

she became active in the Choir, Usher Board, Baptist Student Union and the Missionary Society. Minnie worked faithfully until the birth of her children and care of ailing parents curtailed her involvement. However, her dedication and faithfulness to the legacy and growth of the church during her more than 80 years of membership remained constant. Life led Minnie toward employment within the field of hospitality. She retired from public service as the head cook of the Holiday Inn Chain of Greenville, South Carolina.

Minnie attended Greenville County public schools and was among the first graduating class of the Sterling Normal and Industrial Institute in 1927. During this time, she was a founding member and soloist of the Marian Anderson Music Club. Minnie was also a founding member of the Hattie Duckett Cultural Club. She was recognized in 1998 by the Phillis Wheatley Center and American Federal Bank for sharing her story as an outstanding member of the Phillis Wheatley basketball team. Following high school, Minnie continued her education at Benedict College, where she was awarded a Teacher's Certificate.

Minnie's lifelong commitment to family was evident in the foundation that she laid to promote personal and professional success of her children and children in the community. SHARE recognized Minnie as a community leadership icon and legendary human advancement advocate for her service to the antipoverty/Community Action movement in upstate South Carolina. In response to her long-standing dedication to the community, the Thompson-Gardner Park in the newly developed Viola Street Community was dedicated in her honor by the City of Greenville on July 11, 2005.

The Minnie Gardner College Fund for the CDC Agency for Toxic Substance Disease Registry Chapter of Blacks in government and the Minnie L. Gardner Scholarship have been established since her death.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF AUBURN UNIVERSITY AT MONTGOMERY

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully request the attention of the House today to pay recognition to an important educational institution in Montgomery, Alabama, as it celebrates 40 years of excellence in higher education.

In September 1969, the doors to Auburn Montgomery were formally opened to students. Since that time, the student population has grown by a factor of nine and the areas of study from sixteen to over 90. Through its 40 years, Auburn Montgomery has conferred more than 31,000 degrees.

Like so many of East Alabama's proud institutions of higher education, Auburn Montgomery has produced great leaders and thinkers who have made enormous contributions to our state and our nation. We are all proud of AUM for achieving this important milestone, and look forward to its continued growth and prosperity in its next 40 years of academic excellence.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHRISTOPHER P. CARNEY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. CARNEY. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be here to cast my vote in support for the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act, but I strongly support the targeted extension of unemployment benefits provided by H.R. 3548.

The 314,000 Americans set to lose unemployment insurance this month—and the more than 1 million who will exhaust their benefits by the end of the year—need help to avert an even bigger financial tragedy, such as the loss of their home or a medical bankruptcy, which would ripple out into our larger economy.

Extending these benefits is a cost-effective and efficient way to stimulate the economy. Every \$1 spent on unemployment benefits generates \$1.63 in new economic demand. Not only does it help the unemployed worker stay on top of their bills, it keeps capitol flowing through small businesses and keeps the larger economy on the right track to recovery.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JAMIE BURCHER FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jamie Burcher showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and Whereas, Jamie Burcher was a supportive coach; and

Whereas, Jamie Burcher always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Jamie Burcher on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

CRANIOFACIAL ACCEPTANCE MONTH

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to share my support and acknowledgement of September as Craniofacial Acceptance Month.

Each year, approximately 100,000 children are born in the United States with some form of facial disfigurement. In many cases, reconstructive surgeons can correct these problems early—often while the children are still infants. In other cases, however, reconstruction is not as easy or even possible.

The Children's Craniofacial Association (CCA) is an organization that supports these

children and their families. Nationally and internationally, CCA addresses the medical, financial, psychosocial, emotional, and educational concerns relating to craniofacial conditions. CCA's mission is to empower and give hope to individuals and families affected by facial differences. I am honored to acknowledge that 2009 marks their 20th anniversary and am pleased to share my support and thanks for their designation of September as Craniofacial Acceptance Month.

In 2001, my constituent Wendelyn Osborne brought the craniofacial disorders issue to my attention. At a young age, Wendelyn was diagnosed with Craniometaphyseal Dysplasia (CMD). CMD is a rare disorder that affects only 200 people worldwide. Specifically, CMD involves an overgrowth of bone which never deteriorates. In Ms. Osborne's case, this caused an abnormal appearance, bilateral facial paralysis and deafness. Other cases can include those characteristics, as well as blindness and joint pain. Wendelyn has undergone many extensive reconstructive surgeries to counteract the medical difficulties that comprise her disorder.

Unfortunately, the majority of reconstructive surgeries, such as those Wendelyn has undergone, are not covered by insurance companies. Rather, many of them are treated as strictly cosmetic. As a result, individuals are forced to fight their insurance companies just to receive the life-saving surgeries they need. The fact that these surgeries have been grouped in the same "cosmetic" category as surgeries that simply make people look better or younger is a tragedy.

It is my hope that further education and understanding of craniofacial disorders will allow our nation to move forward and update existing laws to better meet the medical needs of those needing reconstructive, not cosmetic, surgery. I urge my colleagues—especially in a year focused on health care reform—to join in this effort and help recognize these conditions through Craniofacial Acceptance Month so that all Americans can access the care they need.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2009*

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to the City of Jonesboro on the 150th anniversary of its establishment. I stand to recognize this milestone in the City of Jonesboro's history and reflect on how far this community has progressed.

The City of Jonesboro is located in Craighead County, which was created in 1859. Despite the opposition of State Senator Thomas Craighead, the Arkansas Senate created the new county from parts of Greene, Mississippi, and Poinsett Counties. In an effort of goodwill, State Senator William Jones, who represented St. Francis and Poinsett Counties and was a proponent of the bill, named the new county after Senator Craighead. In return, once the county seat of Jonesboro was established that same year, it was named in honor of Senator Jones.

In 1860, historical records indicate Jonesboro had a population of 50. Currently,