to promoting investments in scientific research.

John Burness's considerable talents are reflected in the many leadership positions he has held in his field: director of the National Association of College and University Business Officers; chairman of the Consortium on Financing Higher Education's Public Issues Committee; and co-chair of the Ad Hoc Tax Group, a consortium of educational institutions that monitors Federal tax policy. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the Committee on Institutional Relations for the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, and The College Board's Government Relations Advisory Panel.

I came to know John after his arrival at Duke University in 1991. Over the years, we have conferred and collaborated on a wide range of policy and funding issues in higher education as well as the special needs of Durham. During his time at Duke, he built an award-winning news office and guided a well-respected government relations operation. But it was his tireless efforts in Durham that had the most profound impact.

Under John's leadership, the Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership was created in 1996. This partnership has led to increased home ownership, improved student achievement, and greater access to health care for residents in several of Durham's neighborhoods. John was also the founding chairman of the Board of Directors of the Durham Communities in Schools dropout prevention program, and he serves on the board of MDC, a nonprofit organization located in Chapel Hill. North Carolina, which seeks to expand opportunities, reduce poverty, and build inclusive civic cultures in Southern communities.

Through his public endeavors and his behind-the-scenes work, John's efforts to improve the quality of life for his fellow Durhamites have touched countless citizens and have earned him the respect of leaders throughout the community. As a testament to John's dedication and achievements, the science center at E.K. Powe Elementary School in Durham has been rededicated as the John F. Burness Science Center, and the Duke University Board of Trustees has established an endowment in John's name to support collaboration between the Duke and Durham communities. I recently attended a retirement reception for John in a community center and was struck by the many tributes from those whose lives and endeavors John has touched.

It is thus with great pleasure that I congratulate John Burness for his outstanding contributions to the Nation's system of higher education, to Duke University, and to Durham, North Carolina. My wife Lisa and I wish him and Ann all the best in retirement, and in the many activities they will still be engaged in as active and caring members of the community.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today to support House Resolution 1026. recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the Congressional Club. This non-political group promotes friendship and cordiality in public life, and brings the wives of Members of Congress together in a warm and welcoming atmosphere in the Nation's Capital. Not only does this distinctive club build relationships between the two political parties, but it also organizes charity events and diplomatic receptions. Every spring since 1912, the women gather to host our First Ladies' Luncheon, honoring our First Lady and donating tens of thousands of dollars to charities in her name. Many of the club's charitable recipients include mentoring programs, literacy programs, the White House library; youth dance troupes, domestic shelters, and child care centers.

Fulfilling their own mission to encourage all Americans to strive for greater friendship, civility, and generosity in order to heighten public service, elevate the culture, and enrich humanity; the women extend their hands globally in friendship and goodwill by hosting an annual diplomatic reception to entertain the spouses of ambassadors to the United States. The Congressional Club encourages all Americans to seek out opportunities to give financially and to volunteer to assist charitable organizations in their own communities. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate and recognize these kind-hearted, strong, and talented women in their efforts to promote the greater good here at home and abroad. May God bless these women and may the Congressional Club continue in their friendship and charitable efforts for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF MAXWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY OF CAMILLUS, NEW YORK

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th anniversary of Maxwell Memorial Library in Camillus, New York.

Founded in 1918, the Camillus Library Association began as the result of a public meeting. Though the original library started with only a few books in one room over a plumbing shop, it soon grew under the leadership of librarian Mary E. Maxwell. In its early years, the library moved 4 times to accommodate its growing collection of books.

In 1927, the Presbyterian Church of Camillus was renovated to become the permanent home of the library. Since its inception, the Camillus Library has become an important meeting place for the town, providing its patrons with quality reading material for many years. With its central location, the Maxwell Memorial Library has become a neighborhood anchor and will be enjoyed by many for years to cone.

The staff and volunteers of the Maxwell Memorial Library have always strived to provide the best quality and selection of reading material to the public, and I am proud to recognize them here today. I congratulate Director Kathryn Benson and the library's dedicated staff—both past and present—on reaching this milestone. On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I thank the Maxwell Memorial Library for 90 years of service that has been and will continue to be such a positive asset to our community.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 95TH ANNIVERSARY OF ERNEST WARTHER'S PLIERS TREE

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, 2008 marks the 95th anniversary of the carving of the remarkable Ernest Warther's Pliers Tree; and

Whereas, in 1933 the Pliers Tree was on display at the Chicago World's Fair; and

Whereas, the Pliers Tree remains on display in the Warther Museum in Dover, Ohio today; be it

Resolved that along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate the Ernest Warther's Pliers Tree, for reaching this milestone.

CONGRATULATING JEANNE BOVARD, 2008 RECIPIENT OF THE GOVERNOR ROBERT P. CASEY MEDAL FOR A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Jeanne Bovard, recipient of the 2008 Governor Robert P. Casey Medal for a Lifetime of Service presented by the Neighborhood Housing Services of Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania.

For more than a quarter of a century, the NHS has faithfully served the greater northeastern Pennsylvania community by empowering individuals and families through home ownership, education and promotion, property rehabilitation and affordable lending. This work has resulted in thousands of educated homebuyers, over a hundred improved properties and millions of dollars worth of investment into local neighborhoods.

NHS, as part of a national network of more than 230 community-based nonprofit organizations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, has created home ownership for lower income families, produced and managed affordable, high-quality rental properties, stemmed the tide of foreclosures that threaten