

movie, "A Life Interrupted: The Debbie Smith Story."

Madam Speaker, I rise to request that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing Lifetime Television for its tireless efforts to educate and inform the American public about important issues confronting women in our society and to achieve equality and justice for women all over the world.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND
PUBLIC SERVICE OF STAN
MAYFIELD

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and public service of Stan Mayfield—a native Floridian, civic leader, and defender of the taxpayer. Florida lost a dear friend on September 30, 2008, when Stan Mayfield's hard fought battle with cancer came to an end.

As a businessman, school board member, and a state legislator, Stan's community leadership is a testament of his commitment to public service. However, his greatest role was that of husband and father. I extend my deepest and most heartfelt sympathies to his wife, Deborah, and their three sons—Evan, Samuel, and Coleman, at this difficult time.

Stan's community involvement was expansive, from his service on the Indian River County School Board to his tenure in the Florida State House of Representatives. Stan was known for his tenacity to hold government accountable for greater transparency, and his determination to cap spending and fight for lower taxes, but his passion for greater infrastructure, conservation, and Indian River County is what his friends and colleagues will remember.

Most recently, Stan was preparing for a new chapter in his life after winning his primary election for Indian River County Tax Collector. A model of strong perseverance, Stan refused to allow his illness to deter him from public service and doing what he loved—serving people. It was this motivation and resolve that Stan put toward every challenge that truly exemplifies his character.

My thoughts and prayers are with Stan's loved ones, his friends, and his many colleagues who served with him throughout his many years in public service.

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE
BUD CRAMER AND THE HONORABLE
TERRY EVERETT ON
THEIR RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, the people of Alabama will be losing two outstanding public servants at the end of this session with the retirements of Congressman BUD CRAMER and Congressman TERRY EVERETT.

During the time that I have served in the House, I have been honored to call them both colleagues and friends. They have served the constituents in their own districts extraordinarily well, and have been a key part of securing the reputation of the Alabama delegation as a group that works together on a bipartisan basis for the good of our State.

Congressman CRAMER has had a long and distinguished record of service. One great legacy is his stalwart support of our space and missile defense programs. Whenever questions on those programs came up in the House, we looked to BUD CRAMER for his knowledge and guidance. As a result of his efforts, facilities in the Fifth District like NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, and the Redstone Arsenal have become not just important employers in Alabama but true national assets.

We admire and respect BUD CRAMER for another reason: his great compassion for children and deep concern about the tragedy of child abuse. Each year, the National Children's Advocacy Center in Huntsville that he founded teaches thousands of people how to recognize and help at-risk children.

For years, it has been my pleasure to work with Congressman TERRY EVERETT of the Second District. He has always been the type of representative who makes this House work. He holds firm to his principles, but works across the aisle to find solutions.

With his duties on the Armed Services and Intelligence Committees, Congressman EVERETT developed a well-earned reputation for expertise in defense and intelligence issues. Whenever my staff or I had a question about these matters, our response was: "Ask TERRY what he thinks." His support of the excellent work being done at Fort Rucker and the Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base has benefited both the constituents in his district and the people of our country by strengthening the national defense.

All of us in the Alabama delegation have been privileged to work with BUD CRAMER and TERRY EVERETT. While we'll no longer be congressional colleagues, we will always remain friends. Both of these leaders, I know, will continue to have much to share with their communities and our State of Alabama in the years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in order to state for the record an explanation of my absence and how I would have voted on several of the bills that were considered by the House of Representatives while I was in Texas helping the relief and recovery effort after Hurricane Ike damaged my district and communities so hard.

As my colleagues and those in the gallery know, Hurricane Ike made landfall along the Upper Texas Coast early in the morning of Saturday, September 13. The effects of this storm stretched from Alabama to Texas, with the 11 counties that I represent landing right in the middle of the storm's path. The resulting

damage was widespread and in some cases very significant. Many of the people that I represent are still without power and for many, especially in Orange County, life will never be the same. Their homes were completely flooded and many will never be livable again. It is a testament to the hardworking and self-reliant people of southeast Texas that they are already picking up the pieces and helping themselves and others in the recovery. I want to thank those first responders, the local governments, the State of Texas, and selfless individuals that have helped during the evacuation and recovery process.

We have worked tirelessly since Hurricane Rita to ensure that Texas' first responders were better prepared for the next time a hurricane hit the Texas coast. I have spent my time since September 13, meeting with individual citizens, FEMA, officials from Texas and local communities, utility providers and others to identify shortcomings, offer help and support, and ensure the best level of service is provided now and the next time a hurricane strikes Texas or we are affected by some other emergency situation.

While I was working in Texas after Ike made landfall, the House voted on several important pieces of legislation for which I would like to register my views.

First, H.R. 6899, the Comprehensive American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act; despite the bill's name, H.R. 6899 would actually harm our nation's energy security, and accordingly, I would have voted against passage of the bill.

This bill opens a sliver of our offshore resources to development, while permanently closing off the rest. In fact, the Department of Interior's Mineral and Management Service calculated that this bill would ban most of our nation's outer continental shelf oil and gas natural resources from development. This bill is the equivalent of cracking open the gate, bolting the front door shut and then throwing away the key. It is the wrong energy policy for our country.

Moreover, in addition to this bait-and-switch approach to the offshore moratorium on energy exploration, the bill neglects to provide for revenue sharing among the states for offshore leasing. Without a revenue sharing incentive from the federal government, states are highly unlikely to allow the drilling that our country desperately needs. This is not the energy solution the American people want, and Congress should not replace the current temporary ban on offshore exploration with a permanent one.

House Democrats also offered another gimmick on energy policy instead of providing real relief at the pump to my constituents recovering from Hurricane Ike and all Americans. H.R. 6604 was billed as a way to cut speculation in energy markets, while in reality it did nothing but paper over Democrat's inaction on offering real solutions to America's energy problems. I voted against largely the same bill this summer and would have done so here as well. This bill was nothing more than window dressing and a thinly veiled attempt to placate the American public. In reality, it does little more than insult the intelligence of the American public; but the American public won't be fooled.

But Democrats are starting to buckle to pressure from the American public. In the House-passed stop-gap funding bill, the