

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

century is due to dedicated volunteers and troop alumni, who graciously commit countless hours and endless effort to mentoring youth in their communities.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring The Chester County Council as they commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scouts and in recognizing the organization's vital role in building future generations of leaders.

MS. JESSICA LANGE

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening in recognition of Ms. Jessica Lange of New York City, the guest of honor, as we celebrate the 90th Anniversary of The Butler Institute of American Art. Her work, 50 Photographs, is being celebrated by being on display here starting today through July 5th, 2009.

Ms. Lange began her photography career in 1967 while attending the University of Minnesota. Shortly into her freshman year, she left the University to travel to New York and Paris to pursue her passion for photography. While in Paris and other countries, she documented her travels through her photography. In 1973, she returned to New York and began taking acting classes. Just two short years later, she flew to Hollywood to star in her first feature film, "King Kong", launching her award winning acting career.

Ms. Lange has won two Oscars and been honored with countless other awards and nominations for her outstanding work. In 1982, she won her first Oscar, Best Supporting Actress, for her role in "Tootsie". Her second Oscar, Best Actress in a Leading Role, was won in 1994 for her role in "Blue Sky". Her acting career has spanned over 30 years, but has yet to end, as she recently appeared alongside Drew Barrymore in "Grey Gardens".

In addition to her acting career and photography, Ms. Lange has done volunteer humanitarian work around the world. She began working for the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) as a goodwill ambassador in 2003. During that same year, she took her first mission trip to the Democratic Republic of Congo to raise awareness of the impact of HIV/AIDS and immunization for women and children.

Ms. Lange returned to her passion for photography in the early 90s when she received a Leica camera as a gift. Ever since then, she's been documenting her experiences around the world as an actress and volunteer. The collection of her photographs shown here at the Butler capture a range of diverse subject matter from her years of travel. Due to her artistic vision, we are able to be a part of a fifteen year trek from Romania to Ethiopia and back to her home state of Minnesota.

I would like to commend Ms. Lange for her continued selfless volunteer work and her dedication to the arts.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 338, supporting the goals and ideals of National Community College Month. Community colleges play a vital role in the education of our citizens, and as a member of the Congressional Community College Caucus, I am delighted to have this opportunity to recognize the fine work done by our community colleges.

We can all agree on the increasing importance of a college education in today's knowledge-based economy. But many Americans do not have the opportunity to attend a 4-year university. These reasons can be many, and range from cost—an extremely important consideration in the current recession—to academics, family commitments, or distance from home. Often, these individuals turn to community colleges instead, and there they can receive workplace training, a GED, or an associate's degree, or to begin a bachelor's degree.

Community colleges often have lower, more affordable tuition costs, locations convenient to many homes, and day as well as evening classes on an extremely broad range of subjects from physics to literature to cuisine. These benefits attract an extremely diverse body of students who can also learn from the life experience of their classmates in a way that is not always possible in higher education.

Community colleges also teach important skills which not only allow students to earn a living, but also to contribute to the community at large. Law enforcement officers, fire fighters, nurses, and health care professionals are all educated at our nation's community colleges. Even the high-tech professionals who help shape the future of our technology and our world economy are products of community colleges.

In my own district, Northern Marianas College has undertaken the challenge of educating our young people. Over nine hundred students are enrolled at the college, located on a fourteen-acre campus on the island of Saipan. The college offers instruction in Business, Human Performance and Athletics, Languages and Humanities, Nursing, Education, Sciences, Mathematics, Social Sciences, and Fine Arts. I know that Northern Marianas College serves a very important function for its students in helping them achieve the goal of a college education and I believe career and vocational education like that provided at NMC is extremely valuable.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution. I am proud to celebrate the goals of National Community College Month and encourage Americans to recognize their local community colleges as the important institutions they are.

RECOGNIZING THE 61ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 4, 2009

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for H. Con. Res. 111, a resolution recognizing the sixty-first anniversary of Israel's independence.

Just eleven minutes after the establishment of Israel on May 14, 1948, President Truman recognized its status as a sovereign nation. That moment marked the beginning of an enduring relationship between our two countries. Israel and its citizens have made outstanding contributions to global prosperity and culture. The whole world has benefited from Israeli advances in science, medicine, technology, and the arts. As the longest-enduring democracy in the Middle East, Israel is a strong and trusted ally in a volatile region.

After more than six decades, the United States remains committed to its friendship with Israel. This friendship has endured, and will endure, because our countries share fundamental values.

The Jewish People's Council, in approving the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel, articulated many of our common values, stating "The state of Israel . . . will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture."

On the occasion of its Independence Day, I congratulate the people of Israel for their continued commitment to these democratic principles. I look forward to strengthening our relationship based on our many common ties in the decades to come.

CONGRATULATING THE TRITON
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I wish to extend my congratulations to the Triton High School Boys Basketball Team. The Triton Trojans succeeded in placing 2nd in the IHSAA 1-A State Tournament on March 28, 2009 at Conseco Field House in Indianapolis. After playing their way into the finals, they suffered a 55-66 loss to Jac-Cen-Del.

The Trojans worked tirelessly throughout the regular season in order to advance to the IHSAA 1-A State Tournament. They played with focus, determination and grit in the tournament and their tremendous effort closed out an impressive 24-3 season.

The Triton team is led by Senior William Keel, who is the only returning starter from their championship season, and Seniors Joel Meister, Dustin Kreft, Cody Carpenter and