

Apollo 11 mission, we grant these four brave Americans the recognition that only this Congress can bestow—the Congressional Gold Medal. That is why I am introducing legislation to that effect today. I'm pleased to be joined in this initiative by the Chairman of the House Science and Technology Committee, BART GORDON; the Chairwoman of the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee, GABRIELLE GIFFORDS; Committee Ranking Member RALPH HALL; Subcommittee Ranking Member PETE OLSON; and Florida Members SUZANNE KOSMAS and BILL POSEY. I believe this recognition is long overdue, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation so that it can be enacted into law.

IN HONOR AND APPRECIATION OF
MAYOR DOUG STOVER

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 05, 2009

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and express my appreciation for the service of an exemplary citizen, Mayor Doug Stover of Coppell, Texas. Doug began his public service as an elected official in May, 1998 as city councilmember of Coppell, followed by six years of service from 2003 to 2009 as the mayor of Coppell. During this time, Doug's passion and leadership guided the community as evidenced by the city's financial strength, economic development, sound infrastructure, strong public safety record and first rate education system.

Mayor Doug Stover is Equity Compensation Manager for Celanese Corporation. He holds a BBA in Finance from Texas Tech University.

In May of 1998, Coppell consisted of 29,850 citizens and has grown to a community of 39,500. The adopted budget for the 1998–1999 fiscal year was \$35,182,905 and grew to \$81,057,966 in the 2008–2009 fiscal years.

Under his leadership, the City of Coppell added many facilities, physical improvements and infrastructure. These projects include a Justice Center housing the Police and Municipal Courts, municipal service center, aquatic & recreation center, animal shelter and adoption center, Town Center Plaza, Old Town development, multiple park facilities, multiple road improvements, with a new senior and community center and municipal cemetery now being constructed, all developed to meet the needs of a growing population.

A major focus on economic development was also led by the mayor. This resulted in many commercial and industrial developments bringing new revenue to the city that has enabled the community to enjoy many quality of life improvements without the need for additional tax rate increases.

Public safety was also a high priority under the mayor's leadership. Red light cameras were installed, 25-mph zones were implemented on residential streets, and a Citizen's Police Academy was established in his push to increase public safety.

Funding for CISD schools was addressed through the 379A Sales Tax which generated sales taxes for the community's education issues. The Infrastructure Maintenance Fund was created by a sales tax election for 1/4-cent being directed for the crime district and 1/4-cent for streets.

Mayor Stover's selfless public service has clearly shaped the city of Coppell and helped make it the thriving community it is today. Doug possesses a genuine passion for Coppell which characterized his many years of service to the community. His first priority was always for the betterment of the citizens of Coppell, which helped make him a popular and well-respected leader. On behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Doug Stover for his remarkable service as mayor and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF THE NAVY FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION GRAND OPENING
AND DEDICATION CEREMONY OF
THE BRIAN L. McDONNELL CENTER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of the grand opening of the Navy Federal Credit Union Brian L. McDonnell Center at the Heritage Oaks campus in Pensacola, Florida.

Navy Federal was organized in 1933 with only seven initial members. Since its founding, it has evolved into the world's largest credit union, employing over 7,000 employees, and consisting of 3.2 million members. Navy Federal serves as a vital resource for our military and is found all over the world, providing excellent financial service for all of our servicemen and women.

In addition to the outstanding financial counseling and assistance Navy Federal provides, it is a leader in developing higher environmental standards. Driven by the objective to create a workplace focused on the employee, Navy Federal pursued Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for its first building in Pensacola. This was the first commercial LEED building in Florida to receive the U.S. Green Building Council's GOLD rating. The new Brian L. McDonnell Center was constructed with the same standards of excellence.

As Navy Federal expands numerically and evolves environmentally, it continues to escalate the level of quality it provides. The First District of Florida is very fortunate to house a corporation that values the interest of its clients and their community above all else.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize this grand opening and dedication ceremony and look forward to the progress it will undoubtedly create.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately I missed recorded votes on the House floor on Monday, May 4, 2009.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 229 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 230), and "yea" on rollcall vote No. 230 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Con. Res. 111).

CONGRATULATING DR. EDWARD G. BOEHM, JR., AND REGINA E. BOEHM, RECIPIENTS OF THE 57TH ANNUAL AMERICANISM AWARD FROM B'NAI B'RITH AMOS LODGE NO. 136, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Dr. Edward G. Boehm, Jr., and his wife, Regina E. Boehm, of Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, who have been selected to receive the 57th annual Americanism Award from the B'nai B'rith Amos Lodge, No. 136, of Scranton Pennsylvania.

Dr. and Mrs. Boehm are worthy recipients of this prestigious award because each of them has worked for many years to contribute to the communities in which they have lived.

Dr. Boehm is president of Keystone College, LaPlume. He previously held positions at Marshall University, Huntington, West Virginia; Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas; and American University, Washington, DC.

Dr. and Mrs. Boehm are both active members of the Scranton area community. Dr. Boehm's leadership and accomplishments have been profiled in the University of Michigan's CASE study entitled, "Keystone College: Renaissance and Transformation" and in the book, "Power Thinking: How the Way You Think Can Change the Way You Lead."

Regina Boehm holds a degree from the Pennsylvania State University and she studied at the University of Maryland and Texas Christian University. Her career included management, education, and nutrition. She is a graduate of the Executive Series of both Leadership Lackawanna and Leadership Wilkes-Barre.

She is a recipient of the Junior League of Scranton Roseann Smith Alperin Award, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council Boy Scouts of America "Salute to Northeastern Pennsylvania Women" award and she was also honored by the Scranton Times Tribune newspaper.

Mrs. Boehm has been active on the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic Board, past president of the Philharmonic League of Northeastern Pennsylvania, the Boys and Girls Club of Scranton, Wyoming County United Way, the Northeast Theater, the Garden Exchange, ACT 101 Advisory Board, the Spouses Task Force of the Council of Independent Colleges and she is currently on the board of the Scranton Community Concerts. She also served as chairperson of the Waverly Antiques Show and the Philharmonic League's Antiques Show and Sale.

Dr. and Mrs. Boehm also served as co-chairs of the 2003–2004 United Way campaign for Lackawanna County.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Dr. and Mrs. Boehm on the occasion of this well-deserved honor. Their commitment to their community is an example and an inspiration to others and has greatly improved the quality of life in northeastern Pennsylvania.

HONORING GERALDINE FERRARO

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a former Member of Congress, a long time advocate of women's rights, the first female Vice Presidential candidate, and a great friend and American—the Honorable Geraldine Anne Ferraro.

In the rotunda of the Capitol sit the busts of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Lucretia Mott. They are so prominently displayed to pay tribute to their hard fight to establish equal rights for women. And, I know they would agree that Geraldine Ferraro was exactly the kind of woman they were fighting for.

Geraldine proudly followed in the footsteps of these great women—continuing the fight to ensure the rights of women and breaking down barriers and stereotypes along the way.

Prior to running for election to the House of Representatives, Geraldine Ferraro worked as a teacher and then attorney in the Queens New York District Attorney's office, where she started the Special Victims Bureau. At a time when women prosecutors in the city were uncommon, Geraldine Ferraro was already breaking the proverbial glass ceiling.

In 1978, Ambassador Ferraro ran for election to the House of Representatives for New York's 9th Congressional District in Queens, and won. Despite being a new Member of Congress, she made quite an impression on her colleagues, and quickly ascended to become the Secretary of the House Democratic Caucus from 1981 to 1985. During her years in Congress, she focused much of her legislative attention on equity for women in the areas of wages, pensions, and retirement plans. The recent passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and the Paycheck Fairness Act are homage to her tireless work on behalf of women.

Her leadership, charisma, and dedication were evident to Presidential nominee, Walter Mondale, who selected Geraldine Ferraro to be his Vice-Presidential candidate on July 12, 1984. She is the first woman ever to be nominated as vice-presidential candidate by any major party.

Following the path of women who came before her, Geraldine Ferraro has helped pave the way for our daughters to achieve anything they set their minds to. As the current Representative of her former district, I am proud to call Geraldine Ferraro a leader, a mentor, and most importantly a friend.

CONGRATULATING PHIL KEOGHAN ON HIS AMAZING RIDE ACROSS AMERICA TO RAISE AWARENESS OF MS

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, yesterday I had the pleasure to meet Phil Keoghan host of CBS's Amazing Race as he stopped in Washington, DC, on his way from Los Angeles to New York. His journey across America by bike is designed to raise awareness of multiple sclerosis—a disease I feel strongly about educating people and promoting research for treatment and cures.

MS is a disease that can stop people from moving—something many of us take for granted each day. Too little is known about MS, too few treatments exist and too many people struggle to access the treatments they are prescribed. During his journey across the United States Phil has climbed many hills and faced downpours of rain, all designed to support the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

As co-chair of the Congressional MS Caucus I have had the privilege of meeting many inspirational people like Phil Keoghan who are working on behalf of people living with MS. The awareness he and others have brought to multiple sclerosis and cycling as a healthy activity is invaluable. I am pleased of the work the MS Caucus has been able to do in just a short amount of time, but there is certainly still more to be done.

As we in Congress debate health care reform it is important to keep in mind that the current system is broken for millions of Americans, specifically over 45 million Americans without coverage, and it must be fixed now. Everyone is deserving of the right to affordable and accessible health care—something Phil has championed.

We have a lot of work ahead of us but we have great momentum. Inspirational activists like Phil Keoghan will help make sure that we do something about MS now. I congratulate Phil for undertaking this worthwhile challenge and wish him luck in his final days in his trip across the U.S.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam. Speaker, May 4th, I remained in my district due to the death of my Aunt Julia Tagliabue Mondawho recently passed away at the age of 96, and I therefore missed the two rollcall votes of the day.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 229, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended—H. Con. Res. 93—Recognizing the historical significance of the Mexican holiday of Cinco de Mayo.

Lastly, had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 230, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended—H Res. 230—Recognizing the 61st anniversary of the Independence of the State of Israel.

SUPPORTING THE OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 337, a resolution to recognize April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Every year, thousands of children across the country become victims of child abuse. More than 5.8 million children in the United States were reported to be abused or neglected in 2007, and many more cases go unreported.

All children deserve to be raised in a safe and nurturing environment. It is a tragedy when children are victimized by abuse, neglect, alcohol and drug abuse, or domestic violence. As a former board member of Minnesota Crisis Nurseries, I fully recognize the importance of strengthening child abuse prevention programs in Minnesota and throughout the United States. Early prevention approaches that utilize family support networks are critical to stopping child abuse before it starts.

H. Res. 337 calls for increased public awareness of the maltreatment of children. This resolution also recognizes the many national and community organizations that promote awareness of child abuse and share strategies for prevention. It further urges families and individuals to report abuse or to get help by calling the National Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-4-A-Child.

I will continue working to strengthen child abuse prevention programs in Minnesota and throughout the United States. Keeping children and families safe must be a priority if we are to ensure the well being of our Nation's future—its children.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this bill.

CONGRATULATING JOHN EDD THOMPSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM WALA-TV "FOX10"

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with both pride and pleasure that I rise today to honor the career of Mobile's beloved television weather anchor, John Edd Thompson.

A native of Mobile, John Edd is perhaps the most recognized name and face in television weather along the Gulf Coast. He has been a fixture on Mobile's WALA-TV "Fox10" for over three decades and, during this time, he has been the trusted source of information for every major storm. John Edd has tracked and reported on Hurricanes Frederic, Elena, Andrew, Opal, Erin, Danny, Georges, Ivan, and Katrina.

Since Mobile's Press-Register introduced its Readers' Choice Awards in 2002, John Edd has always placed first in the final results. He was named "Readers' Choice Local TV