department.

Mr. Han has established a distinctive and well respected career serving and protecting the public. Clyde is a Certified Instructor for the University of Missouri Fire Service, and was the University of Missouri Fire & Rescue Training Coordinator for Northwest Missouri for several years. Mr. Han is a certified Fire Investigator for the State of Missouri. Clyde was also an instructor for the Cameron Fire Department, as well as the Fire Inspector for the City of Cameron, Missouri. Mr. Han ended his career with the Cameron Fire Department as Captain.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Clyde Han, whose dedication and service to the citizens he helped protect has been truly outstanding. I commend Clyde on an exceptional career, and I am honored to serve him in the United States Congress.

TRIBUTE TO TENNESSEE'S 4TH
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FIRE-
FIGHTERS

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, over 250 years ago, Benjamin Franklin created the Union Fire Company, the first volunteer fire fighting company in America. Today, volunteers make up over 70% of United States firefighters, with 820,000 Americans dedicating their free time to protecting their neighbors, homes and communities from fire and other calamities.

More than 21,000 of the roughly 30,000 fire departments in the country are entirely comprised of volunteer service members ready and willing to respond to over a million fires every year. Our volunteer fire fighters spend their time and resources to train, prepare and equip themselves so they are ready to face whatever challenge might threaten our homes or safety. Moreover, firefighters are summoned to address a wide variety of emergencies in our country every year, from emergency medical care to natural disasters, water rescue to threats from hazardous materials and more.

The volunteer firefighters of today are working hard to carry on a tradition of commitment to each other that outlasts America itself. As long as fires threaten the well-being of our neighbors and loved ones, the volunteer firefighters of America will continue to answer the call in our defense. For all they do, they deserve our thanks and respect. I rise with my colleagues today to applaud their service and that of paid full-time and part-time firefighters to our country and their noble regard for the protection of us all.

RECOGNIZING THE FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH OF GRAND BLANC

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the First Baptist Church of Grand Blanc as they celebrate the 175th anniversary of the Church's founding. A celebration was held on June 1st in Grand Blanc, Michigan to mark this momentous occasion.

The First Baptist Church of Grand Blanc was founded in 1833 when 26 settlers came together to establish a place of worship. Their guiding beliefs were a dedication to God, religious liberty, belief in the literal translation of the Bible, separation of Church and state, and the autonomy of the local Church.

The 26 individuals were Daniel Williams, Alfred Brainerd, John Tupper, Alden Tupper, Newell Tupper, Harrison Tupper, Alexander Tupper, Phile Miner, John Fritz, Robert Winchell, Philander Williams, Betsy Tupper, Hannah Tupper, Isabelle Tupper, Asenath Brainerd, Sarah Brainerd, Alice Miner, Susanna Fritz, Electa Williams, Sophrona Straw, Almira Phelps, Lovina Gilbert, Sarah Perry, Lovina Williams, Jason Austin, and Eunice Austin. The first meetings were held in a barn and the First Protestant Church of Grand Blanc became the first Protestant Church between Pontiac and the Straits of Mackinaw.

Over the years the congregation has grown. The Church was officially dedicated in 1851 and over the years the congregation has expanded the building and facilities to suit the growing needs of the faithful. In addition to the classrooms and dining hall, a new fellowship hall and a 400-seat sanctuary have been added. The Church was named a State of Michigan Historic Site in 1974 and a National Historic Site in 1983.

Under the current leadership of interim pastor, Reverend Darrell Foltz, the congregation continues to work under the principles of vision, faith and courage to meet the challenges of our world. The congregation meets these challenges every day armed with their spiritual guidance and love of God.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and applaud the First Baptist Church of Grand Blanc for celebrating their 175th anniversary. The bell that was installed in 1837 continues to ring today calling the faithful to worship. May it continue to ring for another 175 years.

A TRIBUTE TO M. MAGDALENA
CARRILLO MEJIA

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. M. Magdalena Carrillo Mejia's years of service as the superintendent of the Sacramento City Unified School District. Dr. Mejia leaves a lasting legacy in Sacramento and she will be deeply missed. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring one of Sacramento's leaders in education.

After earning her bachelor's and master's degree in Multicultural Education from the

California State University, San Diego, Dr. Mejia has been a tireless advocate for education. She began her career in the Sweetwater Union High School District serving as a classroom teacher at Sweetwater High School and later at Mar Vista High School. Dr. Mejia's dedication to improving California's educational system led to her 1999 appointment as superintendent in the Montebello Unified School District. In 2000, Dr. Mejia received a Doctorate of Philosophy in Educational Policy and Administration from the University of Southern California and was appointed superintendent of the Sacramento City Unified School District in 2003.

During her time as superintendent of the Sacramento City Unified School District, Dr. Mejia has developed and implemented a strategic plan entitled "Success for Every Student by Name." This plan gives special attention to four essential areas for improving education: closing the achievement gap, ensuring a successful transition from middle school to high school, integrating physical, social and emotional supports with academics, and improving parent and community engagement. In addition, Dr. Mejia has led other innovative initiatives in Sacramento. This includes seeing that the Sacramento City School District became the first district in California to earn an international certification for standardizing procedures and practices at the central office. She undertook a rigorous district review with the guidance of the Annenberg Institute for School Reform, a process in which only ten districts in the Nation have engaged in. In 2007, Dr. Mejia was instrumental in the creation of a middle school task force to undertake reforms at that level. This has led to increased support for teachers and students alike.

Dr. Mejia has received many honors and professional recognition for her work in improving K-12 education. She was named the Association of California School Administrators Superintendent of the Year in 2006 and most recently she was one of the two California superintendents chosen by State Superintendent Jack O'Connell to represent California at the National Academy of Superintendents conference in Ohio. In addition Dr. Mejia has been awarded the first annual Administrator of the Year award from the California Association for Bilingual Education, named the Milken National Educator of the Year, and State Senator Martha Escutia's Woman of the Year for the 30th State Senate District.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Dr. M. Magdalena Carrillo Mejia's distinguished commitment to education here in Sacramento and throughout California. Dr. Mejia's outstanding leadership and dedication to the Sacramento City Unified School District has increased the performance of our schools and most importantly our students. We all are thankful for her efforts. As Dr. Mejia's husband Carlos, their two children, her colleagues, family and friends gather to honor her service, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing her continued good fortune in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CHARLES JOSEPH ZERZAN, JR.

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker. I rise today to note the passing of a true American hero and fellow Oregonian, Dr. Charles Joseph Zerzan, Jr. Dr. Zerzan passed from this world on May 23, 2008 in the presence of his beloved wife and children. This man devoted his life to service of his family, the community and our Nation, and it is a singular sign of America's special blessing that individuals such as he have lived, enriching us all in the great enterprise of our Nation. I know this entire body will rise with me and give a solemn note of thanks to Dr. Zerzan, and our condolences to his family.

Charles Zerzan was born on December 1, 1921 in Portland, Oregon and attended primary and secondary school in the Portland and Salem areas. At the age of sixteen his parents lied about his age so that he could enlist in the Oregon National Guard; three years later America entered World War II and Dr. Zerzan found himself a 2nd Lieutenant in an Airborne division commanding men several years older than he in the harsh jungle and mountain terrain of the China-Burma-India theatre. At the end of the war, by which time he had earned the rank of Captain, he returned home to Oregon to attend Willamette University and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree. He then proceeded to medical school at the University of Marquette, where he earned the degree of Medical Doctor with a specialty in internal medicine. Following medical school Dr. Zerzan re-enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in many prestigious posts. Among these were two tours in Washington at Walter Reed Army Hospital; Chief of Medicine at Rodriguez Army Hospital; and he served as U.S. Army Medical Advisor to the Jordan Arab Army. Dr. Zerzan had the privilege of serving as personal physician to President Dwight D. Eisenhower, His Majesty King Hussein bin Talal of Jordan, members of the U.S. Supreme Court and numerous United States Senators and Congressmen. During the Cuban Missile crisis Dr. Zerzan was part of the invasion force planning to go ashore in Cuba, in the event of a conflict which thankfully never came to pass.

Dr. Zerzan was highly decorated for his service to the United States. Among the military honors he received are the Legion of Merit, the Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the World War II Victory Medal, the Pacific Theater Medal with two battle stars, the National Defense ribbon and the American Defense ribbon. These honors, which are awarded among other reasons for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services and achievements," are but a small symbol of the patriotism and devotion of Dr. Zerzan to our country. As is true for so many of our veterans the true worth of his service cannot be measured.

Upon retirement from the Army in 1968 Dr. Zerzan returned to Oregon, where he served as Director of Continuing Medical Education at the Medical School of the University of Oregon-Portland (now known as Oregon Health Sciences University), and later as partner in the NW Permanente Clinic, Sunnyside Kaiser.

Despite his many professional achievements Dr. Zerzan viewed his greatest accomplishment to be his family. It was while attending college at Willamette University that Dr. Zerzan met the great love of his life, Ms. Joan Margaret Kathan of Rogue River, Oregon. As Mrs. Zerzan described it, the first time they kissed her "shoes flew off," and she knew it was true love. They married on February 7, 1948 and during their 60 years of marriage proceeded to have 12 children. These children, who live in Oregon and throughout the United States, in turn gave Dr. Zerzan 30 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The passing of Dr. Zerzan is a sad day for Oregon and all of America. But at the same time, it is a source of celebration for the accomplishment of his life's work. Dr. Zerzan was a man of courage, honor and great faith. As recorded in the Gospel of St. Matthew: "Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Dr. Zerzan's treasure was in his devotion to his family, his country and his work. He has now passed on to receive his reward, and to enjoy the treasure he stored up during his time on earth. Thank you, Madam Speaker, for joining with me and our colleagues today to celebrate Dr. Zerzan's life and reward.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, unfortunately I have been out on medical leave. I have been unable to cast votes; however, I would like the RECORD to reflect my intentions had I been present to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 366, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 365, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 364, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 363, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 362, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 361, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 360, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 359, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 358, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 357, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 356, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 355, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 354, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 353, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 352, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 351, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 350, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 174, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 173, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 172, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 171, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 169, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 168, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 167, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 166, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 165, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 164, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 163, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 162, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 161, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING RSVP OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S 35 YEARS OF FACILITATING VOLUNTARISM

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, on behalf of all the citizens of the 7th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Montgomery on its 35th Anniversary.

RSVP of Montgomery County, established in 1973, promotes voluntarism among persons 55 years of age and older, and provides opportunities for them to pursue their interests and use their abilities to help meet critical human needs in Montgomery County. This double mission is beneficial to all concerned. Major findings from more than 30 rigorous and longitudinal studies have found that seniors who volunteer have greater longevity, higher functionality, lower rates of depression, and less incidence of heart disease. With the large number of baby boomers (27 percent of the population) now reaching senior adulthood, RSVP's mission is becoming increasingly relevant to society as a whole. While volunteers are bettering their own lives, they are contributing invaluable service to the community at large. Last year RSVP of Montgomery County's 1,300 volunteers contributed more than 100,000 hours to 300 nonprofit agencies and 11 special programs that RSVP has developed to assist vulnerable sectors of society.

In the area of arts and culture, 112 volunteers contributed 7,725 hours assisting 30 museums, libraries, historical sites, nature preserves, cultural organizations, and performance groups. In the area of health, 253 volunteers contributed 30,000 hours working in 48 hospitals, hospices, rehab centers, adult day care centers, nursing homes, the American Red Cross, March of Dimes, Easter Seal Society, Wellness Center, and organizations dedicated to specific diseases. In the area of Human Services, 691 volunteers contributed

36,000 hours working in 78 various human service agencies throughout the county including the Women's Center, Manna on Main Street, Meals on Wheels programs, hotlines, shelters, soup kitchens, and more.

Within the 11 RSVP programs, 45 trained volunteers contributed 3,018 hours of service tutoring over 300 American and foreign-born adults in GED, ESL and basic literacy programs; 61 trained volunteers contributed 2,153 hours working with 200 young elementary school children, helping them improve their reading skills and confidence; 17 trained volunteer counselors contributed 1,908 hours assisting more than 1,000 seniors with health insurance concerns; 77 volunteers contributed 2,634 hours assisting frail/homebound elders with nonmedical tasks of daily living; 15 volunteers contributed 851 hours reading to Head Start children on a regular basis; 30 volunteers at Gwynedd Estates contributed more than 500 hours wrapping new gift books for Head Start children; 9 volunteers contributed 213 hours visiting special needs children in their homes on a weekly basis, providing the children with companionship and skill reinforcement while affording their families needed respite time and emotional support; 77 mentors contributed 6,967 hours meeting on a one-on-one, long-term basis with 82 elementary, middle, and high school students whose potential is compromised by difficult life circumstances; 27 volunteers contributed 481 hours enhancing emergency preparedness awareness in Montgomery County; 84 volunteers contributed 6,738 hours as tutors, aides, docents, and presenters to children in schools and agencies serving youth; 88 volunteer speakers and trained clowns contributed 2,064 hours making topical presentations and providing entertainment to community organizations, clubs, and nursing homes; and 44 retired executives, professionals, managers, and technicians contributed 2,973 hours helping nonprofit agencies build their capacity and enhance their service delivery.

Just two examples of RSVP volunteers in action are:

Ron, a retired businessman, has been a mentor to two brothers—Josh who is 10 and Nathan who is 12—through the Prétogé program. Originally, Ron was matched with Josh, but he said it broke his heart to leave Nathan behind when they went on excursions because the brothers are like "two peas in a pod". The boys' mother is seriously ill with Scleroderma and disabled. There is no family in the area except for an absentee father. The boys take care of their mother by cooking, cleaning, feeding her when necessary and remaining quiet so that she can rest. Both boys are motivated to do well and are well-behaved, but needed someone to build their confidence and take them on outings. Ron has taken them to the Camden Aquarium, the National Constitution Center, Fireman's Hall, the Auto Show, ball games, movies, and amusement parks. Ron is married but never had children. On Fathers Day last June the boys called him to wish him an honorary Fathers Day. At Prétogé's 10th anniversary event in November, Ron brought the boys and their mother. At that event, the mother asked to stand and thank Ron and Prétogé for all they have done for her children.

Volunteer, Jan, goes once a week to Conshohocken Head Start where she spends two hours reading to the children. She also

tries to cultivate their observational skills through various activities such as putting an item in a bag and asking the children to feel it and guess what it is; or putting items on a tray, having the children look at them, and then covering them with a towel and asking the children to remember what they saw.

I applaud this great organization and their volunteers for all the work they have done and look forward to RSVP of Montgomery County's next 35 years of helping seniors help others.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF REPUBLIC DAY OF AZERBAIJAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 90th anniversary of Republic Day, celebrated by the people of Azerbaijan and in recognition of the Republic's rich and diverse history.

Every year on May 28, the Azerbaijani people celebrate the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan. It was on this day in 1918, that Azerbaijan was first declared as an independent Democratic Republic, the first of its kind in the Middle East. Azerbaijan connects the Eastern and Western worlds; located on the western coast of the Caspian Sea, in the center of what was the historical Silk Road. The country is home to more than 70 diverse ethnic groups and its history can be traced back to over a million years ago to the Azykh cave. I join the Azerbaijani people in celebrating their rich cultural heritage and history on this year's Republic Day celebration.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the Azerbaijani people and in recognition of the country's rich culture and history.

HONORING MATHEW MILLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mathew Miller of Grain Valley, Missouri. Mathew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1310, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Mathew has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Mathew has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Mathew Miller for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ADMIRAL FRANK KELSO II RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE HONOR AT NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, watching over the air and sea while providing exemplary support for our land based services, the United States Navy has a service record that history has looked favorably upon from the Revolutionary War through the Battle of Midway to their present day services around the globe.

One alumni of this cherished brotherhood, Admiral Frank Kelso II, a man who dedicated his life to service of his country, was recently bestowed with the 2008 Distinguished Graduate Award during the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association's annual ceremonies in Annapolis, Maryland.

With a Naval career as long as it is distinguished, Admiral Kelso, born in Lincoln County, Tennessee, steadily rose through the ranks following his graduation from the Naval Academy in 1956.

Serving various tours on *Balao*, *Skipjack*, *Permit*, and *LaFayette* class submarines and attending the Navy's Submarine School, Admiral Kelso was promoted to Commanding Officer of the Naval Nuclear Power School, USS *Finback* and USS *Bluefish*.

In subsequent tours, the Admiral served as Executive Assistant to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command and the U.S. Atlantic Fleet and Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic. He was then assigned to reestablish and command Submarine Squadron Seven.

In 1980 he was selected as Rear Admiral, where his Pentagon assignments included Director, Strategic Submarine Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and Director, Office of Program Appraisal, Office of the Secretary of the Navy.

By 1985 Admiral Kelso was commanding the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean Sea and NATO Naval Striking Force and Support Forces Southern Europe. During this time the Admiral led successful operations against Libya.

Earning his fourth star, Kelso was promoted to Admiral in 1986, shortly before assuming the duties of Commander, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Admiral Kelso later became NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic and Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command.

Admiral Kelso's naval career reached its high point when he was named the 24th Chief of Naval Operations in 1990, making him the first Tennessean to hold that position. He served as CNO for nearly four years.

Beyond serving in a high ranking military position in the U.S. government and the numerous medals he has earned, Admiral Kelso has remained humble and grounded—saying his greatest accomplishments are his children and grandchildren. As a father of three and grandfather to five, I can say family is the driving force in life and is to be cherished as described by the Admiral.

We are proud to have Admiral and Mrs. Kelso as native residents of the 4th District and wish them the best.

HONORING QUINN CHAPEL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church on celebrating 133 years of worship and outreach in Flint, Michigan. On Friday, May 30th the congregation of Quinn Chapel recognized this milestone at a special anniversary program.

Quinn Chapel AME Church has a long tradition in Flint. This tradition began in the home of Mrs. Nancy West, where in 1875 she first opened her doors for prayer services. Quinn Chapel reached out to the community, becoming a positive influence on families looking for opportunity in the early days of Michigan.

As Flint grew, so did Quinn Chapel. In 1877 the congregation moved from Mrs. West's home and into a new location on Seventh Street. A decision was made in 1912 to build a new sanctuary and the brick structure was dedicated in 1922. The music program gained national recognition and the Senior Choir took first place in a national music contest during the 1940s.

When the City of Flint decided to build the municipal center in 1955, Quinn Chapel had to relocate again. The first Church service was held in the new structure on Lippincott Boulevard on December 25, 1960. Bishop Joseph Gomez formally dedicated this sanctuary in 1961.

Designated a Historical Site by the State of Michigan, Quinn Chapel AME Church has fulfilled their African Methodist Episcopal motto, "God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, Man Our Brother." Under the leadership of their Pastor, Reverend Stanley U. Sims, the congregation continues to provide the residents of Flint with a place to worship in a faith filled community.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding this community for their dedication to Christian life. For 133 years Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church has led services for its members and provided a foundation for the spiritual lives of many in Flint. I pray they will continue their blessed work for many, many years to come.

IN HONOR OF BARBARA McCARTY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, it is with sadness that I rise in honor of Barbara McCarty, who passed away late last month in Hawaii.

Barbara's life was an American success story. She immigrated to the United States from England, became an American citizen, graduated from Sacramento State University and later earned a law degree. Through all of this, she raised 4 remarkable children as a single mother.

For the better part of the last 3 decades Barbara practiced law in Sacramento, primarily

focusing on workers compensation cases. In 1992, she and a colleague staked out on their own and started a law practice. In addition to being a fine lawyer and wonderful mother, Barbara was a vibrant community leader. She was always active with women's causes and was engaged in many civic endeavors, even after she retired in Hawaii.

Barbara is survived by her children: Laura LaMarre; Kevin McCarty; Christopher McCarty; Trevor Nielsen; and her sister, Anne Gash. She also leaves behind 7 grandchildren and countless friends in Sacramento and Hawaii.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in paying honor to Barbara McCarty for her exemplary service to those of us in Sacramento and across the Nation. Her life and legacy—as a mother and advocate—will be an inspiration to us all. I ask that we take a moment and extend our utmost respect and condolences to her family.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ANNE STARR

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Anne Starr, and in recognition of her dedication to her family, her country and her community.

Mrs. Starr was born in California, Pennsylvania and moved to the Cleveland area in the early 1920s. Both she and her husband, William, were active in the veterans community in the greater Cleveland area. By setting an example of leadership and civic participation, they taught their children the importance of community involvement. Her son, Gary Starr, learned that lesson well, and has served as mayor of Middleburg Heights since 1981. It was through Mrs. Starr's orchestrations that Gary got an early taste for politics. A lifelong "Roosevelt Democrat," Mrs. Starr arranged for her son Gary to get credentials at the Republican National Convention in Miami in 1968 when Gary was 17 years old and visiting extended family in Florida. Through that experience, Gary met all the national news anchors of the day and formed a lifelong interest in politics himself. Later, Anne was active in all of Mayor Gary Starr's election campaigns.

Mrs. Starr belonged to the Lions Club and to the Women's Auxiliary of American Legion Post 703 in Parma and Middleburg Heights. She was a founding member of the Middleburg Heights Veterans Memorial, which stands in front of the Middleburg Heights community center. In 2004, I, along with the Cuyahoga County Commissioners, U.S. Senator GEORGE VOINOVICH, Ohio State Senators Dan Brady and Doug White, and Ohio Representative Timothy DeGeeter, recognized Mrs. Starr for her outstanding service and leadership in founding the Memorial. She sold many of the bricks that comprise the Memorial, with each brick displaying the name of a local veteran. Mrs. Starr was also recognized by the Middleburg Heights Chamber of Commerce during the city's annual Salute to the City Celebration for her significant contributions to the community of Middleburg Heights.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Anne Starr, who

committed her life to serving her family, her country and her community. May her life serve as an example to us all.

HONORING DEREK SCHIRMER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Derek Schirmer of Gladstone, Missouri. Derek is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Derek has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Derek has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Derek Schirmer for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING STACY PRATER FOR
SELFLESS ACT

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, it was nearly 100 years ago that the so-called "Central Powers" of Europe opposed the free world in what would become the first of two World Wars. In the midst of our fight against Germany and her Allies at the beginning of the 20th century, one of Fentress County, Tennessee's most famous sons earned a Medal of Honor, and his place in history.

Sergeant Alvin C. York exemplifies perhaps the most common understanding of what a hero embodies: an individual who answered the call of duty and risked themselves for the betterment of others. However, it is the lesser known heroes that I rise today to commend.

Stacy Prater of Pikeville, Tennessee, probably did not have thoughts of heroism in mind as he traveled home from work a few weeks ago. But, when he noticed that the car in front of him was on fire, Stacy stepped in to help the driver and her three children get to safety. With the driver and two children safely out of the vehicle, Stacy rushed into the fire to rescue a third child from a safety seat completely surrounded by flames. Using only a pair of scissors, Stacy released and pulled the child safely out of the vehicle. Through Stacy's efforts, all three children and their mother survived the unexpected incident.

History will probably not remember Stacy, or countless others like him, as it remembers Alvin York. Stacy acted this month not for the glory of heroism, but for what it means to the survivors of that fire. I am proud today to commend Stacy's selfless service, and to commemorate a hometown hero who deserves our continued thanks and appreciation.

HONORING SAINT LUKE CHRISTIAN
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Saint Luke Christian Methodist Episcopal Church as the congregation celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Church's founding. A celebration was held in Saginaw, Michigan on May 31st in honor of this momentous occasion.

Saint Luke Christian Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in 1933 by King Wicker, Otha Wicker, Mildred Wicker, Alton Wicker, Margaret Wicker, Jerry Wicker, Odessa Fields, Bobbie Lou Anthony, Irene Blunt, Robert Taylor, and Reverend S.J. Scott. Shortly thereafter Reverend S.J. Elliott became the first appointed pastor and was active in developing and organizing the Saint Luke congregation. Under Reverend Elliott's pastoral guidance Saint Luke built its first Church where members could gather and worship.

In 1955 the congregation was expanding and they began to look for a new home. The prayers and hard work of the membership were successful and they purchased the Church and parsonage on Tuscola Street in June 1958. Through the hard work and generosity of the congregation, the mortgage was paid in full and burned in a joyous celebration on October 19, 1969. Over the years the congregation has added a new organ, a communion rail, a grand piano, a furnace, air conditioning and the Church and parsonage underwent extensive renovation.

While the physical structure of Saint Luke has changed, the congregation of Saint Luke Christian Methodist Episcopal Church has not wavered from its purpose—faith and devotion to God. Under the leadership of Reverend James C. Hendricks, Saint Luke has embraced the motto, "From Good to Great—Generation of Excellence." Through the guidance of Reverend Hendricks, the members are inspired to meet the daily challenges of life with vision and courage.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding the clergy, staff and congregation of Saint Luke Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. For 75 years they have brought praise and honor to Our Lord, Jesus Christ, and may He continue to bless them for many, many years to come.

REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE
GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON
UNDER PRIME MINISTER FOUAD
SINIORA

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I certainly share the concerns of the proponents of this resolution regarding the need to bring peace to Lebanon. I also add my voice in opposition to the use of violence against innocent civilians for any reason. It is wrong. I have always condemned such acts and cer-

tainly want to express my condolences to those killed, injured, or otherwise affected by the recent fighting.

I have been to Lebanon. I have talked to Parliamentarians in that country about the needs of that country. I have also supported a series of resolutions since coming to Congress expressing strong support for restoring and respecting Lebanon's sovereignty, disarming militias, and allowing the Lebanese people and their representatives to direct the affairs of the country without outside influence from any quarter.

My concern with this resolution is that it does nothing to bring the fighting to an end or to achieve any of its goals that it intends to advance, especially in light of recent events. Instead of writing resolutions that make Congress feel good, at this time the U.S. should be supporting and cooperating with countries in the region working to actually bring an end to the violence and putting Lebanon on track to resolve the political paralysis that has gripped the country.

I did not vote for this measure because I believe it does not move us forward in helping to bring peace to the region, especially in light of recent events that saw the Arab League and Qatar in particular take leading roles in actively working diplomatically to end the violence. While this resolution was pending a vote before the House, the Lebanese parties including the Lebanese government and its Arab neighbors were hammering out an agreement to resolve the political crisis fueling the recent violence which has crippled the country.

I have included a copy of New York Times articles on these regional efforts well as another article outlining the announcement by Israel of its negotiations with Syria using Turkey as a mediator. Nothing guarantees that these talks will succeed but it certainly shows that some of the parties most affected by violence in the region are tired of empty rhetoric and are willing to sit down and engage in diplomacy to prevent their country from returning to civil war.

Now is an opportunity to encourage the Lebanese and others in the region to build on these efforts to defuse tensions and begin to take a positive way forward. According to the reports, the Lebanon agreement was reached—not because of the Congressional resolution—but because the Lebanese parties, with the help of their neighbors in the region, sat down at the negotiating table to try and save their country from civil war.

According to these reports, the agreement addresses some of the issues that have polarized and paralyzed Lebanon and also makes clear that all parties "commit themselves not to use weapons or violence in order to achieve political gains under any circumstances."

While the agreement is not perfect and it remains to be seen whether it will change the situation on the ground, it has received the endorsement of all parties, Saudi Arabia, the U.N., and even the Bush Administration. The agreement will not resolve all the pressing problems in Lebanon but it helped check the most pressing of the moment: a slow march back to civil war.

While many Lebanese were expressing relief at this news and returning to deserted streets in Beirut, the House was voting on a resolution which had been eclipsed by events

on the ground. Rather than amending the resolution to reflect new developments in the region and to support diplomatic to put an end to the violence, the only option presented to the House was a vote on a resolution that proposed no new solutions. Given the opportunity to vote on an amended resolution supporting the work of regional actors and the Lebanese government to find a solution, I would have gladly joined my colleagues.

Because of the diplomatic intervention by Qatar and others, we now have a "ceasefire" and a possible way out of the cycle of violence that has torn this nation apart.

The U.S. should continue to support the democratically elected government of Prime Minister Fouad Siniora and can do so by supporting diplomatic efforts by all parties to end the political crisis underlying the violence.

The head of Lebanon's U.S.-backed Army is Michel Suleiman—who oversaw the Army's deployment in the south under the U.N. resolution which halted the Hezbollah-Israel war in 2006. Suleiman, who will become the country's President under the agreement, recently stated that "I cannot save the country alone. This mission requires the efforts of all." I hope rather than passing outdated resolutions, the Administration and Congress will rally along with others to provide the diplomatic and other support needed by President Suleiman and the Lebanese people to make the most of this opportunity.

Now Lebanon has another chance to repair itself. Let's not waste it.

[From the New York Times, May 22, 2008]

ISRAEL HOLDS PEACE TALKS WITH SYRIA

(By Ethan Bronner)

JERUSALEM.—Israel and Syria announced on Wednesday that they were engaged in negotiations for a comprehensive peace treaty through Turkish mediators, a sign that Israel is hoping to halt the growing influence of Iran, Syria's most important ally, which sponsors the anti-Israel groups Hezbollah and Hamas.

Senior Israeli officials from Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's office and their Syrian counterparts were in Istanbul on Wednesday, where both groups had been staying separately, at undisclosed locations, since Monday. The mediators shuttled between the two. Syria and Israel have not negotiated this seriously in eight years.

Syria's motives are clear: it wants to regain the Golan Heights, captured by Israel in the 1967 war, and to re-establish a relationship with the United States, something it figures it can do through talks with Jerusalem.

For Israel—which has watched the Palestinian group Hamas take over Gaza and gain ground in the West Bank, and the Lebanese group Hezbollah display raw power in Beirut—an effort to pull Syria away from Iran could produce enormous benefits. An announcement on Wednesday of a peace deal that gives Hezbollah the upper hand in Lebanon's government probably added to Israel's sense of urgency.

The American government opposed Israeli-Syrian negotiations because they feared that such a negotiation would reward Syria at a time when the United States is seeking to isolate it for its backing of Hezbollah and its meddling in Lebanon, Bush administration and Israeli officials said. The United States yielded when it became clear that Israel was determined to go ahead, they said.

The talks come less than a week after President Bush, speaking to the Israeli Parliament, created a stir by criticizing those

who would negotiate with "terrorists and radicals." Mr. Bush's remarks have become an issue in the American presidential campaign because they were widely perceived as a rebuke to Senator Barack Obama, the Democratic front-runner.

Turkey, a Muslim country and member of NATO, is a close ally of the United States. It is also Syria's neighbor and has an interest in securing regional peace.

The Turkish prime minister, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, has been working on convening negotiations for some time, an official in his office said, including holding phone conversations with leaders on both sides, and assigning a special envoy to handle the diplomatic back-and-forth. The fact that messages were being exchanged has been public for a couple of months, because of official Syrian statements.

The senior Israeli official said that shortly after Mr. Olmert became prime minister more than a year ago, he went to Turkey and held a long one-on-one meeting with Mr. Erdogan in which it was decided that Turkey would mediate between Israel and Syria.

Efforts to sign a treaty with Syria have often competed with those to build a comprehensive peace with the Palestinians. On Wednesday, Israeli officials tried to make clear that they were not seeking to upstage an important conference opening in Bethlehem—an attempt to make stability easier in the West Bank through economic investment—by saying that both tracks remained vital to them.

While Wednesday's announcement indicated the first real progress on the Israeli-Syrian front in years, and while both sides have clear goals and motivation for success, there is equally good reason for skepticism about the possibility of success.

Mr. Olmert is politically weak, with a thin parliamentary majority partly dependent on the right-wing religious Shas party. He faces a criminal investigation that many Israelis believe should lead him to step down or refrain from undertaking negotiations with the country's enemies. Moreover, twice before, under Prime Ministers Yitzhak Rabin and Ehud Barak, similar efforts to sign a deal with Syria failed.

In Israel, two-thirds of the public oppose a return of the Golan Heights to Syria, according to numerous opinion polls, and many strategists and generals have said that giving up the strategic advantage of the Heights in exchange for promises or even written treaties makes no sense.

"In a period in which Iran is on the march and extending its influence from Lebanon to Iraq, for Israel to consider giving up the Golan barrier would be a strategic error of the highest order," said Dore Gold, president of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs and a former official and adviser to conservative governments under the Likud Party, which is now the opposition.

"You have to make a cold assessment whether Israel could drive a wedge between Syria and Iran," Mr. Gold said. "Unfortunately, in the present period, Iran has Syria within its grip to a far greater extent than it did in the 1990s when previous negotiations with the Syrians were held."

On the other hand, many other Israeli officials and analysts see great benefits for Israel. Syria is a prime sponsor of Hezbollah and provides it with rockets and arms, many from Iran. Hamas and Islamic Jihad have headquarters in Damascus, and Israel will seek, in these negotiations, to have them closed.

To pull Syria out of the orbit of Iran and return it to the more pro-Western world of Egypt, Jordan and even Saudi Arabia would be a major victory for Israel.

A real peace treaty with Syria would bring Israel significant advantages in Lebanon and the Palestinian territories.

After the midday announcement here of the existence of the talks, the Israeli airwaves were filled with officials of the right and center expressing skepticism about the outcome and saying that Israel should not leave the Golan Heights. Politicians of the left, though, expressed hope.

Ran Cohen, a member of Parliament from the dovish Meretz Party, told Israel Radio: "I think this move is very important, very positive. It's too bad it did not begin a long time ago."

Others said they feared that the announcement was an attempt to divert attention from Mr. Olmert's legal troubles.

"I very much welcome any process that can advance peace between us and our neighbors, first and foremost with Syria," said Eitan Kabel, secretary general of the Labor Party, which is in the government with Mr. Olmert's Kadima Party. "I very much hope this isn't some sort of spin whose goal is pull a screen over the situation that the prime minister is in."

In the past, the sticking point in negotiations has been whether yielding the Golan to the Syrians gave them sovereignty all the way to the waterline of the Sea of Galilee. The Syrians say yes, but the Israelis have said no, fearing the loss of water rights and full access to the lake.

[From the Herald Tribune, May 22, 2008]

AGREEMENT STRUCK IN LEBANON TO END POLITICAL CRISIS

(By Robert F. Worth and Nada Bakri)

BEIRUT, LEBANON.—The agreement reached by Lebanese political factions early Wednesday amounted to a significant shift of power in favor of the militant Shiite group Hezbollah and its allies in the opposition, who won the power to veto any cabinet decision.

The sweeping deal to form a new government promised an end to 18 months of political deadlock here, and underscored the rising power of Iran and Syria, which have backed Hezbollah in a proxy battle against the governing coalition and its American and Saudi allies.

Government leaders said they had given way on major provisions because they felt the alternative to an agreement was war. They also said they won a pledge that no faction would use its weapons internally, as Hezbollah and its allies did during street battles this month in the worst internal fighting since Lebanon's 15-year civil war.

"We avoided civil war," said Walid Jumblatt, a leader of the governing coalition. He added that the agreement called for a future dialogue on weapons, a clause that he and other government leaders hoped would eventually allow them to raise the issue of Hezbollah's arsenal.

The agreement was brokered by Arab mediators in Doha, Qatar, and involved intensive last-minute diplomacy among the major regional players in Lebanon, including Syria, Iran and Saudi Arabia. Before the agreement, an Iranian adviser assured Saudi officials that Iran did not want a confrontation with Arab nations, said an adviser to the Saudi government, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to comment publicly. Iran agreed to use its influence to prevent Hezbollah from entering Sunni Muslim areas of Lebanon, the adviser said; such incursions occurred during the clashes two weeks ago.

The agreement specifies a new government and a new election law, ending an 18-month opposition sit-in that had suffocated business in Beirut's downtown commercial center. It also calls for the election of the army chief, General Michel Suleiman, as president. The post has been vacant since November.

But the deal leaves unresolved the questions that provoked the crisis in December 2006. Those include Hezbollah's weapons and Lebanon's relations with Syria, which ended its 29-year military presence here in 2005 after the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

The divisive issue of cooperation with a United Nations tribunal to investigate Hariri's murder and 10 other killings that followed also remains to be solved. Pro-government officials accuse Syria of involvement in those assassinations.

The governing coalition hailed the new pact as a fair compromise, as did officials in Syria, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and France.

In Washington, the Bush administration portrayed the agreement as a good step. C. David Welch, the assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, said that the deal could make Syria's eventual return to Lebanon impossible. He contended that the fighting had so damaged the images of Hezbollah and Syria as its backer that Lebanon's Sunnis and Christians would not welcome Syria back.

In the past, the United States has urged the government majority to take a firm stand in its conflict with the Hezbollah-led opposition.

Many Lebanese voiced relief at the news that their country's long political stalemate appeared to be over. Crowds flooded happily into the usually empty downtown on a warm afternoon, and many shops that had been closed for more than a year were reopening. The tents where opposition members had camped out for 18 months were slowly being dismantled, with people packing their gear into pickup trucks.

"We came here to celebrate; it's a dream coming true," said Chadi Ahmadih, 32, who works at Solidere, the company that rebuilt the downtown area. But he added: "This solution is like a shot of anesthesia that will at least get us through the summer. There are still differences over many issues."

The agreement was announced as Israel acknowledged that it was involved in indirect talks on a possible peace deal with Syria brokered by Turkey. That fueled speculation that the two developments were linked, though officials involved in the Doha talks said they knew of no connection.

But some analysts said Hezbollah's decision to assert itself militarily this month might have been partly based on a calculation that it could be endangered by a deal between Israel, its nemesis, and Syria, its backer.

"Hezbollah's decision to use force might have been partly motivated by a fear that Syria and Israel were going to make peace, and that it had to consolidate its power in Lebanon before that happened," said Paul Salem, the director of the Carnegie Middle East Center in Beirut.

The agreement in Doha provides for a government of 16 cabinet seats for the governing majority, 11 for the opposition and 3 to be nominated by the new president. That will allow the opposition to veto cabinet decisions, a demand the governing coalition refused to accept until now.

Heated last-minute negotiations over how to reshape Lebanon's electoral districting system which will significantly influence power-sharing after the 2009 parliamentary elections led to a compromise that divides the country into smaller districts, allowing for more equal representation of its various sects.

Several Lebanese government officials said they felt they had no choice but to accept the deal. Although their side has long had strong verbal support from the United States and Saudi Arabia, they appeared to have overplayed their hand earlier this month

when they challenged Hezbollah's private telecommunications network and its control over the Beirut airport.

Hezbollah's leader, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, declared those government decisions an act of war, and the group sent its fighters and their allies into the streets on May 7. Within a day, the Shiite group had seized most of west Beirut. The violence continued in northern and eastern Lebanon, leaving at least 62 people dead and threatening to push the country into an open war.

DUNCAN HUNTER NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5658) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2009, and for other purposes:

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Chairman, this amendment is very simple. Essentially, it suggests a small step DOD can take to make itself more energy efficient. The amendment requires the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study reviewing DOD's policies concerning the sale and disposal of used motor vehicle lubricating oil. The report will include an evaluation of the feasibility of implementing policies to require closed loop recycling of used oil as a means of reducing total indirect energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions.

And to the extent that the report finds that closed loop recycling can reduce total indirect energy usage and decrease greenhouse gas emissions without significant increase in overall cost to DOD, it asks the Secretary to implement closed loop recycling of used oil when feasible.

Re-refining, or recycling, allows used oil that would otherwise be burned or dumped to be refined again and used for its originally intended purpose, just as when it was virgin oil. According to the American Petroleum Institute, re-refining used lubricating oil takes from 50 to 85 percent less energy than refining crude oil. Re-refined oil meets industry standards for use in vehicles. And according to a July 2006 report by the Department of Energy, "transforming all used oil that is currently combusted into lube oil products could save 63 million gallons of fuel oil equivalent per year."

Through closed loop recycling, DOD would buy re-refined oil for use in its vehicles, sell their used oil back to re-refiners to be recycled, and then continue the cycle.

I should also note that nothing in this amendment changes or affects the Solid Waste Disposal Act or any other Federal or State environmental law, or the obligation of any person to comply with that law.

This amendment is a win-win. By recycling used motor oil, DOD decreases its reliance on our adversaries to keep its vehicles running. DOD conserves energy by extending the life of a nonrenewable resource. And greenhouse gas emissions are decreased.

DOD already uses some re-refined oil and it even has a closed loop re-refined oil program.

Expanding these programs is one small way the military can reduce its overall reliance on foreign oil. As the largest single consumer of energy in the United States, it is a step that I believe DOD should consider taking.

IN HONOR OF KEN LIVINGSTONE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ken Livingstone, former Mayor of London, and in recognition of his outstanding leadership, vision and advocacy on behalf of the many diverse communities that make up London's social fabric.

Ken Livingstone carries with him a rich history of public service and advocacy in England. Mayor Livingstone was born in Lambeth, London, England, in 1945. He began his political career in 1973 when he became a Labour member of the Greater London Council (GLC). While serving as leader of the GLC from 1981 to 1986, Mr. Livingstone fought against discrimination, and in 1985, sat beside Jesse Jackson at an Anti-Apartheid rally. In 1987, following his career as leader of the GLC, Mr. Livingstone served as the Labour Member of Parliament for Brent East for 14 years.

In 2000, Mr. Livingstone was elected as the Mayor of London, the first person to hold this office and he would serve in that position until May 2008. As the first Mayor of London, a truly international city that attracts people from all over the world, he continued his legacy of challenging all forms of discrimination and of fostering multiculturalism. He enthusiastically celebrated London's multiculturalism by hosting several city wide events, such as a Hanukkah ceremony at City Hall. He also honored the contributions of England's Irish community by hosting a Saint Patrick's Day festival and celebrated the end of Ramadan with London's Muslim community by hosting the "Eid in Trafalgar" event.

During the June 2005 London bombings, he demonstrated his leadership by initiating several campaigns dedicated to fostering intercultural understanding and united London's unique and diverse social fabric. Mr. Livingstone is also the author of two books, *If Voting Changed Anything They'd Abolish It* and *Livingstone's Labour*.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of former Mayor Livingstone as a champion of human and civil rights and in recognition of his leadership and advocacy on behalf of London's diverse communities.

HONORING PARKER CHRISTIAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Parker Christian of Gladstone, Missouri. Parker is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1354, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Parker has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Parker has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Parker Christian for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

DUNCAN HUNTER NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

The House on the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5658) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2009, and for other purposes:

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Chairman, Chairman SKELTON and Ranking Republican HUNTER, I rise in support of my Amendment to H.R. 5658, the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of 2009 which has been included as part of an en bloc amendment. My Amendment requires the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study to identify the mental health risks associated with the performance of individual military duties. This assessment will recognize cases of suicide by military occupation, and identify military occupations with a high incidence of suicide. More importantly the study shall suggest additional suicide prevention programs specific to military occupations with higher risk.

To my knowledge, the issue of differing suicide risks amongst military occupations has not been studied in any great depth. Colonel Michael Bartley of Nellis Air Force Base and Colonel Chris Chambliss of Creech Air Force Base have highlighted for me the unique mental health challenges that members of our military face who are on the front lines of the Global War on Terror, but located here in the States. The State of Nevada is home to Creech Air Force Base which serves as the premier host for MQ-1 Predators and MQ-9 Reapers Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs).

The operator of a UAV fleet is truly at the forefront of the Global War on Terror. I am greatly concerned that some military occupations, such as UAV operators, may suffer from chronic mental health disorders such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) due to stress and fatigue. I feel these soldiers may not receive the same level of emotional support from their peers that they would receive if they were located overseas. Rather, they return to their families and civilian society without the appropriate outlet for dealing with the emotional tolls of their duties.

It is my hope that the Secretary of Defense will continue to address the pressing matter of the mental health strains inflicted upon our active duty service men and women. This study will help us begin to understand how the new technologies that allow us to wage wars more

effectively, bring about unforeseen complications for the service men and women who volunteer to serve our Nation. I encourage my colleagues to support this common sense amendment that will provide the mental health services needed by the 21st Century war fighter.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 353 I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 353. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

CONGRATULATING ARCADIA UNIVERSITY ON THE OCCASION OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Arcadia University on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of its successful Study Abroad Program.

In the summer of 1948, Jack Wallace, a newly hired economics instructor, and his wife, Betty Jean set sail from New York with 17 Beaver College (now Arcadia University) students, hoping to study the economic effects of World War II and the post-war rebuilding efforts in Europe. They arrived in Southampton and purchased used Royal Air Force surplus bicycles. After traveling around England, they crossed the Channel and continued biking through Belgium and France, ending their eight-week sojourn in Paris. Such faculty-led summer study voyages to Europe continued for several years.

In the 1960s, the university began offering access to its study abroad programs during the regular semester at City of London College to students from other colleges. "Full credit for work done in England was readily accepted by Beaver College for each participant," notes the University history, "and an institution was born—the Beaver College Center for Education Abroad." Accredited accounting for course credits remains a cornerstone of Arcadia's Center for Education Abroad today, along with a worldwide network of professional employees, including in-country staff in host countries that support students while they are abroad.

This year, Jerry Greiner, Arcadia's President, will commemorate that landmark trip's 60th Anniversary in July 2008. In addition, the University will introduce a new curriculum that emphasizes multi-cultural experience and reflection. In addition to the hundreds of Arcadia students who study abroad each year, the Center now serves 3,000 students a year from more than 300 colleges and universities. And what began at City of London College is now a menu of more than 100 programs around the world, expanding recently to Africa, to China and soon to India.

I commend Arcadia University for providing opportunities for young leaders to learn about the world and connect with students in other countries and I congratulate the University on reaching the 60th anniversary of its nationally acclaimed international program.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT PRINCEY GEORGE PINDER

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor an American soldier who served 1 year in Iraq at Camps Ramadi and Fallujah while on a mission to look for roadside bombs. Army SSG Princey George Pinder's unit was hit four times, and miraculously they all survived the impact.

Born in Nassau, Bahamas, SSG Pinder is the fifth child born to Viola Pinder and Frank Greene. He graduated from A.F. Adderley High School and went on to be enlisted in the Royal Bahamas Police force in 1983, where he received an honorable discharge in 1994. He continued his higher education and received an associate degree from Miami Dade College, bachelor's degree in Christian education and is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Florida International University. He holds various leadership training certificates from the U.S. Army as a combat engineer.

For over 18 years SSG Pinder has served as the co-founder and senior pastor of Baruch Christian Fellowship Ministries, Inc. in Miami-Dade County. He has also served as vice-president director of a juvenile delinquency and ex-offender mentorship program named Destiny Image Review Network for 14 years, as well as co-founder of Baruch Leadership Training Academy.

SSG Pinder enlisted in the Army in January 1997, and was deployed to Iraq in March 2003. His second deployment took place in May 2007. SSG Pinder currently serves as a reservist army staff sergeant in Camps Ramadi and Fallujah, Iraq with the 841st Charlie Company from Perrine, Florida. Upon return he will continue his employment as a motor compliance officer with the Florida Department of Transportation.

Madam Speaker, SSG Princey George Pinder represents the best our Nation has to offer. He volunteered to serve our Nation in uniform and to protect our freedom and liberty. For this, his family, friends and loved ones know that this Congress will always remember his bravery and commitment in battle.

TRIBUTE TO SUMMIT FIRE VICTIMS

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my condolences to those affected by the Summit Fire in the Santa Cruz Mountains on the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz County line, which thankfully has not claimed lives,

but destroyed 36 residences and 18 out-buildings. Over 3,000 personnel from across the State were summoned to fight the fire which burned more than 4000 acres. My heart goes out to the 12 firefighters who were injured during the response and their families. I want to commend Governor Schwarzenegger, the California Office of Emergency Services, Cal Fire, the Santa Clara and Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Departments, the Air National Guard, the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration and the countless first responders for their swift response to the fire. I especially want to thank Cal Fire Division Chief Joe Waterman and Tom Maruyama, Deputy Director of Response and Recovery for Office of Emergency Services for briefing me on the fire containment plan and the State's response and recovery efforts. The seamless communication between ground and air crews from various local agencies and departments further exemplifies California as a model State for disaster response and interoperability.

I and my esteemed colleague Rep. ANNA ESHOO are closely monitoring the recovery effort and remain in close contact with State authorities. We are hopeful that the rebuilding process can begin and that the residents of the affected areas will be able to resume their normal activities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 355, on agreeing to the Akin amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, I was unavoidably absent due to a family medical emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 356, on agreeing to the Franks, AZ, amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 357, on agreeing to the Tierney amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 358, on agreeing to the Pearce amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 359, on agreeing to the Lee amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 360, on agreeing to the Braley amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 361, on agreeing to the Price, NC, amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 362, on agreeing to the Holt amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 363, on agreeing to the McGovern amendment to H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no";

on rollcall No. 364, on the motion to recommit with instructions H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 365, on passage of H.R. 5658, the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; and on rollcall No. 366, on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 986, Recognizing the courage and sacrifice of those members of the United States Armed Forces who were held as prisoners of war during the Vietnam conflict and calling for a full accounting of the 1,729 members of the Armed Forces who remain unaccounted for from the Vietnam conflict, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

IN RECOGNITION OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Cuyahoga County Community College, Ohio's oldest community college, as the college hosts this year's Memorial Day Celebration along with the Memorial Day Association of Greater Cleveland.

Cuyahoga County Community College (Tri-C) opened in 1963 and now serves more than fifty-five thousand credit and non-credit students each year. Tri-C provides students with a first-rate education environment with professors who are committed to their success at their three traditional campuses. Tri-C also offers students the option to earn their associate degree, participate in certificate programs and complete two years of a baccalaureate degree at two Corporate College locations, over fifty off-campus sites, and through various distance learning options.

Cuyahoga County Community College is one of the premier sites for many of the major cultural, community and sporting events that more than five-hundred thousand Greater Cleveland Area residents attend throughout the year. The college hosts one of the nation's largest educational Jazz festivals, Tri-C JazzFest Cleveland. This year the college hosts the annual Memorial Day Celebration, State Senator Robert F. Spada as the guest speaker, who has been representing Ohio since 1999.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Cuyahoga County Community College as they host this year's Memorial Day Celebration and for the college's contributions to the Greater Cleveland Area.

HONORING KYLE ROWLAND

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Rowland of Buckner, Missouri. Kyle is a very special young man

who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1082, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Rowland for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO MR. SIDNEY LAPIDUS

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Sidney Lapidus and to congratulate him on receiving the Emma Lazarus Statue of Liberty Award. Mr. Lapidus's deep commitment to the American Jewish Historical Society has ensured that its collection is preserved and expanded for generations to come.

A graduate of Princeton University and Columbia University Law School, Sidney began his career as an attorney with the Securities and Exchange Commission in New York. A retired partner at Warburg Pincus LLC, one of the country's leading private equity firms, Sidney also serves on the boards of directors of Lennar Corporation, one of the Nation's largest homebuilders; Knoll Inc., a leading manufacturer of office furniture; and the Neiman Marcus Group, a leading upscale retailer.

Sidney contributes to and advocates on behalf of a number of charitable causes, several of which concern American history and Jewish affairs. He served as president of the American Jewish Historical Society from 2003 to 2007 and is now its chairman. He is a member of the advisory councils for Princeton University's History and Judaic Studies Departments. He is also a vice chairman of the American Antiquarian Society and is a trustee of the New York Historical Society. In other areas, he is chair of the United Neighborhood Houses of New York and a member of the executive committee of New York University School of Medicine.

Mr. Lapidus has balanced his distinguished career and philanthropic work with an equally impressive family life. He and his wife, Ruth, live in Harrison, New York. They have three married children—Gail, Janet and Roy—and six grandchildren—Sara, Eric, Kate, Henry, Jessica, and Zack. An avid skier, Sidney also collects British and American books about politics and economics from the 17th and 18th centuries.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize my good friend Mr. Sidney Lapidus for a successful career in finance and unparalleled devotion to charitable causes. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his tremendous accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO THE SILICON VALLEY LEADERSHIP GROUP ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, SVLG, and its contributions to Silicon Valley and the State of California with you.

On July 18, 1977, the exceptional innovator and pioneer, David Packard, gathered thirty of his CEO peers with a simple yet provocative idea. To build an organization that would create a proactive voice for Silicon Valley businesses to ensure the economic health and a high quality of life in Silicon Valley. The organization would be an advocate for affordable housing, comprehensive regional transportation, reliable energy, a quality K-12 and higher education system, a prepared workforce, a sustainable environment, and business and tax policies that would keep California and Silicon Valley competitive.

The idea led to the founding of the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group, now known as the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, in 1978 with 33 founding members. The first Chair of the Board was Bob Wilson of Memorex and the first Working Chair was Bob Kirkwood of Hewlett-Packard. David Packard accepted a seat on the Board and the position of Board Vice Chair. The first president was Bill June and Peter Giles was then hired as CEO. Over the course of the last thirty years David Packard's vision became a reality and there are many examples of success to highlight, including but not limited to the following:

In 1981, SVLG published its first housing study, emphasizing the need for a jobs-housing balance, and urges public officials to re-zone land from industrial and commercial to residential. The report also called for more compact development to help lower housing costs and make better use of the Valley's limited land resources, and to place housing more closely to jobs. Several cities agreed, and thousands of acres are re-zoned for residential development.

In 1982, the Board of Directors helped lead the effort to establish Santa Clara County's first carpool, or "high occupancy vehicle" lane on the San Tomas Expressway. Measure A becomes a statewide model of efficiency, with all three projects completed on time and on budget during the measure's 10-year life. Following the lead of Santa Clara County, 19 counties representing nearly 85 percent of all Californians have since passed similar measures. These measures now fund \$1 of every \$2 invested in the state's transportation system.

1988—Model Toxic Gas Ordinance—The ordinance was aimed at any gas user, private and public sector, to respond to increased concern about the potential release of toxic gases.

1989—Board Endorses Gas Tax Increase—The Board of Directors voted to support Proposition 111—a nine-cent increase in the state gas tax to fund transportation improvements.

1990—Chlorofluorocarbon Reduction—The Board of Directors voted to play a leadership

role in reducing CFC's. Silicon Valley high-tech firms became the national leaders in reducing this form of pollution.

1990—Open Space Initiative—Founder David Packard agrees to serve as Honorary Chair of the county's first Open Space Initiative. The measure receives a strong 64 percent support at the polls, but fails under the two-thirds vote requirement. However, it set the stage for the successful measure 4 years later.

1993—Housing Action Coalition Formed—The purpose of the coalition was to advocate for homes that are "well built, relatively affordable, and appropriately located" so that Valley cities could service them. With a mission to "advocate, educate, and legislate," the coalition has had a tremendous impact. Today, the coalition consists of more than 200 organizations and individuals.

1993—Board Endorses County's "Technology Bond" Proposal—In partnership with the county member companies purchased approximately \$12 million in "technology bonds" to help the county improve and install technology systems throughout its departments.

1995—Vehicle Buy-Back Coalition Scraps Old Polluting Cars—This innovative demonstration project raises nearly half a million dollars to purchase and permanently retire more than 400 "gross polluters," with a reduction in pollution of more than 400 tons. The demonstration project was so successful that it becomes a model for the Air District's own Buy-Back program.

1997—Eco Pass Partnership Initiated—SVLG is principal business voice in encouraging employers to consider the "Eco Pass" Program. The Eco Pass is a transit pass that employers can purchase for their Silicon Valley employees, allowing them the use of buses, express buses, and light rail for the entire year. The first year demonstration program produced a doubling of transit use by employees at participating companies. SVLG also launched the Bay Area Clean Air Partnership—Partnership to engage employers and employees in voluntary programs to reduce pollution on hot, smoggy "Spare the Air" days. In its first year of operation, thousands of vehicle trips were avoided and the region did not violate a single day of the federal Clean Air Standards.

1998—Housing Trust Fund Business Plan Approved—The Board endorses the business plan officially launching the County's first Housing Trust Fund. With a goal of raising up to \$20 million over the next 24 months, the funds will leverage approximately \$200 million worth of housing, with funds equally divided into three categories. They include first-time homebuyers assistance, affordable rental housing, and homeless shelter and assistance. These funds will assist nearly 5,000 Silicon Valley families.

1999—San Jose Teacher Housing Initiative—SVMG partnered with San Jose to launch San Jose's Teacher Housing Initiative, a proposal to assist San Jose teachers to become homebuyers, as well as enhancing recruitment and retention of educators in the community. SVLG also began the Summer Fellowships for Teachers—SVMG partnered with the Industry Institute for Science and Math Education (IISME) on a Summer Fellowship for Teachers program. By partnering with SVMG, the number of teacher fellowships was increased 40 percent from the highest numbers achieved in IISME's 17-year history.

1999—Creating Quality Neighborhoods—SVMG completed a 21-month study to identify every vacant (and underutilized) parcel of land that is zoned commercial, industrial, or residential. The effort will now shift to working with cities to consider the report's findings to ensure there are enough homes for Silicon Valley workers. By following the report's recommendations, the Valley could meet 99 percent of home demand during the next 10 years, rather than the current 50 percent projected if current land use patterns are followed.

2000—Statewide Transportation Plan—More than \$1 billion is directed to improvements that benefit the Valley, even though Santa Clara County accounts for only 5 percent of the state population.

2002—Hetch Hetchy Legislation Passes—SVMG, in coordination with BAWUA, successfully advocated for three critical pieces of state legislation to ensure the Hetch Hetchy water system would be updated to withstand earthquakes. This vital system serves the water needs of 2.4 million Bay Area residents and employers.

2005—The Leadership Group's first Annual CEO Washington, D.C. Advocacy Trip, led by Soletron CEO Mike Cannon with 25 executive colleagues, met with 70 key members of Congress in the nation's Capitol. A new "Middle School Math Initiative" was reviewed by the Working Council with strong recommendation of the Education Committee. Also, the Leadership Group organized the first "Applied Materials Silicon Valley Turkey Trot," with 1,900 participants; 240 volunteers and more than \$132,000 raised for three local non-profits.

2006—The Board approved a 12-point "Clean and Green" Alternative Energy Action Plan to curb greenhouse gas emissions and impact climate change in the region.

2007—SolarTech Begins—Recognizing the growing importance of alternative energy the Leadership Group developed SolarTech. The purpose is to identify, prioritize, and resolve the technical and adoption barriers to solar technology by addressing issues of performance, standards, and workforce readiness.

Today, under the exceptional leadership of Carl Guardino, SVLG has more than 200 member companies and its members contribute more than \$1 trillion to the global economy, an amount equal to the gross national product of Italy. Members of the SVLG employ more than 250,000 people in the Valley who constitute one-fourth of the entire private sector workforce in the region. They generate more than \$1 trillion worth of business which is approximately eight times as large as California's entire state budget, and represents a significant contribution to the state and the national government treasuries, along with hefty property taxes for local governments.

Madam Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join us in honoring the Silicon Valley Leadership Group as it celebrates its 30 year anniversary marking its extraordinary contributions to the economic health and quality of life to the residents and businesses of Silicon Valley. We salute Carl Guardino, President and CEO, his staff and every member of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group.

HONORING DEAN REX R. PERSCHBACHER OF DAVIS, CALIFORNIA ON HIS RETIREMENT AS DEAN OF THE UC DAVIS SCHOOL OF LAW

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dean Rex R. Perschbacher on the occasion of his retirement as the Dean of the UC Davis School of Law. Dean Perschbacher served as Dean and in the Dean's office longer than anyone in the history of the UC Davis School of Law. He served for 10 years as Dean from 1998 to 2008. Before becoming Dean, he served for five years as associate dean for academic affairs in the School.

Dean Perschbacher is best known for strengthening the 40-year-old UC Davis School of Law's reputation as one of the nation's best public law schools. Students are recruited nationwide, and the School is frequently honored for the diversity of its faculty and student body. Under his leadership, the Law School recruited 26 ladder-rank faculty members, expanded the clinical program, started a master's program in international commercial law, and established an outreach program for underserved college students—many of whom have gone on to law school.

He worked with campus, university, and state officials to secure campus and state funding for the first significant expansion to the School's facilities since the completion of the Law School 40 years ago. He built a strong foundation of alumni philanthropy and volunteerism upon which the next generation of leadership at UC Davis School of Law can expand and is credited with increasing private giving over tenfold. During his tenure, the School added five endowed chairs and professorships, bringing the total number of seats to six. He also raised more than \$3 million in private donations for the building expansion and renovation project.

Dean Perschbacher taught at UC Davis since 1981 with an emphasis on the areas of Civil Procedure, Professional Responsibility, and Clinical teaching. He received the Law School's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1992 and a Special Citation Affirmative Action and Diversity Achievement Award in 2001. He has published articles in the areas of civil procedure, professional responsibility and lawyers' negotiations. He is co-author of *United States Legal System: An Introduction* (1st and 2d eds.); *Cases and Materials on Civil Procedure* (1–5th eds.); *California Civil Procedure*; *California Legal Ethics* (1–6th eds.), and *Problems in Legal Ethics* (3–8th eds.).

The Dean has also been involved in law school accreditation activities having served for six years on the American Bar Association's Accreditation Committee; and on two separate standing committees of the Association of American Law Schools, AALS, and two section executive committees. Currently, he is Chair of the AALS Section of the Dean. From 1990–1996, he served on the Board of Directors of the Legal Services of Northern California and two related boards. He has also served on the Governing Committee on Continuing Education of the Bar from 2000–2003.

Dean Perschbacher received his J.D. degree from UC Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall), where he was Articles Editor of the California Law Review and elected to Order of the Coif. After graduation, he served as law clerk to The Honorable Alfonso J. Zirpoli of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. Later he entered private practice with Heller, Ehrman, White & McAuliffe in San Francisco. He has taught at UC Berkeley (Boalt Hall), the University of Texas, Santa Clara University, and the University of San Diego law schools.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, now is the appropriate time for us to acknowledge Dean Perschbacher for his years of work and service to UC Davis and the broader legal community. Please join me in thanking him and wishing him the very best as he enters retirement.

IN HONOR OF THE MEMORIAL DAY ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CLEVELAND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Memorial Day Association of Greater Cleveland as they remember and honor our Nation's veterans on this year's Memorial Day.

The Memorial Day Association of Greater Cleveland consists of veterans and their organizations, joining together every year to commemorate the lives of their fellow veterans who lost their lives in service to our country. These organizations invite all members of the Greater Cleveland Area community to join in their remembrance during their annual traditional Memorial Day event.

I stand in honor and recognition of all the veterans and organizations for their contributions to the community: American Ex-Prisoners of War, American Gold Star Mothers, American Legion, Amvets with Auxiliary, Army and Navy Union with Auxiliary, Catholic War Veterans, Daughters of "98", Daughters of Union Veterans, Disabled American Veterans, Greater Cleveland Veterans Council, Greater Cleveland Veterans Memorial Inc., Jewish War Veterans with Auxiliary, Joint Veterans' Commission of Cuyahoga County, Korean War Veterans, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Marine Corps League, Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Polish Army Veterans Association of America, Polish Legion of American Veterans with Auxiliary, Reserve Officers Association, St. Theodosius War Veterans, Service Star Legion Veterans, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of Spanish American War Veterans, Southwest Asia Veterans, Ukrainian American Veterans, Ukrainian Veterans Association, United Spanish War Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Military Wars with Auxiliary, Veterans of World War One and Auxiliary, Vietnam Veterans of America, Waves National, and 82nd Airborne Division Association.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the Memorial Day Association of Greater Cleveland as they commemorate Memorial Day and in recognition of these organizations' contributions to the Greater Cleveland Area.

HONORING DR. JOHN BERNARD

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. John Bernard on his retirement on June 30, 2008 from the Newark Unified School District. Dr. Bernard has served as Superintendent of Schools for the school district since July 2003.

A native of the Bay Area, Dr. Bernard is a product of the Oakland Public Schools, as are his three grown children. He and his wife have been married for 39 years and have five grandchildren.

Dr. Bernard has held a number of positions of leadership in various school districts throughout the state of California. He served for 4 years as Superintendent of Schools for the Novato Unified School district and for 4 years as Superintendent of Schools for the Bakersfield City School District. He also served as Director of K–12 Instruction, and later as Assistant Superintendent, in the Mt. Diablo Unified School district in Contra Costa County. Dr. Bernard began his career as an educator in the San Francisco Unified School District, where he spent 20 years as a classroom teacher, resource teacher, assistant principal, personnel administrator and principal.

Dr. Bernard earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from San Francisco State University in psychology and education administration, respectively. He earned his doctorate in multicultural education from the University of San Francisco. He continues to teach graduate courses at local universities and is often invited to speak, throughout the state, the nation and abroad, at conferences on instructional leadership, multicultural education, and education technology issues.

As Dr. Bernard retires, he leaves a legacy of outstanding experience and service to our children and the field of education. His commitment to education is noteworthy and I join the community in thanking him for his exemplary contributions.

HONORING JOSHUA DELONG

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joshua DeLong of Blue Springs, Missouri. Joshua is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1216, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joshua has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Joshua has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joshua DeLong for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

DUNCAN HUNTER NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5658) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2009, and for other purposes:

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Chairman, I want to talk about an important topic relevant to this legislation.

It's distressing that a rising number of our brave service men and women are coming back from the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq suffering from the "signature injuries of these conflicts"—Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury.

I believe that PTSD is a critically important issue and as a Congress we need to continue to do all we can to get our military leaders, commanders, and medical professionals to focus on this problem for our newest generation of veterans.

In the past few years and even weeks, a number of studies have pointed out the gaps in our military health care system into which may be falling a growing number of our servicemembers who may be suffering from PTSD.

I am sure that my colleagues are very aware of the recent RAND report that up to 300,000 Iraq and Afghanistan veterans may be suffering from PTSD and/or depression.

This issue was brought to my attention most vividly by a constituent who served 10 months in Iraq. After he came home, he began to self-medicate—as a number of soldiers who may be suffering from this deadly disease do—using alcohol and engaging in misconduct that ultimately got him discharged from the service.

Unfortunately, this discharge not only prevented him from continuing to receive needed mental health care from the DOD but also from going to the VA to get treated for PTSD.

My constituent ultimately took his life and left many, including his family, to wonder if he had been able to get needed help after his return from Iraq, or if he could have accessed the number of mental health services that are available from the VA, whether the outcome could have been different.

What is clear from the DoD's mental health task force and other reports is that the outcome can be different for the thousands of our soldiers who may be suffering.

I am pleased by the hard work and focus on this issue that the Armed Services Committee has taken in the past few years. I commend the Chairman, the Ranking Member, and others who have worked and continue to do so to ensure that the "signature injuries" of our ongoing conflicts receive the highest level of attention from this Congress.

I also want to commend the Services on the changes and improvements they've made thus far.

However, let's be clear: more can be done. I offered three amendments to this bill to highlight the need to continue to try and make those improvements.

The amendment made in order today would ensure that recommendations that have been put forward to close identified gaps are actually implemented and that our servicemembers see actual improvements in terms of their ability to receive help when they need it.

That is the purpose of the amendment which the Chairman has graciously included in this En Bloc package that would require the GAO to assess the DoD's progress in implementing the June 2007 recommendations of the Congressionally created DoD Mental Health Task Force.

It is my expectation that the GAO will examine and assess the implementation of all the recommendations with a focus on those related to:

Developing a comprehensive public education campaign to reduce the stigma associated with mental health problems;

Changing Department of Defense policies to "Guarantee a Thorough Assessment of Behavioral Symptoms When Evaluating Combat Veterans for Administrative/Legal Dismissal from the Military" including "carefully assessing a soldier's history of exposure to conditions that could cause PTSD, or traumatic brain injury, or related diagnoses for those facing administrative or medical discharge";

Appointment of a psychological director of health in each military department, military treatment facility, the National Guard, and the Reserves;

Enhancing TRICARE benefits and care for mental health problems;

Implementing an annual psychological health assessment addressing cognition, psychological functioning, and overall psychological readiness for each member of the Armed Forces, including members of the National Guard and reserve components;

Developing a model for allocating resources to military mental health facilities, and services embedded in line units, based on an assessment of the needs of and risks faced by the populations served by such facilities and services;

Maintaining adequate family support programs for families of deployed members of the Armed Forces.

It is my desire that GAO report on the dates on which recommendations are expected to be fully implemented and progress on implementing the recommendations throughout the year covered by the report, including barriers.

We must never lose sight of the fact that the goal is not just for DoD to have a plan, although that is helpful, but to actually make these changes and do it in a timely way.

I thank the Chairman for his support of this simple amendment and look forward to working with him in the future to ascertain what additional steps, if any, that are needed and which can be taken to help our servicemembers who may be suffering from PTSD.

Again, I thank you for your efforts.

A TRIBUTE TO JEFFREY
MCCRACKEN

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jeff McCracken's nearly 20

years of service as Director of Public Affairs for the Bureau of Reclamation's Mid-Pacific Region. Mr. McCracken leaves a lasting legacy in Sacramento and his leadership and expertise will be deeply missed. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring one of Sacramento's finest public servants.

After earning his bachelor's degree from California State University Fresno, Mr. McCracken spent more than 20 years in the broadcasting industry as a reporter, anchor and broadcast news consultant in numerous television markets across the county. He began his career with the Bureau of Reclamation in 1989 when he was appointed Director of Public Affairs and has spent nearly the last two decades communicating the complex water needs of the Mid-Pacific Region to the public. As Director of Public Affairs he is responsible not only for the Mid-Pacific Region's public affairs, but he also manages their outreach, education projects and internal employee information activities. His dedication to the Bureau of Reclamation is demonstrated through his work with the local community, the media, Members of Congress, Federal and State agency representatives, stakeholders and foreign dignitaries and has enabled the Bureau to build and maintain credibility in the water community.

During his tenure, the Mid-Pacific Region has successfully handled a prolonged drought in California, Nevada and Oregon, a toxic spill in the Sacramento River and the organization of the Bay-Delta Accord. In addition, the Bureau coordinated an extensive public involvement program to implement the 1992 Central Valley Project Improvement Act and provided essential leadership during the historic floods of 1997, the closure of Folsom Dam Road in 2003, the Prospect Island levee breach, repair, and resulting fish crisis in 2007, and the Truckee Canal breach and repair in 2008.

In 2005, Mr. McCracken was awarded a citation for superior service by Commissioner John Keys for his leadership during the Klamath Basin water and fish mortality crisis, the prolonged regional drought and the Folsom Dam spillway gate break. His guidance and accomplishments in media relations, public involvement and employee communications for the Bureau of Reclamation during these times made him truly deserving of this award. Mr. McCracken was again recognized in April of this year by Secretary of the Interior, Dirk Kempthorne with a citation for meritorious service. For nearly two decades he has fostered respectful working relationships between the Region and representatives of the Federal, State and local governments, Indian Tribal governments, the media and the public. This citation justly recognized his commendable service and dedication to the Mid-Pacific Region and the Bureau of Reclamation as a whole.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Jeff McCracken's distinguished commitment to Sacramento and our water needs. Mr. McCracken's outstanding leadership and dedication to the Bureau of Reclamation, established credibility for the Bureau and has ensured better water resource management for Sacramento and the entire Mid-Pacific Region. We all are thankful for his efforts. As Mr. McCracken's wife Susan, colleagues, family and friends gather to honor his service, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing her continued good fortune in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING ROCKY MOUNT
HIGH SCHOOL ON WINNING THE
3-A HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating an outstanding group of high school student athletes from the first district of North Carolina.

It is with great pride that I recognize the Rocky Mount High School's boys varsity baseball team for capturing the 2008 North Carolina High School Athletic Association's 3-A State baseball championship series. This is the Gryphons' first state title in 28 years, and this means a great deal to a community that loves its baseball.

Rocky Mount High School boasts a rich athletic tradition, which includes five state titles in boy's baseball. Coach Pat Smith's team lived up to its preseason No. 1 ranking by winning the championship after an 8-6 victory over East Rowan last Saturday. Outfielder Brian Goodwin, who scored three runs in the final game, was named the series' most valuable player.

Rocky Mount finished the season at 27-6, which bettered the school record for wins by three. That record was previously held by the 1980 Rocky Mount squad, which was the last Gryphon team to win the championship.

I ask my colleagues to please rise and join with me in applauding a truly great season by an exceptional team—the Rocky Mount High School Gryphons. We congratulate the team and the city of Rocky Mount, and we wish them continued success.

HONORING MATTHEW GUPTILL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Guptill of Kansas City, Missouri. Matthew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Matthew has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Guptill for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING CORYDON'S
BICENTENNIAL

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, 2008 marks the 200th anniversary of the town of Corydon, in Harrison County, Indiana. Just 19 miles west of Louisville, Kentucky, and with a population of approximately 2,700, the town's welcoming citizens and good nature are what help define the term "Hoosier Hospitality". Corydon is a most extraordinary community and one that forms an integral part of the rich history of my home state and our Nation.

The Town's ceremonial observance of this anniversary will be held on Saturday, June 7, and I look forward to celebrating Corydon's Bicentennial with its residents. This Saturday's event, however, is just one event of a year-long celebration that includes a Bicentennial Ball, an old fashion ice cream social, a bicentennial parade, the dedication of a time capsule and other competitions and displays.

Corydon has a rich history dating back to the American Revolution when the region was still inhabited by Native Americans. It was in this fertile wilderness that in the early 1800's the family of Edward Smith located. General William Henry Harrison, Governor of the Northwest Territory, frequently traveled between the east and the Territorial capital in Vincennes and often stopped at the Smith property during his travels. While visiting, he discovered a good site for a town where two creeks, the Big Indian Creek and Little Indian Creek, joined to become one. Taking the name of a shepherd from a favorite song known as The Pastoral Elegy, he chose the name "Corydon".

Harvey Heth, a government surveyor, officially founded the town by platting it in 1808. The town was connected by road to Doup's Ferry 15 miles to the south in Mauckport in 1809, giving it good access to the Ohio River, the dominant transportation route of the time. The land for the town was originally purchased by Governor Harrison and he lived in the town for a period of time before moving to Ohio, and was eventually elected President of the United States.

In 1811 construction on the first state capitol was begun by Harrison County with intention of the building serving as the courthouse. The structure was completed in 1813 using limestone quarried near the town, and that same year became the second capital of the Indiana Territory when it was moved there from Vincennes.

In 1817, other structures, such as the Governor's Headquarters and First State Office Building, were built. The home of Colonel Thomas Posey was also built during this time. Posey would serve as Treasurer of Harrison County, a State legislator and Adjutant General of Indiana. His father, Thomas Posey, served Indiana as Territorial governor from 1813 until the creation of the state in 1816.

The state's first constitution was written in June of 1816 in Corydon. The 43 delegates in charge of writing the state's constitution met inside the original Harrison County Courthouse, but due to cramped conditions inside the log structure and the summer heat, the delegates would often seek refuge outside

under a giant elm tree along Big Indian Creek. Now known as the Constitution Elm, it died in 1925 but its trunk is still preserved at its original location.

After statehood, Corydon served as the first State capital of Indiana from 1816 until 1825, when the capital moved to Indianapolis. During that time Corydon was the center of politics in the state and residents included Jonathan Jennings, the first Governor of Indiana; Dennis Pennington, first Speaker of the House; Ratliff Boon the second Governor; and William Hendricks, Indiana's first Congressman, third Governor and a U.S. Senator. The Old Capitol Building is now a State historic site and the entire downtown area was designated a National Historic District in 1973.

In 1860 the first annual county fair was held in Corydon and has continued each year as the longest continuously running fair in the state. Using natural terrain, the fairgrounds were built in the southwest corner of the town where it is bordered on the south and west by a large ridge to serve as a grandstand until the first grandstands were built around 1910.

Corydon was the site of the only Civil War battle fought in Indiana. On July 9, 1863, a Confederate contingent led by Brigadier General John Hunt Morgan, aided by the citizens of Brandenburg, Kentucky, crossed the Ohio River into Indiana during what became known as "Morgan's Raid." More than 2,500 mounted cavalry men with two pieces of artillery engaged about 400 hastily prepared home guard units at the Battle of Corydon, resulting in a Confederate victory and the town surrendering to Morgan. The town was subsequently sacked, the treasury robbed of \$690, and inmates of the jail released. Morgan demanded amounts of money ranging from \$600 to \$700 from each mill and shop owner to spare their businesses being burned. Town myth says that one such miller overpaid two hundred dollars which Morgan promptly returned to him.

Corydon was home to the late Indiana Governor, and my personal friend, Frank O'Bannon, who served Indiana as Governor from 1997 until his death in 2003. Known as a tenacious consensus-builder who quietly pressed others to do the right thing for the people of Indiana, his greatest legacy may be his work on behalf of children. He championed initiatives to provide health care to nearly half a million children who did not have insurance and created Building Bright Beginnings to emphasize the importance of emotional and brain development of children from birth to 4 years of age.

Along with Dr. Suellen Reed, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and a team of education professionals on the Education Roundtable, O'Bannon tackled the most intractable problems facing public schools and developed some of the toughest academic standards and accountability system in the country, ensuring that Hoosier children learned more and improving Hoosier schools. As a result of this leadership, Indiana was one of the first states to meet new Federal standards, while at the same time Gov. O'Bannon continued to champion the implementation of full-day kindergarten statewide.

Prior to his service as Governor, Frank O'Bannon also served the state as a State senator from 1970 until 1988 when elected Lieutenant Governor on ajoint ticket with Evan Bayh. His father, Robert O'Bannon, also served as a state senator prior to Frank and

as part of the ceremony on June 7, 2008 the family will be honored with the dedication of a statue in the late Governor's honor.

Because of its historic nature, Corydon is a well-known regional tourist destination. The community hosts weekly events from early spring until late fall, usually centered around the historic town square. Some of the better-attended events include the annual Halloween parade, summer band concerts, an annual reenactment of the Battle of Corydon, and a long string of country and bluegrass performances.

Few locations in our Nation have such a remarkable and storied past, and it is an honor and privilege to represent this community in Congress. I want to congratulate Corydon on its Bicentennial, and look forward to seeing how this unique and wonderful town thrives for decades to come.

IN HONOR OF DR. GEORGE
BLUMENTHAL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and Representatives ANNA ESHOO and MIKE HONDA to honor Dr. George Blumenthal, a distinguished professor of astronomy and astrophysics, on the occasion of his inauguration as Chancellor at University of California, Santa Cruz.

Chancellor Blumenthal has been a scholar and academic leader both at UC Santa Cruz and within the University of California system. He served as chair of the UC Academic Senate for 2004–05. He was the faculty representative to the UC Regents from 2003–2005 and chaired the UC Santa Cruz division of Academic Senate from 2001–2003. His research investigates the origin of structure in the universe and the role dark matter plays in the formation and evolution of this structure.

Chancellor Blumenthal is known for his efforts to increase access to the university and for his commitment to diversity. When he was named Chancellor by the Board of Regents in September, 2007, UC President Robert Dynes stated "we are choosing a person who has contributed significantly to UCSC's richly deserved reputation for producing world-class research and student-focused instruction. George Blumenthal's thoughtful, collegial and constructive leadership will solidify UCSC's stature as one of the premier research universities in the Nation.

Madam Speaker, my colleagues and I are proud to share the representation of the University of California Santa Cruz campus and its several regional facilities in our districts. Together, these facilities make up one of our Nation's higher education jewels. I know that we speak for the whole house in congratulating Chancellor Blumenthal on his inauguration and wishing him much success as he leads this stellar institution to even greater research, education and public service to benefit the region, the State and the Nation.

HONORING RETIRED JUSTICE
WILLIAM WAIBLE

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor a truly respected and dedicated public servant. Recently retired Justice William Waible has spent over 25 years serving as a town justice for the Town of Clarence. Justice Waible is a man of exemplary character who has given the people of Western New York gracious service not only in the courtroom, but in the community, as well.

A graduate of the University of Rochester and Albany Law School, Justice Waible has been a town justice since 1982. He practiced law for over 40 years and has served as a Professor at Erie Community College for 21 years.

Justice Waible has worked as a criminal and civil lawyer, an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association, an Administration Hearing Officer for the Erie County Health Department, and as counsel to the Erie County Legislature.

In the community, Justice Waible has been a member of many community organizations including the Clarence Lions Club, the Clarence Historical Society, the Clarence Concert Association, the Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital Liaison Committee, the Board of Directors of the Community Action Organization, the Friends of the Clarence Library, and the Council of Advisors at Villa Maria College.

In addition to his involvement in various community organizations, Justice Waible has also coached children's soccer, softball and baseball.

Justice Waible is, without a doubt, an asset to Western New York. The kind of commitment Justice Waible has made to his community is something rarely seen, and should be applauded.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of Justice William Waible's remarkable contributions to the community, I ask this Honorable Body to join me in honoring him, in grateful appreciation for his extraordinary service to the people of Western New York.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING
ESTABLISHMENT OF A BEBE
MOORE CAMPBELL NATIONAL
MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH
AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, as the House of Representatives debates H. Con. Res. 134, a resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that there should be established a Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month to enhance public awareness of mental illness, especially within minority communities, I would like to submit the following eight endorsement letters for the RECORD.

MAY 20, 2008.

EDWARD S. HUBBARD, Jr., Esq.,
*Senior Policy Advisor and Counsel,
Office of Congressman Albert R. Wynn.*

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: We, the members of the "D.C. Divas," also make up the Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Task Force. We are writing to strongly urge you to support H. Con. Res. 134, which establishes the month of July as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month.

As friends and fellow advocates, we witnessed Ms. Campbell's tireless efforts to educate people throughout the country about mental health. Because a member of her family suffers with mental illness, she knew firsthand that the disease is a leading cause of disability in the United States. One out of every four American families is affected by mental illness.

In her own search for information and services, Ms. Campbell found compassionate support within the community of people, who like her, had loved ones struggling with the disease. She also discovered that minorities suffering from mental illness lack access to culturally and linguistically competent mental health care. Compounding these challenges are the cultural stigma associated with mental health diagnosis and treatment, and a dearth of education and resources for minority families supporting a mentally ill loved. Always one to do whatever she could to solve a problem, Ms. Campbell joined several other people from black communities in Los Angeles to found the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill—Urban Los Angeles.

Establishing July as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month will raise awareness about mental illness and mental health disparities among minorities nationwide. This modest effort will improve public health by encouraging the expansion of vital care in underserved communities in every state.

Ms. Campbell, a noted author whose works became New York Times bestsellers, died on November 27, 2006 of brain cancer complications. By this time, she had become a national spokeswoman for minority mental health issues, using her celebrity status and creativity to address the issues surrounding mental illness. Her last works before her death included the best selling novel "72 Hour Hold," a book about a mother's struggle to get aid for her mentally ill daughter, and the children's book, "Sometimes My Mommy Gets Angry," about a young girl whose mother is mentally ill.

The family of the late Ms. Campbell fully endorses this initiative and seeks the help of all Members of Congress in promoting this cause.

Again, as 13 of Ms. Campbell's friends from Washington, DC—and fellow advocates for mental health services, we know she would be honored to have her name attached to this effort. Mostly, though, she would be thankful for the congressional commitment to expand services in underserved communities.

Sincerely,

Martha Jarvis, Beatrix Fields, Yolanda Phillips, Sheila Garnett, Judi Moore Latta, Melbourne Cummings, Sidonie Davis, Patrice Gaines, LaFleur Paysour, Linda Wharton Boyd, Andrea Carter, Niambi Jarvis, Courtney Lang.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE,

Rockville, MD, May 21, 2008.

Hon. ALBERT WYNN,
*Rayburn House Office Building,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WYNN: On behalf of the National Council on Community Behavioral

Healthcare, representing 1,400 Community Mental Health Centers and other community mental health and substance abuse agencies serving over 6 million low-income Americans with mental illnesses and addiction disorders, I urge you to support H. Con. Res. 134, which establishes the month of May as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month. Mental illness is one of the leading causes of disability in the United States, affecting one out of every four American families.

Today, minorities suffering from mental illness lack access to culturally and linguistically competent mental health care. Compounding these challenges is the cultural stigma associated with mental health diagnosis and treatment, and a lack of education materials and resources for minority families supporting persons and loved ones with mentally illness.

Establishing May as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month will raise awareness about mental illness and mental health disparities among minorities nationwide. This modest effort will improve public health by encouraging the expansion of vital care in underserved communities in every State.

Ms. Campbell, a national spokeswoman for minority mental health issues, made her transition on November 27, 2006. The late Ms. Campbell founded the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Urban Los Angeles and wrote books including the New York Times best selling novel "72 Hour Hold," and the children's book, "Sometimes My Mommy Gets Angry," which outline the devastating effects of mental illness on families and communities.

The members of the National Council join the family, friends and colleagues of the late Ms. Campbell, as well as members of Congress in fully promoting and endorsing one of the important legislation on minority mental health, the Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month.

Sincerely,

LINDA ROSENBERG,
President and CEO.

MAY 20, 2008.

Via e-mail: Ed.Hubbard@mail.house.gov

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ALBERT R. WYNN: The Urban Los Angeles Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) that is devoted to educating, supporting and advocating for individuals and families in communities of color challenged by mental illness diagnoses urges you to support H. Con. Res. 134, which establishes the month of May as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month. Mental illness is one of the leading causes of disability in the United States, affecting one out of every four American families.

Today, minorities suffering from mental illness lack access to culturally and linguistically competent mental health care. Compounding these challenges is the cultural stigma associated with mental health diagnosis and treatment, and a lack of education materials and resources for minority families supporting persons and loved one with mentally illness.

Establishing May as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month will raise awareness about mental illness and mental health disparities among minorities nationwide. This modest effort will improve public health by encouraging the expansion of vital care in underserved communities in every State.

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Campbell founded the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Urban Los Angeles and wrote books including the New York Times best selling novel "72 Hour Hold," and the children's book, "Sometimes My Mommy Gets Angry," which outline the devastating effects of mental illness on families and communities.

The members of NAMI Urban Los Angeles join the family, friends and colleagues of the late Ms. Campbell as well as members of Congress in fully promoting and endorsing one of the important legislation on minority mental health, the Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month.

Sincerely,

NANCY CARTER,
Executive Director,
NAMI Urban Los Angeles.

MAY 20, 2008.

On behalf of the members of the Bebe Moore Campbell Minority Mental Health Task Force, we are pleased to endorse H. Con. Res. 134 to recognize July as "Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness and Treatment Month."

We acknowledge the critical importance of specifically addressing the mental health needs of minorities in a culturally competent and linguistically competent manner. We acknowledge and support the need for health equity so that all communities are able to receive equality of care, treatment and services.

In the spirit of working to reduce the stigma of depression and chronic mental health disorders, the task force recognizes the need for education in minority communities, that mental illnesses are diseases of the brain are treatable and are chronic conditions. We support needed intervention and treatment programs that seek to support the integration of mental health within the broader system of public health care.

The task force is committed to carrying the vision of Bebe Moore Campbell, a champion for the equality of mental health care in minority communities, whose tireless advocacy worked to establish NAMI—Urban Los Angeles and support a sustainable community health intervention model for communities of color that can be replicated across the country.

We encourage all Members of congress to vote a yes and offer our individual and collective voice to support H. Con. Res. 134 to eliminate disparate care in the mental health system and our communities at-large.

LINDA WHARTON-BOYD,
Co-Chair, National
Minority Mental
Health Task Force.

COURTNEY LANG,
Co-Chair, National
Minority Mental
Health Task Force.

ONE CHURCH, ONE CHILD
OF MARYLAND, INC.,
Baltimore, MD.

CONGRESSMAN ALBERT R. WYNN,
Rayburn Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ALBERT R. WYNN: The One Church One Child of Maryland, Inc. is devoted to Adoption and Foster Care. We are also devoted to the physical, mental and spiritual health of children and families. As such, we endorse the promotion of strong mental health and endorse H. Con. Res. 134, which establishes the month of July as Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month. Mental illness is one of the leading causes of disability in the United States, affecting one out of every four American families.

Today, minorities suffering from mental illness lack access to culturally and linguistically competent mental health care. Compounding these challenges is the cultural stigma associated with mental health diagnosis and treatment, and a lack of education materials and resources for minority families supporting persons and loved ones with mentally illness.

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The members of One Church One Child of Maryland, Inc. join the family, friends and colleagues of the late Ms. Campbell as well as members of Congress in fully promoting and endorsing one of the important legislation on minority mental health, the Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month.

Sincerely,

DR. CHARLES E. COGER,
Board President.
DR. JOAN L. WHARTON,
Executive Director.

DEAR EDWARD S. HUBBARD, Jr. Esq. and CONGRESSMAN ALBERT WYNN: Thank you so much for moving forward this important and very personal bill. I am President of NAMI Urban LA (National Alliance on Mental Illness) and co founder of this chapter with my dear friend Bebe. Bebe as you know worked tirelessly to help educate and support our mentally ill community. Even when she became ill she was always talking of ways for us to raise money to support our cause. Her death was a huge blow to her family, friends, readers, and the world. When this bill passes it will help ease the pain of her loss. Our chapter continues to press on in her name. The month of July will now be even more special; celebrating the Declaration of Independence on the 4th and celebrating all month Bebe's importance in helping to liberate, support, educate and advocate for so many afflicted with mental illnesses.

Thank you so much again for this important bill.

LYNN J. GOODLOE,
President, NAMI Urban LA.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH,
CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY,
Pittsburgh, PA, May 20, 2008.

Hon. ALBERT WYNN,
c/o Edward S. Hubbard, Jr., Esquire,
Office of Congressman Albert R. Wynn.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN WYNN: I understand that you have taken the lead in sponsoring a bipartisan bill that would designate July as "Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness and Treatment Month." I applaud your efforts and am writing, for myself and on behalf of the University to Pittsburgh, to strongly endorse this important piece of legislation.

As you know, Bebe Moore Campbell was a distinguished graduate of the University of Pittsburgh. She also served as a member of our Board of Trustees and was the recipient of an honorary doctorate from Pitt, the

highest honor that any university can bestow.

For most of her career, Bebe was best known for her literary achievements. Over the course of many years, her efforts as an author produced a succession of works that were both critically acclaimed and enthusiastically embraced by a large audience of readers.

In more recent years, she came to understand the special challenges presented by mental illness in this country, and particularly within the minority community, and she opened a new stage of her career as a mental health advocate. An important tool in her advocacy efforts was her literary skill. She applied that skill in a more focused way in the children's book *Sometimes My Mommy Gets Angry* and in the novel *72 Hour Hold*. Through these works, she was able to advance important messages with different audiences.

Beyond her efforts as an author, she became a tireless and unusually effective advocate for the cause of mental health. In this work, she was able to empathetically present the challenges faced both by individuals suffering from mental illness and by the family members and others who care for them.

Naming the month of July as "Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Awareness and Treatment Month" in her honor would be a well-deserved tribute to this tireless and selfless crusader. It also would help advance the cause for which she worked so hard and about which she cared so deeply.

Again, I applaud your efforts and strongly endorse this important bill.

Sincerely,

MARK A. NORDENBERG.

AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION,
Arlington, VA, May 20, 2008.

Hon. ALBERT WYNN,
Rayburn House Office Building, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE WYNN: I am writing on behalf of the American Psychiatric Association (APA), the medical specialty representing more than 38,000 psychiatric physicians nationwide, to express our support for H. Con. Res. 134, your resolution designating July as "Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Month."

Your resolution calls attention to the urgent national need for improved access to mental health care for all Americans. This is particularly true in minority communities, where access to the highest quality treatment is too-often limited.

APA is pleased to support H. Con. Res. 134, and commends you and Representative Diane Watson for your personal efforts on behalf of mental health care, both for minority populations and the U.S. as a whole.

Sincerely,

JAMES H. SCULLY, Jr.,
Medical Director and CEO.

HONORING JAMES FLUKER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize James Fluker of Kansas City, Missouri. James is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

James has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years James has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending James Fluker for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING ROBERT "BOB" SUGARMAN

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bucks County resident Robert "Bob" Sugarman for his lifetime of extraordinary accomplishments.

Among his many accolades, Mr. Sugarman is an internationally recognized environmental litigator for his practice, Sugarman & Marks, LLP. Mr. Sugarman has protected countless local, State, and national natural resources, including the Great Lakes, the Hudson and Delaware Rivers, and many irreplaceable local treasures.

In addition to his environmental litigation accomplishments, Mr. Sugarman has also worked tirelessly to protect numerous historic sites throughout Bucks County and the city of Philadelphia. Thanks to his incredible efforts, future generations will be able to experience, appreciate and enjoy the charm, history and beauty of southeastern Pennsylvania.

Besides serving the local and State communities through his involvement with various organizations, Mr. Sugarman was also appointed by President Jimmy Carter to represent America as the United States Commissioner for the International Joint Commission for United States and Canada. In this post he helped found Great Lakes United, an international and interstate effort to protect the precious Great Lakes.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Sugarman is an extraordinary citizen who has helped protect the invaluable natural resources and history of the United States. His efforts have preserved these resources for the future, and he has truly affected the international, national, and local communities in wonderful ways. I am honored to recognize my close friend and mentor, Bob Sugarman, for his many accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF HARRY J. MOORE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with sadness today to honor my friend and political compatriot Harry J. Moore, who passed away May 26 at the age of 79. Harry was an educator and political leader in Marin County, California—the kind of leader whose focus and commitment earned him both affection and respect.

Often known as "Mr. Novato," Harry is particularly identified with the town he lived in for over 40 years. He and his wife Callita raised their family there, and Harry worked as a school administrator, coach, and civic leader, including a stint as mayor.

Born in San Francisco in 1929, Harry earned a master's degree from San Jose State University and served in the Army in Korea. He and Callita Temme were married in 1955, moving to Marin County in 1960 when he took a position coaching and teaching at Marin Catholic High School. His career soon took him to Novato where he eventually became a dean, vice principal, and then principal at several Novato schools including Pleasant Valley Elementary, San Ramon Elementary, San Marin High, Novato High, and Hill Middle School. At Hill, Harry spearheaded the construction of a gymnasium.

Harry's political career, stemming from his dedication to education, began with his election to the Marin Community College district board in the 1970s where he promoted the development of the Indian Valley Campus. He served an additional term from 2003 to 2007, when he lost a re-election bid.

In the early 1980s, concerned about environmental and quality standards in Novato, Harry was an active member of the Planning Commission. In 1985, he was elected to the Novato City Council where his leadership as mayor was crucial in resolving long-standing development issues at the former Hamilton Air Force Base. He left the Council in 1994 after winning election to the Marin County Board of Supervisors. There, his expertise on environmental issues (he was a founder of Sustainable North Bay) helped spur the growth of parks and open space.

Despite all these titles and accomplishments, Harry was probably most proud of the title "Coach." He coached football at several schools during the 1960s and 1970s, earning a league championship for Novato High School in 1965.

In addition to his wife, Harry is survived by his four children Lillian, Jeffrey, Charles, and Kate.

Madam Speaker, Harry Moore's accomplishments were a direct result of his focus on kids and on his community. When he saw something that could be done to make the community a better place, he did not hesitate to put himself on the line to make it happen. He was an inspiration, and I will miss his leadership very much. I am proud to honor his legacy here today.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. C. OWEN ROUNDY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor Dr. C. Owen Roundy by entering his name in the Congressional Record, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today I honor Dr. C. Owen Roundy for his accomplishments within the Clark County School District, and congratulate him on having an elementary school named in his honor.

Dr. Roundy was born in 1939 in Kanab, Utah. He received his Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Utah State University in 1962; his Master of Education from the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, in 1963; and his Doctoral degree from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 1977.

In 1963, Dr. Roundy began his tenure with the Clark County School District where he served as a teacher, counselor, and assistant principal. He served as a principal for 15 years at several schools including Will Beckley, Vail Pittman, and R. Guild Gray Elementary Schools. He also served as Director of Schools, Elementary Education Division; Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Division; Area Superintendent, Elementary Education Division; and as Executive Director, Human Resources Division before his retirement in 1999. In 1995, Dr. Roundy was an inductee to the Educational Hall of Fame—Excellence in Education by the Clark County Board of School Trustees.

Dr. Roundy served on Governor Bob Miller's statewide "Nevada 2000" committee to identify educational goals for the State of Nevada. He served as an adjunct professor for many years at Nova Southeastern University, Las Vegas campus, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Outside the field of education, Dr. Roundy has served many years in a variety of capacities within the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and was active on various committees and boards for the Boy Scouts of America. He has been a member of The Desert Chorale, a professional symphonic choir, for over 20 years.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Dr. C. Owen Roundy for his accomplishments within the Clark County School District. I congratulate him on receiving the honor of having an elementary school named in his honor, and wish him the best of luck in the future.

SUPPORTING THE CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION OF LYNDON B.
JOHNSON

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the centennial birthday of President Lyndon B. Johnson, a proud Texan with a Texas-sized personality. President Johnson provided the nation with strong leadership following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and his enduring legacy includes such seminal programs as Medicare and Medicaid, and the groundbreaking Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act.

One area where President Johnson's leadership continues to be felt today is the issue of education. Under his tenure the Bilingual Education Act of 1968 was signed into law. This measure directed instruction in English as well as multi-cultural awareness in the wake of the Civil Rights movement. The Act gave school districts the opportunity to provide bilingual education programs without violating segregation laws. As someone who grew up only speaking Spanish and had to attend a school that only taught in English, I personally know the significance of these actions for students in El Paso and the border region.

I will always remember meeting President Lyndon B. Johnson in the spring of 1965 while I was attending the University of Texas at Austin, and I rise today to honor the impact that he had on our country, and on El Paso. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution.

Thank you Madame Speaker.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE HERITAGE
HIGH SCHOOL LADY 'CANES,
AAA STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise with great pride to call attention to a group of young women who have distinguished themselves, their school, their community, and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Heritage High School Girls Varsity basketball team beat Forest Park High School of Woodbridge, VA 50–29 to win the VHSL Group AAA girls state basketball championship game on March 14, 2008. The Lady Canes (30–2) became only the 10th Group AAA team in Virginia state history with 30 wins. This is a remarkable feat and I believe they deserve formal recognition for their accomplishment.

I would like to extend my enthusiastic congratulations to the Heritage High School players and their families, Coach Gardner and the rest of his coaching staff, Heritage High alumni, and the entire Heritage High community for their remarkable accomplishment and wish them a wonderful celebration this Thursday night.

HONORING THE WARWICK FIRE
COMPANY ON THEIR 50TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Warwick Fire Company Station 66 on their 50th Anniversary. This all volunteer fire company has provided outstanding service to the residents of Warwick Township in Bucks County, Pennsylvania and they deserve our praise and appreciation.

The Warwick Fire Company was formed in 1958 by Mr. George P. Forte, together with his brothers-in-law, Mr. John Turco and Mr. Watson E. Wright. Mr. Forte was elected the first president with Mr. Albert Jamison, Jr. as Fire Chief. On June 12, 1958 a certificate of incorporation was granted and the Warwick Township Fire Company No. 1 commenced operations.

As the son of a former Philadelphia police officer, I know how committed those who put their lives on the line for our safety truly are. Volunteer fire companies across America, just like the Warwick Fire Company, work hard every day to keep our cities and towns safe. The Warwick Fire Company's commitment to our community is undeniable. As their rep-

resentative, I am proud to be just as committed to providing them and other fire companies with the tools and resources they need to do their jobs. After all, true homeland security means supporting those who keep our families safe.

Madam Speaker, the Warwick Fire Company and the other volunteer fire companies throughout our country need—and deserve—our continued support. On behalf of my family and the families of the 8th District of Pennsylvania, I want to thank the Warwick Fire Company for their tireless and life-saving efforts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on May 22, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my vote for rollcall No. 355.

Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 355—"no"—Akin of Missouri amendment; for rollcall No. 357, I inadvertently voted "no", when I intended to vote "yes"; and rollcall No. 357—"yes"—Tierney of Massachusetts amendment.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN
JASON WILLIAMS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor Captain Jason Williams by entering his name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today I pay tribute to Captain Jason Williams, for his continued service with the United States Army and his accomplishments while completing two tours in Iraq.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Williams, Captain Jason Williams is the youngest of four children and was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada. In 1995, he graduated from Western High School, and enrolled at Prairie View A–M University. After his sophomore year of college, Captain Williams enrolled in the ROTC Program upon completion of basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. As a Second Lieutenant, he earned his Bachelors of Science in Biology/Pre-medicine with a minor in Chemistry and Military Science. While in college, Jason was awarded with the Outstanding College Brother of the Year by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He has also been honored with the Retired Officer Association Award and the Reserve Officer Award.

Captain Williams has served various assignments throughout his military career while serving overseas in the Republic of Korea, Friedberg Germany, and his two tours in Iraq. He received a Purple Heart during his most recent deployment in Iraq. He has also received the Bronze Star Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Southwest ASIA Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Global War of Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, and

the Global War of Terrorism Service Medal. Captain Williams is married to his wife Jessica, and they have one son, Joshua.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Captain Jason Williams for his accomplishments within the armed services. His leadership and the awards he has received as a result of his actions are truly commendable. I commend Captain Jason Williams for his service to our community, and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF COMMANDER CLAYTON DIAMOND OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. LOBIONDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Commander Clayton Diamond for his service to the United States House of Representatives and for his twenty four years of service to our country in the United States Coast Guard. CDR Diamond was assigned as Legislative Counsel in the Office of Coast Guard Congressional and Governmental Affairs in May 2006. As Legislative Counsel, he worked directly with the Coast Guard's congressional authorizing committees and was responsible for coordinating the service's advocacy efforts, resulting in enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act and other Coast Guard legislative priorities. In my roles on the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee and in numerous other venues, my staff and I have often relied on CDR Diamond's knowledge and understanding of domestic and international legal matters, as well as operational missions, and roles and responsibilities of the United States Coast Guard.

CDR Diamond enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1984 to attend the Naval Academy Preparatory School in Newport, RI, from which he graduated in 1985. He received his commission from the United States Coast Guard Academy in 1989, where he earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Management. He also earned his Master of Science Degree in Management from Rennsaeler Polytechnic Institute in 1995, and his Juris Doctor Degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in 2000. He served as a 2006–2007 Seminar XXI Fellow for the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Center for International Studies.

CDR Diamond's afloat assignments include Commanding Officer, USCGC BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, homeported in Sandy Hook, NJ, and tours as a deck watch officer aboard the High Endurance Cutters SHERMAN and GAL-LATIN, homeported in Alameda, CA and Governor's Island, NY, respectively. During these afloat tours of duty, CDR Diamond conducted operations in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and the Bering and Caribbean Seas. As Commanding Officer of BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, CDR Diamond was On-Scene Commander during the early hours of the 1996 crash of Trans World Airlines Flight 800. His other operational assignment included serving as Deputy Incident Commander (for Operations) for the Coast Guard Atlantic Area Incident

Management Assist Team. During these operational assignments, Commander Diamond participated in the seizure of over \$300 million in illegal drugs, the interdiction of hundreds of illegal migrants in the Caribbean, the execution of numerous heavy weather search and rescue cases, and the boarding of numerous foreign fishing vessels in Alaska.

His previous assignments ashore include Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the U.S. State Department (where he served on the U.S. Delegation to the United Nation's International Maritime Organization, and negotiated key security and environmental protection instruments), Principal Assistant District Legal Officer for the Ninth Coast Guard District, Aide to the Superintendent of the Coast Guard Academy and instructor in the Academy's Professional Studies Department.

CDR Diamond is admitted to practice law by the Ohio Bar and, in 2002, was the first Coast Guard lawyer selected to support the Department of Defense's military commissions, where he assisted in preparing prosecution cases for some of the most significant terror suspects in U.S. custody. He has also served as an adjunct faculty member at the Defense Institute for International Legal Studies since 2000 and has conducted numerous maritime safety, security, and law enforcement executive seminars to senior foreign government and military officials throughout Asia, Africa, and Europe. CDR Diamond was appointed and served as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio (2002–2004). In 2002, CDR Diamond was chosen by the American Bar Association as the "Outstanding Young Military Lawyer". In addition to being formally recognized by the Department of Defense's General Counsel for his work on military commissions, he has also earned several State Department "Superior Honor Awards" for his work on the inter-agency teams that developed the President's National Strategy for Maritime Security (NSMS) and the Secretary of State's International Outreach Strategy for the NSMS, as well as for diplomatic efforts relating to international maritime security. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration also awarded him the "General Counsel's Award" for his work on international environmental protection agreements. His personal military awards include two Meritorious Service Medals, two Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, and the Coast Guard Achievement Medal.

This week, CDR Diamond will leave his post and retire after 24 years of honorable service to the Coast Guard and the Nation. It has been my pleasure to work with CDR Diamond, and on behalf of all who have also been fortunate to work with him, he will certainly be missed. We wish CDR Diamond, his wife Sharon, and his two children, Katelyn and Alexander, the best in all of their future endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EAST TEXAS AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER (AHEC)

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the East Texas Area Health Edu-

cation Center (AHEC) on its receipt of the National AHEC Organization (NAO)'s 2008 Eugene S. Mayer Program of Excellence Award. The Eugene Mayer Award is one of the NAO's most precious awards since, in order to even be considered for the award, an AHEC program must demonstrate excellence in all areas of operation.

East Texas AHEC is certainly deserving of this prestigious award. Founded in 1991, East Texas AHEC is headquartered at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), which provides it access to some of the top medical talent in the Nation. East Texas AHEC operates nine other community health centers across the Gulf Coast. These centers offer a wide variety of health care services to over 14.9 million low-income Texans in 111 counties. Many low-income Texas would have a much more difficult time obtaining quality health care if it were not for the efforts of East Texas AHEC.

It is not just Texans who have benefited from the East Texas AHEC. By assuming a leadership role in advocacy for AHEC's nationwide, as well as providing an example to AHEC across the country of how they could expand their services to help meet the health care needs of more low-income Americans, East Texas AHEC has benefited the entire American health care system.

Madam Speaker, I have always been impressed with how dedication with shown by the staff of East Texas AHEC to their mission of developing a quality health care workforce and addressing the unmet health needs of the people of Texas. I am therefore pleased once again extend my congratulations to my friends at East Texas AHEC for their well-deserved receipt of the 2008 Eugene S. Mayer award.

CONGRATULATING CONGREGATION ADATH JESHURUN ON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Congregation Adath Jeshurun in Elkins Park, PA on the celebration of its 150th anniversary. In 1858, three years before the Civil War, this proud congregation was established in the heart of Philadelphia. The congregation occupied many homes before settling down at the current Elkins Park location.

Adath Jeshurun or "The Congregation of the Upright" first conducted services in German and Hebrew. In the years following its establishment, a choir and organ were added to create a more beautiful and spiritually moving experience for participants. Adath Jeshurun's involvement in the founding of the United Synagogue of America in the early 1900's under the guidance of their Spiritual Leader, Rabbi Max D. Klein, continues to be a crowning achievement for the congregation.

Through the guidance of its exemplary leaders and devotion of its committed members, Adath Jeshurun has continued to offer many award-winning educational, spiritual and social opportunities ranging from religious education for members of all ages to youth music programs. The congregation is also dedicated to

community service within their place of worship, their neighborhood, and their greater community.

Madam Speaker, once again I would like to honor and acknowledge Congregation Adath Jeshurun for its remarkable congregational passage as a Jewish community in America through the past century and a half. I was so pleased to share in the opening event celebrating this "incredible journey." I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating this milestone and wishing "AJ" another 150 years of joy—from strength to strength!

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SUSAN
SEGAL

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor my friend Susan Segal by entering her name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today I pay tribute to Susan Segal for her service as an educator in the Nevada education system for over twenty five years.

Susan has served the Las Vegas community since she began serving the Clark County School District in 1983 when she aided non-native English speaking students. Her dedication to educating Nevada's youth continued with teaching jobs at both Western High School and Chaparral High School. Susan then transitioned into administrative positions, working as the dean of students at Basic High School in 1994 and later as assistant principal at Desert Pines High School. In 2002, Susan was appointed principal of Basic High School.

Susan has become a commanding figure at Basic High School, where she can often be seen taking a direct interest in students' welfare and seeking advice and opinions from fellow staff members. Since her installment as principal, she has implemented the Upward Bound Program, accompanied the Spanish Club to Mexico and the "We the People" students to Carson City. She initiated regular meetings with the Advisory Council for the Law, Justice, and Public Service Institute. She has also acquired the proper funding to open the Dr. Joel and Carol Bower School-Based Health Center on the Basic High School campus. Susan's devotion to the Clark County School District has expanded her students' high school experiences as well as Nevada's educational system as a whole.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Susan Segal. Her dedication to enriching lives through education has touched countless Nevadans. I applaud her efforts and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

FREEDOM FOR ERICK JESUS
VALDES ALVAREZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about

Erick Jesus Valdes Alvarez, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

At a time when the totalitarian regime is trying to gain acceptance from the international community by enacting smoke and mirror "reforms", we see that the repressive machine is still working hard to make every Cuban on the island suffer for having a mind of their own. Such a case is Mr. Valdes Alvarez. In November of 2007, Mr. Valdes Alvarez was categorized as a "pre-criminal social danger" for being a member of the Youth Movement for Democracy, a group that calls for the autonomy of the universities so that they become true places of thought and learning separated from the ideology and influence from the propagandist, totalitarian dictatorship.

At that time Mr. Valdes Alvarez was sentenced to 3 years of forced labor, which is the totalitarian regime's idea of "correctional work" for those who associate themselves with groups that express free thinking. Although he escaped imprisonment, the "probation" imposed on him did not last half a year. On April 25 of this year his "probation" was revoked and he was arrested by agents of the tyranny. Mr. Valdes Alvarez, a young man of only 25 years of age, now sits in one of the prisons of Castro's gulag without being charged for any crime.

What exactly did Mr. Valdes Alvarez do to cause his designation as "dangerous" and his cruel incarceration? This is impossible to fully know in the totalitarian circus of present day Cuba, but perhaps the regime was afraid of the courage and patriotism demonstrated by Mr. Valdes Alvarez.

Mr. Valdes Alvarez represents the best of the Cuban people; a people that, through brutalized and oppressed for almost half a century, have never ceased to fight for their dignity and their freedom.

Madam Speaker, it is unconscionable that students like Mr. Valdes Alvarez are locked in dungeons for simply expressing a desire for freedom and an education free of indoctrination. My colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Erick Jesus Valdes Alvarez before his imprisonment turns into a death sentence, and of all the political prisoners in totalitarian Cuba.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUT-
STANDING WORK BY SHEMEKA
GREAVES, A TSO AT CHICAGO
O'HARE INTERNATIONAL AIR-
PORT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, Today, I would like to recognize the outstanding work of Ms. Shemeka Greaves, a Transportation Security Officer at the Chicago O'Hare International Airport. On May 7, 2008, Ms. Greaves positively identified an 8-year old girl who had been declared "missing" the previous week and was traveling from Chicago to Atlanta. After seeing the girl's photo in a newspaper article, Ms. Greaves recalled screening the girl along with a female passenger on the morning a few days earlier. A subsequent review of checkpoint surveillance tapes showed the missing girl going through

security with a female companion. Ms. Greaves' awareness and vigilance at security checkpoint was crucial in an effort to confirm the identity of the missing girl and facilitated law enforcement officials to successfully complete their investigation and reunite her with her father.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children confirms that in our country alone, more than 2,700 children are being reported missing every day. In the last few years, Congress has passed several legislative landmarks, including the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, which addresses this issue and has fortified government efforts and mechanisms in place to reunite missing children with their families and loved ones. In addition to these government-wide efforts, law enforcement officials across all agencies remain vigilant, cautious and responsive to special alerts for missing children. Ms. Greaves, our frontline security officer at Chicago Airport, contributed to this effort, and is a great example of the caliber of employees across the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) that contribute, every day, to making our skies more secure.

TSA is responsible for securing 450 U.S. airports and employs approximately 50,000 Transportation Security Officers (TSOs) who have the very important mission of keeping the travelling public safe from terrorist threats. In the course of executing this critical homeland security mission, Transportation Officers carefully screen and inspect people, baggage, cargo and the airport. Ms. Greaves' alert, timely action serves as a great example of how TSOs, our Nation's aviation security "eyes and ears," can partner effectively with law enforcement to address criminal activities.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me today and congratulate Ms. Shemeka Greaves for her outstanding performance as a front-line homeland security officer. She, like many other TSOs in the field, has shown strong character and a commitment to protecting the flying public that goes above and beyond what is expected. As a result, Ms. Greaves helped ensure that a missing little girl child was returned to her home.

TRIBUTE TO JERI MILSTEAD, PhD
ON THE OCCASION OF HER RE-
TIREMENT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the remarkable career of Jeri Milstead, PhD in my district. Dr. Milstead is retiring in June 2008 after decades of illustrious nursing and public service.

Dr. Milstead serves as Dean of the College of Nursing at the University of Toledo. Throughout her tenure, first at the Medical College of Ohio and since following the merger with the University of Toledo, Dean Milstead has led the College of Nursing with an integrity and quality which is rare. Her talent in nursing is matched by her gift as a teacher and mentor, her passion for policy, and her skill as a leader.

Dr. Milstead holds a PhD in political science with majors in health policy and comparative

politics from the University of Georgia. She received both her Master of Science and Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Ohio State University, graduating cum laude. She holds a nursing diploma from Mt. Carmel Hospital School of Nursing. One of only 1500 out of nearly three million nurses, Dr. Milstead is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. She is board certified as a Nurse Executive Advanced. Dr. Milstead is also a founding member of the Nightingale Policy Institute, a virtual gathering of U.S. policy nurses. She serves as Chair of the Board of Commissioners of the Commission on Nurse Certification. She is a member of the Health Policy Council of the Ohio Nursing Association and the American Academy of Nursing's Expert Panel on Global Health. Appointed to the Toledo Lucas County Port Authority, Dr. Milstead has traveled to China, Cuba, and Jordan and evaluated programs in these countries.

Jeri Milstead has received many awards and accolades throughout her career. She was awarded the American Nursing Association's first Search for Excellence Award. She has been honored by Ohio's General Assembly for her leadership and service. She was awarded a Duquesne University Creative Teaching Award for her pioneering design and implementation of the first online course taught in the first online nursing PhD program offered in the world. Her own institution recognized her efforts by awarding her its Career Achievement Award.

Internationally respected as an expert in public policy and the politics of health care, Dr. Milstead is well-published in this arena and nursing. In addition to several books and journal publications, she was Editor-in-Chief of *The International Nurse* for eleven years until its recent cessation.

Jeri Milstead has been a guiding light in nursing and health care worldwide. Her caring work has been inspirational, and her counsel invaluable. Her retirement leaves shoes nearly impossible to fill, yet her imprimatur is everywhere: in her profession, the university, our nation and world. She will most certainly be missed. As she begins this new journey in her life we wish for Jeri time spent doing what she most enjoys with those for whom she most cares. Godspeed.

RECOGNIZING WESTCARE HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude to all of the employees of WestCare Health System.

When an unexpected event occurred at a neighboring hospital in Western North Carolina, the physicians and staff of WestCare Health System, which includes Harris Regional Hospital, recognized the urgency of the situation and took action to address a regional health care crisis. They made the necessary adjustments to serve both those in need of health care, and the professionals responsible for providing vital services, such as surgery and emergency care.

The services and credentialing staff of WestCare worked long hours to assist displaced physicians in obtaining the proper clearance needed to treat patients and perform surgeries at Harris Regional Hospital. Despite the increased patient volume, every member of the staff stepped in to do their part to help, ensuring that Harris Regional Hospital remained a clean, safe place to receive medical treatment.

The flexibility that this staff showed through this time is truly something to be appreciated and admired. The increased workloads were a challenge to both the professional and personal lives of the WestCare staff. Projects were put on hold, sleep was lost, and family time dwindled. For this, on behalf of the patients that were able to obtain care at this facility, who may have otherwise had to do without, I would like to say thank you for the sacrifices that you made in order to make sure they had the care that they needed.

I would like to commend and thank all of the staff of WestCare for ensuring that every patient that walked through their doors would receive the high quality health care that they deserved from staff and were treated in a friendly and efficient manner.

The region has noticed WestCare Health System's efforts. Community leaders have recognized the staff's response and dedication. Patients have expressed their appreciation through letters to WestCare's CEO Mark Leonard. This brand of endurance and care for our neighbors when they are in need is not only a characteristic of the WestCare staff, but rather of the people of Western North Carolina.

I am proud to represent an area where I know that we can count on those around us to help us in times of trouble. To the staff at WestCare, I cannot thank you enough for your hard work and dedication to serving those around you in a time of need.

IN MEMORY OF KEITH AND
JAYNIE PAULSON, VINCE
WHITELEY, AND JENNIFER
DRAKE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the all too short lives of Keith and Jaynie Paulson, Vince Whiteley, and Jennifer Drake, residents of my district, who died tragically in a small plane crash on May 23, 2008.

The epitome of the all-American family, Keith and Jaynie Paulson moved to the village of Albion on the Mendocino coast in northern California in 1976 and immediately became an integral and respected part of the community. A former high school science teacher from the Bay Area, Keith originally planned to develop hydroponic greenhouses.

Once he purchased a tractor, he was hired to do jobs for neighbors and then through word of mouth he found a niche digging trenches and installing underground utilities. In 1977, Paulson Excavating was born with Keith at the helm and Jaynie the chief financial officer. By 1981, the company had grown to the point of bidding on jobs in and outside of

Mendocino County installing telecommunications components and doing projects for public agencies including cities, counties, special districts and the State. Their workforce grew from a core of 15 to as many as 75 employees.

Known and respected by their peers for exemplary business practices, the Paulsons were also beloved by colleagues and neighbors on the Mendocino coast, where their roots were deep. They raised two children, Amy and Brian, and were involved in their school, sports and other extra curricular activities. Bryan continues the work of Paulson Excavating. Amy is mother to the 3 Paulson grandchildren: Lincoln, Jackson, and Anna.

Jaynie served on the Mendocino Unified School District Board from 1991 until 2004. Keith also served for a short time on the school board and was the coach of the Mendocino High School golf team. He was a member of the Albion-Little River Volunteer Fire Department for 7 years and held various officer positions. A meticulous and expert pilot for 25 years, Keith was appointed as pilot representative to the Little River Airport Advisory Committee in 2007 by the County of Mendocino.

The tragedy, which took their lives, also claimed Amy's husband, Vince Whiteley, a graphic artist from Windsor and Bryan's longtime girlfriend, Jennifer Drake from Albion. The Mendocino coast community is left with a hole in the hearts of so many. Accolades and tributes to this sterling couple and their children's mates help the grieving as we try to make sense of their loss.

Madam Chair and colleagues, please join me in conveying our deepest sympathy to the children, loved ones, and the community, during this sorrowful time as we recognize and honor the lives and contributions of Keith and Jaynie Paulson and Vince Whiteley and Jennifer Drake.

HONORING RICHARD R. NIEMANN
OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard R. Niemann on the occasion of his retirement from the Napa Valley Unified School District after 39 years of teaching. Richard will be truly missed by his friends, colleagues and most of all, his students.

Mr. Niemann received his B.A. in History and Business Administration from Fresno State University and went on to graduate studies in International Relations at the University of the Americas in Mexico City in 1969. His love for learning led him to get his teaching credential from Fresno State University in Standard Secondary-History, Economics, Political Science, and Business. In 1976, Mr. Niemann received a Life Administrative Credential in Education and his M.A. in History from Sonoma State University in 1981.

Mr. Niemann has devoted his life to the education of others and has greatly influenced many of the students and faculty members he has worked with. He is not only a phenomenal educator, but a sterling role model for the

community. Among many other achievements and activities, Mr. Niemann was co-chair of the NVUSD Educational Plan Committee for the new American Canyon High School from 2005–2006. He also coordinated National History Day for Napa County Schools, with more than 2,000 students participating annually from 2000–2004. Mr. Niemann has reached out to get others involved, serving as a delegation leader for the “People to People” Student Ambassador Program. The program attracted participants from Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, New Zealand, and Australia. He has been a mentor teacher, track coach, and has always made himself available after hours to work with parent volunteers.

Mr. Niemann strives to not just teach history, but to experience it. He has traveled to 49 countries on six continents. He has consulted with educators and observed schools in Mexico, Fiji, Russia, Germany, Japan, Central America, South Africa, India, Kenya, Thailand, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Richard R. Niemann for his many years of service to the Napa Valley, and to thank him for his contributions to the community. I join his wife, Marsha, his children, and our colleagues in wishing him the best as he enters this new phase of his life.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COLONEL
MICHAEL L. BARTLEY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor my friend Colonel Michael L. Bartley by entering his name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today I pay tribute to Colonel Bartley for his distinguished service to the United States Air Force and his exemplary record as Commander of the 99th Base Wing at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada.

Colonel Bartley has had a long and illustrious career as an airman. Having graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in June 1983, Colonel Bartley distinguished himself in his early duty assignments as an A/OA–10 and F–16 instructor pilot. He also performed duties as a weapons officer, flight evaluator, flight commander, assistant operations officer, deployment commander, and served as a member of the 354 TFW Gunsmoke team in 1987.

During Operation Desert Storm, Colonel Bartley flew over 40 combat missions over Iraq in the OA–10 and flew 65 combat missions over Northern Iraq in the F–16C during Operation Provide Comfort and over Southern Iraq during Operation Southern Watch as the Operations Officer of the 523rd Fighter Squadron. Following his tenure in the Middle East, Colonel Bartley served as Vice Commander of the 35th Fighter Wing at Misawa Air Base, Japan and was subsequently assigned to serve as the Commander of the 99th Air Base Wing at Nellis.

Over the course of his career as an airman, Colonel Bartley has been highly decorated.

Colonel Bartley has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor, the Meritorious Service Medal with 4 oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with 6 oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award and numerous other accolades and awards.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to be able to recognize Colonel Michael L. Bartley. His dedication to defending freedom and his exemplary record of service illustrate that Colonel Bartley is a true American patriot. I thank him for his service, applaud him on all his successes and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

THE 52ND REUNION OF THE U.S.
AIR FORCE'S 4080TH STRATEGIC
RECONNAISSANCE WING

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, recently in Del Rio, Texas, the veterans of the U.S. Air Force's 4080th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing held their 52nd and final reunion.

I am proud to say that many of Minnesota's finest have served in this distinguished outfit, including the man who shared with me their incredible achievements, Minnesota native Jim Wemple, Airmen 2nd Class, who joined the unit the year it was formed, 1956.

The 4080th is one of the most distinguished units in the great history of the American armed services. In fact, it holds the distinct honor of being the highest decorated unit in the Air Force during peace time. The unit has received a Presidential citation, and its members have been awarded the highest honors afforded by the military, including the Silver Star and the Medal of Honor.

With skill and courage, the 4080th flew critical recon missions time and again, including many daring missions during the Cold War. Their efforts and sacrifices averted conflicts, saved lives and secured peace.

The brave patriots who served in this unit have played a pivotal role in many of the defining events of the 20th Century. With courage and dignity, they put their lives on the line to defend our flag and our freedoms and these men truly deserve our undying gratitude.

And so it is my honor to recognize and pay tribute to the all the men of the 4080th Recon Wing. We must always hold the American serviceman in our hearts, for, as General MacArthur said, they hold America's destiny in their hands.

HONORING ALWARD AND HENRY
MEEKER POST 2833 AND LADIES
AUXILIARY, VETERANS OF FOR-
EIGN WARS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Alward and Henry Meeker Post 2833 and the Ladies Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Kenvil, Township of

Roxbury, County of Morris, New Jersey, as we commemorate the Post's 75th Anniversary.

VFW Post 2833 was formed during the winter months of 1932 and 1933 in a road stand which is now the office of the Kingtown Mountain Motel. Twenty-one other charter members were recruited by Frank Van Houten, a Spanish American War veteran, after his move from Paterson, New Jersey to Netcong. Mr. Van Houten was previously a member of the Alexander Hamilton VFW Post 139, Paterson. Netcong had already formed a post a year earlier, but Mr. Van Houten and his recruits from the Netcong/Succasunna area sought to establish their own Post.

The Post was named in remembrance of two brothers, Private Alward Wilson Meeker and Private Henry Fordham Meeker Jr., who both died during World War I. The brothers were sons of Henry F. and Charlotte H. Meeker, who operated a general store on Main Street in Kenvil. On Flag Day, June 14, 1933, the A & H Meeker VFW Post officially was chartered with Frank Van Houten as its first Commander. The Ladies Auxiliary was chartered on October 13, 1933. Ruth Hart was its first President.

On January 12, 1935, Post charter member John Kasweck and Auxiliary charter member Margaret Kasweck deeded land for the new Post home. The members signed for a bank loan to cover the cost of building materials and held fundraisers and dances to pay off the debt. The loan was repaid by the early 1940s, so by the end of World War II, returning veterans had an established post to join.

In the late 1960's a merger took place between Alward & Henry Meeker 2833 and Roxbury Memorial Post 10135, including the Ladies Auxiliaries. The Post retained its name.

During 1988 additions were completed for the Post building, and land was purchased for a parking lot. The flag pole was moved to its present position at the Post building. Sidewalks and wheelchair access were also added, but funds fell short, and loans were once again given by members. In the 1990's the Post and Auxiliary joined forces, sponsoring spaghetti dinners to meet the obligation of these loans.

Today, the Post celebrates its 75th anniversary. The members take pride in all the service they have provided to our veterans and the community of Roxbury Township over many years.

Madam Speaker, I am privileged to honor the Alward and Henry Meeker Post 2833 and the Ladies Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars. I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of this valuable, dedicated organization for their seventy-five years of service!

IN HONOR OF THE STUDENT
GRADUATES OF SADDLE RIVER'S
YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Madam Speaker, today, the Saddle River Police Department will hold its Youth Leadership Program graduation ceremony with the students of the Wandell School. The young people participating in this important program have made

a commitment to say no to drugs, underage drinking, and gang violence. They have done this with the support of Chief of Police Timothy McWilliams, Superintendent Dr. David Goldblatt, teachers, Mike Nussear and Glen Stokes.

The Saddle River Youth Leadership Program allows children to defeat the negative cultural influences that they are challenged with daily by opening the lines of communication between law enforcement and youth and empowering them with confidence and courage to say no to drugs.

I am proud of the young boys and girls who participated in this program at the Wendell School, and I would like to recognize them all for taking this step toward positive citizenship:

Jeffrey Conocenti, Scotty Derosier, William Fullerton, Sydney Hayday, Samantha Holder, Ellie Hughes, Ankit Kakar, Baasil Khalil, Jeffrey Korb, Nathan Levin, Kyler McVay, Courtney Micallef, Joshua Moll, Rachel Pasternak, Bailey Pennell, Dylan Pierz, Anne Pless, Glennis Walter, Francis Ahearn, Victoria Amimroumand, Alejandro Asef-Sargent, Nicholas Biondi, Connor Bovino, Kristyn Del Campo-Banrevy, Shannon Duggan, Alex Formento, Ashley Holder, William Hughes, Woody Kim, Skyler King, Tyler Levin, Julia Massimi, Michelle Ritota, Russell Simmons, Jennifer Vincent

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE CONGRESSIONAL CLUB

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress, we know how difficult the transition to Washington, DC, can be for our spouses. The Congressional Club provides them a home away from home, encouraging bipartisan friendships.

The Congressional Club was established in 1908, by a group of 25 women from Washington who sought to establish a nonpolitical group which would bring the spouses of Members of Congress together when in Washington, DC. The Club was officially chartered by a unanimous Act of Congress in 1908, and remains the only club to be established by Congressional action. President Theodore Roosevelt signed the Congressional resolution into law on May 30, 1908.

Today, the Club is a charitable organization active in the Washington, DC, community and hosts events for the spouses of foreign dignitaries.

Since its beginning, the Congressional Club has participated in a wide range of charitable work, including rolling bandages, purchasing two evacuation planes for wounded soldiers, and honoring local fire and police departments. They have hosted Christmas parties and end of school pizza parties for inner-city children, appreciation days for local nursing home senior citizens. The annual First Lady's luncheon raises tens of thousands of dollars for charity.

To celebrate its 100th anniversary, the club has a year full of festivities and ceremonies that include a Founder's Day program, a birth-

day cake at the First Lady's Luncheon, an anniversary postage stamp, and a 100-year pin/pendant designed by past president Lois Breaux.

I would like to thank all the members of the Congressional Club for all their work and dedication over the years. Congratulations on your first 100 years. I wish you many, many more.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN LARRY BOUNTY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor my friend Captain Larry Bounty by entering his name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today I pay tribute to Captain Larry Bounty for his life and accomplishments, and applaud him for 30 successful years with the Boulder City Fire Department.

Larry began his fire service career as a volunteer Fire Fighter with the Boulder City Fire Department in 1975 while working for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power at Hoover Dam. He was then hired as a full time career Firefighter in 1978 and would spend the next 30 years with the Boulder City Fire Department. During Larry's career, he has held many different positions and assignments. He was a Firefighter/EMT, an Engineer, and for the last 18 years he was a Fire Captain of A Platoon.

He was one of the department's first arson investigators and eventually, the department's only fully post certified investigator. He was also instrumental in improving the city's emergency dispatch procedures, which resulted in faster response times and saved lives. When the Boulder City Fire Department decided to upgrade its Emergency Medical System, Larry became heavily involved in the project. He helped lay the groundwork for the transition from an intermediate based program with little invasive skills, to a full-blown Advanced Life Support paramedic program which has been hugely successful throughout the community.

In the 30 years he has spent in the fire service, Larry has been honored several times for his service and valor to our community. He has been honored with both the Valley of Heroes Medal and with the Medal of Valor.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Captain Larry Bounty for his distinguished accomplishments during his 30 years at the Boulder City Fire Department. His dedication to his career and the community is a true testament to his character. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF LEE FOSTER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening to praise and thank the dynamic, effervescent and talented Lee Foster for her

service to the community and congratulate her on winning Hillbarn Theater's highest honor, the Bravo! Award.

Madam Speaker, there are few areas of this country with a finer performing arts tradition than the San Francisco Bay Area. With top-notch professional theaters, operas, symphonies and dance companies, not to mention first-rate venues for live music and comedy, Northern Californians have a phenomenal choice for live entertainment. In this competitive, excellence-driven market, it is remarkable that a community organization like Foster City's Hillbarn Theater can not only survive, but thrive.

Much of the credit for this is attributable to Lee Foster. Just ten years ago, Hillbarn was in dire straits. Faced with a debt in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, a dwindling audience and a roof the fire chief said wouldn't support his crew in the event of a fire, this proud institution, that entertained my family and thousands of others for more than a generation, was about to close its doors.

When Lee took the helm as Executive Director, she set four goals: Hire a top notch Artistic Director, create new and strengthen existing relationships with local communities, build a sound financial foundation and most urgently, repair the roof.

With the help of volunteers and a committed Board of Directors, Lee accomplished her goals. And in the process, Madam Speaker, she made the 12th Congressional District of California even more inviting than it was when she started.

On top of her remarkable management and fundraising skills, Lee is also a many-faceted and inspiring performer. I have been fortunate to be in her audience for numerous productions and Lee has never been short of amazing.

Lee's hard and selfless work has led to hundreds of opportunities for local actors, singers, dancers, set constructors, lighting and sound techs, and all the other volunteers who make community theater possible. Without Lee Foster, my blessed, beautiful and entertaining district would be a little less beautiful and entertaining.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this House with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is June 3, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today, Madam Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,916 days since the tragedy called Roe v. Wade was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Madam Speaker, died and screamed as they did so, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, no one could hear them.

And all of them had at least four things in common. First, they were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone, and each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government." The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution, it says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth.

It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Madam Speaker, it is who we are.

And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

Madam Speaker, let me conclude in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard this Sunset Memorial tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies; that it hurts mothers in ways that

we can never express; and that 12,916 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that the America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust is still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

So tonight, Madam Speaker, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each one of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of innocent unborn children. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny, little American brothers and sisters from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is June 3, 2008, 12,916 days since Roe versus Wade first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children, this in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

RECOGNIZING IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATIVE AMERICANS TO ARMED SERVICES

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, today, I became a cosponsor of the Code Talkers Recognition Act of 2007 (H.R. 4544), a bill that recognizes the service of members of Native American Tribes in our Armed Services as Code Talkers in World War I and World War II. Code talking was made famous by the members of the Navajo Tribe who served in the Pacific in World War II, and we have rightfully recognized this service by the granting of

such medals to these veterans in 2000. However, members of 17 Native American Tribes also used their languages as unbreakable, top secret codes, on the Western front in World War I and on all fronts in World War II.

Time is running out to recognize these heroes. Ruth Frazier McMillian resides in my home State of Washington. She is the daughter of Tobias Frazier, a Choctaw Code Talker who risked his life to serve in the 36th Division of the American Expeditionary Forces, who helped the Americans win several key battles in the Mousse-Argonne campaign. I am told that this was the first time that a Native American language was used in an overseas battle for Americans. Mr. Frazier was wounded in battle and received a Purple Heart. It is my hope that Congress considers H.R. 4544, to honor the service of Tobias Frasier, his family and the many others who deserve the honor of a gold medal.

HONORING TREVOR PARRISH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Trevor Parrish of Blue Springs, Missouri. Trevor is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1138, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Trevor has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Trevor has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Trevor Parrish for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.