

Stephanie Chappel is a senior at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Stephanie Chappel is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Stephanie Chappel for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF CAPTAIN JOHN FREIDHOFF

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 12, 2009*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Captain John Freidhoff, a beloved member of the Western New York community who died tragically on October 19, 2007 in a diving accident, while working for our region and our waterfront. Our community honors him today through the dedication of a research vessel operated by Buffalo State College's Great Lakes Center.

Captain Freidhoff's commitment to the Western New York community is evident by simply understanding the multitude of activities, organizations, and causes he was involved in. He was a firefighter and an emergency medical technician for the Lake Erie Beach Volunteer Fire Company in the Town of Evans, a diver for the Lake Erie Rescue Team, a Coast Guard Reservist, and an active member with the ALERT—Advanced Local Emergency Rescue Team organization. He was also a Cub Scout Leader for Troop 578, a softball coach, and a youth group leader for First Church of Evans.

As lead boat captain and field station manager for Buffalo State College's Great Lakes Center for the Environment, Captain John was a champion for the Great Lakes, dedicated to managing water science projects that help us learn more about our waters, marine life and the protection of our environment.

Captain John Freidhoff, at 46 years old, leaves behind his wife Victoria, and their four children: Melissa, Jessica, Shauna and Joseph John. Captain Jeff Ogden eulogized that, even with all of Freidhoff's commitments, he managed to "put his family first."

Captain John touched the lives of many in the Western New York area evidenced by a crowd of nearly 500 people, including 200+ military, law enforcement, and fire personnel, who gathered at his service to pay their respects to this selfless, hard working, and charitable man.

Today, in a fitting tribute, the State University of New York College at Buffalo names a research vessel in Captain John's honor. And as the Captain John Freidhoff Vessel sets sail, Captain John's legacy lives on across the waters of the Great Lakes through the research conducted by future generations.

It is my honor to pay tribute to Captain John Freidhoff's life of service to the community of Western New York. Our community will miss this environmental advocate, family man, friend, co-worker, honorable leader and waterfront hero.

HONORING THE BOROUGH OF DOWNINGTOWN ON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 12, 2009*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a proud southeastern Pennsylvania community celebrating its 150th anniversary.

The Borough of Downingtown was incorporated 1859 thanks to the foresight and leadership of 54 citizens and landowners residing on approximately 1,500 acres, which were part of a land grant from King Charles II of England to Pennsylvania's namesake, William Penn.

Originally known as Milltown prior to the formal establishment of the Borough, the village was an important stop for merchants and others traveling between Philadelphia and Lancaster on our nation's first turnpike. Due to its proximity to Philadelphia, the Borough played a prominent role in our young nation's fight for independence by serving as a storage depot for General George Washington's Continental Army. Water from the East Branch of the Brandywine Creek powered paper mills and fueled industrial growth in the Borough well into the 20th Century. Although the mills have long since closed and might be considered relics of the past, the sturdy stone structures are being rehabilitated and viewed by elected officials and business leaders as an important part of the Borough's future.

Residents, businesses and community leaders will commemorate the 150th Anniversary on Saturday, May 16, 2009 with a celebration parade through the Borough.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the Borough of Downingtown on reaching this amazing milestone and congratulating all of those whose tremendous community spirit that have made the Borough a special place to live, work and raise a family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 12, 2009*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, May 7, 2009, because of a procedural matter my last vote was not recorded on the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act, and I had already left to return to do congressional business in the district.

I rise to confirm that I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 242, final passage of the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act.

CONGRATULATIONS TO REVEREND DAVID EVERSON

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 12, 2009*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, on May 17, 2009, the congregation of First Union Baptist Church in Galveston, Texas will celebrate Reverend David L. Everson, Sr.'s ten years of service as pastor with special "Tenth Anniversary/Appreciation Services." I am pleased to join the First Union Baptist congregation in congratulating Reverend Everson.

First Union Baptist has had numerous achievements under Reverend Everson's leadership. For example, First Union Baptist's Hall Chapel was repaired and adapted to serve as a computer school and resource center for youth and adult literacy. Reverend Everson also led efforts to repair the church parsonage. Currently, Reverend Everson is leading efforts to perform major renovations to repair the damage the church suffered during Hurricane Ike.

Reverend Everson has also ordained three ministers and three deacons. He will be ordaining another minister and deacon during his tenth anniversary celebration on May 17.

Reverend Everson has contributed greatly to both the church and the entire Galveston community by being there for all who need a friend, comforter, and spiritual counselor. Reverend Everson not only cares for those in his congregation, he is always seeking to bring new people into the First Union Baptist congregation. The people of First Union Baptist, and all of Galveston, are certainly lucky to have such a dedicated man as Reverend Everson in their community. I, therefore, again extend my congratulations and best wishes to Reverend Everson on the occasion of his ten year anniversary as the pastor of First Union Baptist Church.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE BOY SCOUTS

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 12, 2009*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Chester County Council of the Boy Scouts of America as the organization celebrates the Centennial Anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America. The Chester County Council has 17,200 Scouts and volunteers, and more than 111 million young people throughout the country have participated in the 100 years since the Boy Scouts of America was established. Generation after generation of Scouts have volunteered thousands of hours to clean-up streams, build parks and take on countless other projects aimed at improving the quality of life throughout Chester County and our great nation. In addition to providing a helping hand, Scouting instills critical leadership skills and timeless values such as patriotism, courage and self-reliance. A major reason the tradition of scouting has thrived during the past