The plate says disabled veteran. The tag number states simply that Robinson was and remains in this city: ''VFW 1.''

CONGRATULATING MISSION SPECIALIST MICHAEL T. GOOD

HON. BETTY SUTTON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Ms. SUTTON. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mission Specialist Michael T. Good on his upcoming trip into space aboard the Space Shuttle *Atlantis.*

Mission Specialist Good is one of seven astronauts who will fly on the shuttle's fifth and final mission to service the Hubble Space Telescope. This 11-day flight will include five spacewalks to make repairs to the telescope, extending its life into the next decade.

Mission Specialist Good is a native of Broadview Heights, Ohio, in the 13th Congressional District. He attended Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School, located in Brecksville, Ohio, Which is also located in my congressional district. His wife Joan is also from Broadview Heights. The couple has three children, Bryan, Jason, and Shannon.

Mission Specialist Good is a distinguished graduate of the University of Notre Dame with both a B.S. and M.S. in Aerospace Engineering.

As a colonel in the United States Air Force, he has logged over 2,100 hours in more than 30 different aircraft.

Good was selected as a mission specialist by NASA in July 2000. Following 2 years of training and evaluation he was assigned technical duties in the Astronaut Office Advanced Vehicles Branch and the Space Shuttle Branch.

On October 14, 2008, at approximately 10:19 p.m., Mission Specialist Michael Good and the crew of the Space Shuttle *Atlantis* will launch from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Once again, I rise to express my congratulations and best wishes for Brecksville, Ohio's Mission Specialist Michael Good. Best wishes for a safe and productive journey.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE REVITALIZING CITIES THROUGH PARKS ENHANCEMENT (RECIPE) ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today, I reintroduce legislation, the Revitalizing Cities Through Parks Enhancement, RECIPE, Act, that would establish a $10 million grant program for qualified, nonprofit, community groups, allowing them to lease municipally-owned vacant lots and transform these areas into parks. Parks and gardens created with the grants will not only provide safe places to gather, but will increase property values as well. The grants will be available from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to groups who have met standards of financial security, and who have histories of serving their communities. To further ensure that these grants are used to make lasting positive changes, land improved and made into open community space under this legislation must be available for use as open space from the government for at least 7 years.

IN HONOR OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EMPLOYEE BENEFIT RESEARCH INSTITUTE

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, 2008 marks the 30th anniversary of the Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI). I rise to congratulate them on their three decades of important work and the unique role they continue to serve for us here in Congress, the news media, and the public.

EBRI was created in response to enactment of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), the major Federal law that still governs private-sector retirement and health plans today. EBRI's purpose was the—as it is today—to conduct objective, reliable research on income security issues so that policymakers and the public would have the best possible information when making decisions on these issues.

EBRI is an extremely rare organization in this town: It does not take policy positions, and it does not lobby. Rather than trying to tell Congress and the Federal Government what we should do on health and retirement issues, instead it simply reports what the facts are—and what the likely results are likely to be from different policy options. Substance, reliability, credibility: That's what I expect when I see work from EBRI.

Because EBRI is nonpartisan, its data and analyses are trusted and used by Members of both sides of the aisle. As we in Congress continue to address the important health- and retirement-related challenges facing our country, it is extremely important that we have a reliable source of information to turn to like EBRI. And in a town as transient as Washington, EBRI also is remarkable for the depth of knowledge, institutional memory, and tenure of its first and only CEO, Dallas Salisbury, who has led the institute ever since it opened its doors 30 years ago. The institute has never wavered from its original mission of objective research and education.

I offer my congratulations to EBRI on its three decades of service. With health care and retirement coverage becoming ever-more important to our constituents, and the policy choices becoming ever-more complex and difficult, we will need their contributions and knowledge more than ever in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the Chamber for rollcall vote 656 on September 26, 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye.''