much broader perspective and insight into politics and government.

George Weeks is respected by his readers and his peers alike for his unique perspective on state, national and international affairs, and was recognized for his work when he was inducted into the ranks of the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame nearly a decade ago.

Mr. Speaker, please let it be known that on this 8th day of February in 2006, that the U.S. House of Representatives acknowledges the contributions and achievements of George Weeks as he writes the next chapter of his life.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE WEEKS

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to George Weeks, a distinguished resident of my district and a man whose home number is rung by American Presidents, U.S. Senators and Representatives, Governors, state legislators and local officials alike. As Michigan's foremost political columnist, a mention in George's tri-weekly submissions is courted by candidates for reasons far beyond the sheer volume of his readership. In a career that has spanned 5 decades and nearly as many continents, George's work epitomizes the fairness preached in j-schools across the country. It is no surprise that his praise is sought by both Republicans and Democrats, and it is certainly no surprise that George was inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame long before his retirement. Michigan politics has been well served by this honored scribe. As George enters ''retirement,'' and the Detroit News loses its Glen Arbor Bureau, his commentary will be missed, but his work will long be remembered.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District, I extend best wishes to George and Mollie Weeks and sincerely thank them for their service to the great state of Michigan.

CONGRATULATING DETROIT NEWS COLUMNIST GEORGE WEEKS ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a man who can be rightly described as a Michigan institution—George Weeks, who recently announced his retirement from his post as key political columnist for the Detroit News.

Since December 1983, George kept his readers well informed about federal, state and local political events in Michigan. Prior to that, George served the people of Michigan in his role as press secretary and, later, chief of staff to Governor William G. Milliken, beginning in 1969. During this time, he also worked as a consultant for the National Governors' Association. Before working for Governor Milliken, George had a successful 14-year career with United Press International, serving as a correspondent and bureau chief in Lansing, Detroit, Grand Rapids and Washington.

A native of Traverse City and a journalism graduate of Michigan State University, George is a very deserving 1996 inductee of the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame.

I have known George Weeks professionally for many years, dating back to when I served in the Michigan Legislature in the 1980s and early 1990s. George is the only reporter that I ever dealt with who had a higher opinion of my ability than I did, and I greatly appreciate his superb insight. Seriously though, I have always found George to be eminently careful and thoughtful in his reporting and writing, and he is one of the finest journalists I have known.

I wish George all the best as he moves into this new phase of his career and life, but all of us who were his readers and the subjects of his writing will be the poorer for it.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. GEORGE WEEKS

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. George Weeks on 40 years of outstanding service to the residents of Michigan and to the institution of American journalism.

Mr. Weeks has dedicated his life to reporting in an honest, trustworthy, and professional manner. His commitment to quality journalism and public service has been a valuable asset to the greater Detroit community and to the State of Michigan.

George Weeks' fearless pursuit of excellence has touched the lives of many. His distinctive ability, combined with his genuine concern for the community, has set the standard for journalists and public servants to come.

Although I may not have personally agreed with every commentary, Mr. Weeks has always provided unique insight and clarity on political issues and current events. His ability to communicate and his true devotion to his readers have been incredible assets to our area. His presence in our papers will be sincerely missed.

Today I rise to thank George Weeks for his lifetime of service and dedication to our community, to congratulate him on his many accomplishments, and to wish him the best in his well-earned retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GEORGE WEEKS, A MICHIGAN JOURNALIST AND AUTHOR

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of George Weeks, who is retiring after more than a quarter century of serving the people of Michigan as their journalistic eyes and ears on the comings and goings of their elected officials.

George Weeks is well-known and highly regarded in Michigan where, as a journalist, author of several books, and columnist, he has chronicled the actions of Michigan leaders in local, state and federal government.

During his career, George served in Michigan and in Washington, DC for 14 years as a reporter, bureau chief, and foreign correspondent for United Press International (UPI). In Washington, he covered the White House, State Department and Pentagon, and was a panelist on radio and television shows, including NBC's ''Meet the Press.''

From his days as a Michigan State University (MSU) student working as a stringer for both The Detroit News and UPI, George's career has spanned the terms of at least 7 U.S. Presidents and 5 Michigan Governors. In fact, George interrupted his journalistic career to work as press secretary and later Chief of Staff for Michigan Governor William Milliken.

Thankfully, George's love of journalism brought him back to The Detroit News as a columnist where he has become a Michigan icon, writing about politics as well as state and federal issues with insight and historical perspective. His commitment to quality journalism has made him a highly respected favorite with readers across the state.

The good news for Michigan readers and admirers of George is that while he may be stepping down as a regular Detroit News columnist, he still plans on writing occasional columns and also will be taking time to pursue some of his other writing interests.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring George Weeks for the role model he is to young journalists just starting out, and for his integrity and commitment as a leader in his chosen field. He is truly deserving of our respect and admiration.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE ON THE RETIREMENT OF COLUMNIST GEORGE WEEKS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a journalistic legend and a valued Michigan native, columnist Mr. George Weeks. This long time newsman, acclaimed author and Michigan historian has epitomized the ability to provoke thought and challenge ideology through his interviews and written works.

Born in 1932 in Traverse City, Michigan, a city I proudly represented for 8 of my 14 years in Congress, Mr. Weeks was exposed to the beauty of northern Michigan and the values of rural America. After graduating from Traverse City High School in 1950, Mr. Weeks attended and graduated from Michigan State University (MSU). He spent 18 months as an Army officer before beginning his lengthy career in journalism and politics.

His career in news began in 1954 when he took a job as the Lansing staff correspondent for United Press International (UPI). In the 14 years he spent with UPI, he also served as the Detroit Bureau radio and news editor, Lansing Bureau chief, diplomatic correspondent, and Washington foreign editor. While in Washington DC, Mr. Weeks became a member of the White House Correspondents Association, the State Department Correspondents Association and Overseas Writers. His coverage