

tenure in office. With a flair for fiscal responsibility and innovative management, he is recognized as a leader throughout Oregon on transportation, health care, and economic development matters. He served as treasurer of the Association of Oregon Counties. He is a two-term member of the Oregon State Housing Council. He twice served on the Connect Oregon 1 project selection committee and served as a member of the Governor's Task Force on county payments relief. In 2006, he accompanied Governor Ted Kulongoski as an official delegate representing Oregon counties on the Governor's Trade Mission to Korea and Japan. He has also served as chair of the Central Oregon Community Investment Board of Directors and the Accountable Behavioral Health Alliance, and as a board member of Mosaic Medical, a regional community-based health care system serving low-income, underinsured families and individuals. He served as vice chair for the Economic Development for Central Oregon Advisory Board and two terms on the Central Oregon Area Transportation Committee. As you can see, Judge Cooper has never let much grass grow beneath his feet.

Judge Cooper's dedication to his community and state has not gone unnoticed. He is the past recipient of the State of Oregon's Economic Development Professional of the Year Award, the Economic Development for Central Oregon Public Sector of the Year, the Association of Oregon Counties Outstanding Service Award, the University of Oregon's Friend of Education Award and the Crook County High School "Pardner" Award.

Judge Cooper has been strongly supported by his family and specifically his wife, Bend attorney Laura Craska Cooper, and their three wonderful daughters. Scott is an outstanding father and a terrific advocate for today's youth. In addition to his family regularly hosting foreign exchange students, he likes to keep kids involved in government by delivering special talks in local schools and giving class tours at the Crook County Courthouse.

In 1857, George H. Williams, a delegate to Oregon's constitutional convention, argued about county judges, "Give us one competent man to administer the affairs of the county, whose compensation would enable him to devote his time to his duties, and we would have a much more satisfactory and economical administration of county affairs."

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize my good friend, Judge Scott Cooper, who has proven he is that one competent man, and laud him for his years of dedicated public service, his numerous contributions to community and for his strong character as a citizen of Crook County, Oregon. Scott's leadership for the county will be sorely missed, but he is a young and energetic man with many great years ahead of him and I look forward to his continued involvement in other leadership capacities in Oregon.

CELEBRATING DR. JAMES A. BOYD  
43RD PASTOR'S ANNIVERSARY

### HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 10, 2008*

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a spiritual and community lead-

er from my home state of Mississippi. Dr. James A. Boyd has been a pastor for Zion Gate Missionary Baptist Church for the past 43 years, and has been an inspiration to the people not only in his parish, but also around the country.

Dr. Boyd is a native of Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, and graduated from Oktibbeha Training School before earning a bachelor's degree from Stillman College in 1964. He also attended Iowa State University and Mississippi State University. He received a doctorate of ministry at San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, California. He also received a doctorate of divinity from Mary Holmes College in West Point, Mississippi, in 2002.

I wish to honor him by marking some of his many accomplishments. Throughout his time in Mississippi he has been president of the Northeast Mississippi Baptist State Convention, Inc., board member of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., past president of the Northeast Mississippi Baptist State S.S. and N.B.C. Congress, both a trustee and chairman of the Ministerial Institute and College, homiletic instructor at the Ministerial Institute and College, lecturer for the Mt. Olivet District Association, evangelist for revivals, seminars and conferences across the nation.

Today we can all take the time to remember Dr. Boyd's hard work, leadership, and selfless devotion to the Lord, as well as to the people of his congregation.

### HONORING MOLLY LLOYD

### HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 10, 2008*

Mr. TERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of my District Director Molly Lloyd. Molly recently celebrated 10 years of service in my Omaha Congressional Office. She is a dedicated servant to the Second Congressional District of Nebraska. She works hard and deserves accolades.

Molly Lloyd serves as my District Director in my Omaha Congressional Office. Molly knows how to lead and build an effective team, not to mention her stealth communication skills. Her talents and commitment to selfless public service are evident throughout the community. No one is more loved and respected than Molly Lloyd.

Molly is a lifelong Nebraskan and was born to proud parents Kay and Bob Koozer in Omaha. She graduated from Westside High School and attended Hastings College where she earned a bachelor's degree in communications in only 3 years. After college, she worked to elect Mayor Hal Daub for the city of Omaha and served as his director of public affairs until 1997. I was fortunate to gain her as a member of my congressional staff upon my election in 1998. She is mother of two beautiful daughters, Emma and Ellie and is married to her soul mate Mark Lloyd.

Some questioned me for hiring someone so young to become the director of my Omaha office, but their criticisms were soon silenced as her talents and her commitment to selfless public service became obvious to the entire community. Her strong leadership skills and

fierce dedication to conservative principles have served my office well.

Molly knows her hometown inside and out and is an active member of the community, including volunteering and advocating for causes and organizations such as the Joslyn Foundation, the American Diabetes Association, and as a founder of the Leadership Circle to help the next generation of women leaders enter public service.

I appreciate Molly's friendship, and I respect her dedication and invaluable contributions over the past ten years. I am proud to call her a friend and to congratulate and honor her today for all that she has accomplished.

### HONORING MURFREESBORO FIRE CHIEF DAVID BAXTER UPON HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 10, 2008*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief David Baxter who is retiring from the Murfreesboro Fire Department after 30 years of service.

When David began his career as a firefighter in 1977, the Murfreesboro Fire Department consisted of 60 personnel and four fire halls. Today, David oversees 120 personnel and 11 fire halls. In addition to fighting fires, today's personnel are certified to handle HAZMAT and extrication situations, and they are medically trained to be first responders.

David worked with the Murfreesboro City Council and city administration to build one of Tennessee's best fire departments, which he has led as chief for the last 20 years.

In 1988, the year David became chief, the Murfreesboro Fire Department had a Class 4 Insurance Service Organization rating. The ISO rating is a benchmark for measuring the effectiveness of a fire department's fire-protection services—the lower the rating, the better. Today, the Murfreesboro Fire Department has a Class 2 rating, making it one of only two fire departments in Tennessee with this rating.

David not only improved the fire department, but he also put policies in place that better ensure the safety of the Murfreesboro firefighters.

Before David became the Fire Chief, firefighters were only required to wear coats and helmets when putting out fires. However, one of the first things David did upon becoming chief was necessitating that each firefighter within 10 feet of a fire be fully dressed in fire turnout gear and wear a self-contained breathing apparatus.

David also initiated educational programs for schools and businesses and was a strong proponent of the installation of smoke detectors throughout the city.

All of David's efforts over the years have made the Murfreesboro community safer and better protected.

Thank you David. I hope you have a happy retirement.