

HONORING TALLULAH FALLS SCHOOL ON THE OCCASION OF ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

**HON. PAUL C. BROUN**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 22, 2009*

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. I rise today to honor the centennial anniversary of an outstanding institution in my district: Tallulah Falls School. Located in Northeast Georgia near the Chattooga River, this school continues to thrive after one hundred years of instilling impeccable values and a superb work ethic in its students.

Though the school was formally dedicated on June 30, 1909, its first director, Mary Ann Lipscomb, began teaching the poor Georgia mountain children to read on her front porch in 1905. Quickly noticing the poor living conditions and a dire need for basic education, Mrs. Lipscomb petitioned the Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs to establish a school at Tallulah Falls.

Right away Tallulah Falls School was appreciated by the surrounding community. Not long after its creation, this school was recognized across the nation as a success by both the Dean of American Journalism and Good Housekeeping. In 1944, the original Willet Building was destroyed by fire. But within seven months, over \$55,000 had been raised for reconstruction—an amazing amount considering that the Great Depression was just coming to an end and World War II was raging.

In the late 1980's, the school once again gained national exposure when nine of its students, led by Martha Cantrell, met with President George H.W. Bush to receive their award for naming the space shuttle Endeavour. Today, this great school is still producing successful citizens while expanding to include both boarding students and day students.

As many in Congress seek new and untested policies on education, I urge my colleagues to instead look to what has worked for a hundred years; the tried and true principles of Tallulah Falls School. We can learn so much from this school as we learn from its past and applaud its growth into the future.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the great effort by the teachers and students of Tallulah Falls School and congratulate them on celebrating 100 years of academic excellence.

100TH BIRTHDAY OF GENEVA POOLE

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 22, 2009*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and honor that I congratulate Geneva Williamson Poole on a momentous milestone, her 100th birthday, which will be on April 16, 2009. Geneva will be celebrating this milestone with family and friends on Saturday, April 18, 2009, at her home in Gary, Indiana. One of Gary's proudest and most adored residents for over 63 years, Geneva Williamson Poole is an inspiration to countless members of her community as well as her beloved family.

Geneva Williamson Poole was born on April 16, 1909, in Augusta, Georgia, to John and Mary Williamson. Geneva was raised with three sisters and two brothers and was brought up on strong Southern values and profound love. In 1936, she moved to Gary, Indiana, making her home with her four children: Justine, Virginia, Jerome, and Berniece, and her husband, Charlie Poole. Through the years, Geneva worked at many local businesses in Northwest Indiana, including: Barnette's Clothing Store, Dave's Fur Store, Westville Hospital, and Kingsbury Ordnance Plant. While she enjoyed the positions she held, Geneva devoted her life to her family and her community. Geneva's belief in strong family values has taught her children and grandchildren the meaning of a strong work ethic, the value of education, and how important it is for family and communities to stick together. Always leading by example, in 1982, Geneva planted a community garden at the end of her block, and she would give the fruits and vegetables to the people of the neighborhood. An extraordinary cook, Geneva was also known for hosting elaborate dinner parties for family and members of the community. As a senior citizen, Geneva adopted two children, Kathy and Vanetta, and helped raise her thirteen grandchildren. In the summers, Geneva has enjoyed opening her home to her grandchildren and teaching them how to sew, cook, garden, and fish. Geneva's passion for family has touched not only those related to her but also many members of the community. For passing along such essential family values, Geneva is worthy of our deepest admiration.

In addition to her remarkable dedication to her family, Geneva continues to serve her community as an active member at Israel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Gary, where she participates in many of the church's programs. Geneva has many friends and loved ones within the church who look to her for advice. They share a common respect for her commendable qualities, including her intelligence, wit, strength and perseverance. She is truly an inspiration and a role model for us all.

Madam Speaker, Geneva Williamson Poole has always generously given her time and efforts to preserving family values and strengthening the community in Gary, Indiana. She has taught her family, friends, and members of her community the true meaning of selfless devotion. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in wishing Geneva a very Happy 100th Birthday!

HONORING THE VILLAGE OF LOMBARD ON ITS 140TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 22, 2009*

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 140th Anniversary of the incorporation of Lombard, Illinois, in the heart of my Congressional District.

In 1837, Sheldon Peck and his family settled on 80 acres in what was then known as Babcock's Grove. In 1869, the Village of Lombard was incorporated.

In the years since its humble founding, Lombard has become a center of culture and commerce, serving as a home to businesses, professionals, churches and organizations that have made this a vibrant and thriving community. Over the years, Lombard has developed a well-deserved reputation as an enjoyable place to live, work and raise a family.

On the occasion of this 140th Anniversary, we join together to celebrate Lombard's legacy of growth and prosperity, and to look ahead to the opportunities facing our local community and our nation. Today both marks 140 years of working together to build a brighter future, and reminds us that our work continues.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Lombard Village President Bill Mueller, the Village Board of Trustees and the citizens of Lombard in wishing them happiness on this special occasion.

IN TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL STERN

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 22, 2009*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Michael Stern, an extraordinary man who passed away on April 7, 2009 at the age of 98. He was a journalist, author, genius and visionary, and I was deeply fortunate to count him as a friend.

In 1978, he joined with his good friend Zachary Fisher, to save the aircraft carrier Intrepid from mothballs and use it as the base for an extraordinary museum situated in Pier 86 on the West Side of Manhattan. Since it opened its doors in 1982, the Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum has served more than 10 million visitors. Mr. Stern knew that the Intrepid was one of the most successful ships in U.S. history, and that it would be a fitting monument to the heroism of our nation's military.

Commissioned during World War II, the Intrepid served in the Pacific Theater, survived five kamikaze attacks and one torpedoing. In its year and a half of active duty, Intrepid's aircraft had destroyed 301 Japanese airplanes and helped sink 122 enemy ships, including shared credit for the super-battleships Yamato and Musashashi. The ship went on to serve as one of the primary recovery vessels for NASA, did three tours of duty off Vietnam, and assisted submarine surveillance in the North Atlantic during the Cold War.

Together, Mr. Stern and Mr. Fisher also created the Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation at Rockefeller University and Fisher Houses, a program to build houses for families of hospitalized military personnel to stay near to their loved ones while they are receiving treatment. After Mr. Fisher's death, Mr. Stern started the Michael Stern Parkinson's Research Foundation. I serve on the Board of Trustees of both research foundations and know that they support vital research to find cures for these devastating neurological diseases. Scientists tell us that the two diseases may have a common cause and, therefore, a common cure. Mr. Stern hoped the work he supported would eventually lead to that cure.

Mr. Stern joined the United States Army in 1943 as a war correspondent for Fawcett Publications and the North American Newspaper