

The state champion Panthers deserve our congratulations. They have excelled as athletes, students, and Texans,
And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF SERGEANT JOSHUA A. BORN,
UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness and deep sympathy that I rise to pay tribute to a fallen American hero. Army Sergeant Joshua Born, of Niceville, Florida, was killed on February 23, 2012 in the Khogyani District in Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan, where he and other members of the 549th Military Police Company were attempting to maintain order during violent protests.

A student at Niceville High School in Northwest Florida, Joshua enlisted in the United States Army in March 2007. He was known as a well-respected soldier and young man. On February 23, Joshua paid the ultimate price in defense of our Nation's freedom. We know that freedom often demands of us a heavy and at times unbearable price. To his wife, Megan; his parents, Elizabeth and Craig; and to all of his friends; we owe our eternal gratitude. Throughout his service, there is no doubt that Joshua displayed dedication to duty and courage of heart. Joshua's life will continue to inspire those who knew him best and those who follow in his footsteps. He will always be remembered for his selfless dedication and commitment to this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful United States Congress, I stand here today to honor Sergeant Joshua Born and all the heroes we have lost. My wife, Vicki, joins me in offering our most sincere condolences and prayers to his family and friends. May God continue to bless them and the brave men and women of our United States Armed Forces.

HONORING MS. SYLVIA G. IRIONDO

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Women's History Month, I rise to honor one of South Florida's finest community leaders, Ms. Sylvia G. Iriondo.

Sylvia was born in the city of Havana, Cuba and currently resides in Key Biscayne, Florida. She has spent over 40 years in the real estate business, serving as Co-Owner and President of two successful businesses: Tarafa & Iriondo Corporation/Realtors and Tarafa & Iriondo Corporation/Property Management Services. She also currently serves as a Broker-Associate with the prestigious real-estate firm of Esslinger-Wooten-Maxwell, Inc. of Key Biscayne. Sylvia has served the real estate community as Key Biscayne Chairperson for the Miami Board of Realtors, Founder and first President of the Real Estate Professional Association of Key Biscayne, and Board Member of the Key Biscayne Chamber of Commerce.

Sylvia has made a tremendous impact in Miami and throughout the state of Florida with her civic engagement. She served as a United Way of Dade County volunteer Board Member for eight years, the maximum allowable term, and also was appointed member of the Advisory Board and Chairperson of the Program Committee for the Salvation Army. Additionally, Sylvia was appointed by Florida Governor Bob Graham to serve on two major statewide initiatives concerning elderly residents: the Governor's Commission on Aging and the State of Florida Department of Elderly Affairs.

Staying true to her cultural heritage, Sylvia has also devoted her life to advocacy for, and service to, a free and democratic Cuba. Her work began with the International Rescue Committee (IRC), the first agency in Miami to provide assistance to thousands of Cuban refugees fleeing Castro's communist regime, and the State Department of Public Welfare—Cuban Refugee Emergency Center. Sylvia continues fighting relentlessly for Cuba's freedom today, as a co-founder of M.A.R. por Cuba (Mothers & Women Against Oppression), and the Assembly of the Cuban Resistance. This organization is committed to the defense of human rights and freedoms of Cuban people, the support of Cuban political prisoners and their families, and advocating for measures and sanctions against the Castro regime. Sylvia works daily to accelerate democratic change in Cuba; her solidarity to the Cuban people is truly inspiring and admirable.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Ms. Sylvia G. Iriondo for her continued service to the Miami community. She is a woman of unmatched compassion and dedication, serving as a mother, grandmother, great grandmother, businesswoman, leader, activist and philanthropist. Sylvia's impression upon the Miami community will last for decades to come, and she will surely inspire countless young women to follow in her footsteps. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding individual, and I wish her continued success and happiness in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHIP CRAVAACK

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. CRAVAACK. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 95 for H.R. 3637, to designate the "Roy Schallern Rood Post Office Building" in Jupiter, Florida, I originally intended to vote "yes," however, I inadvertently voted "no."

A TRIBUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY
OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMBERKE

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke on the 125th anniversary of its founding.

In 1887 the General Assembly of North Carolina chartered the Croatan Normal

School, created to train American Indian public school teachers. This school, with a total of fifteen students enrolled and only one instructor, was the foundation for what has now become one of the 17 campuses in the greater University of North Carolina system.

UNC Pembroke is a center of higher learning for over 6,000 students, boasting 41 undergraduate Programs and 17 graduate programs. I am impressed by how much this institution has grown since its beginnings. Yet, despite this growth, the University prides itself on the ability to give individualized attention to each one of its students with a 15:1 student to faculty ratio.

UNC Pembroke has achieved national recognition for its diversity as well as its strong ties with the community. U.S. News and World Report has deemed the University "the most diverse University in the South," the Princeton Review has named UNC Pembroke among the "Best in the Southeast," and the University was named to President Obama's Community Service Honor Roll for three consecutive years. Additionally, the Carnegie Foundation awarded the University the Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement, one of its most prestigious awards.

I am especially pleased by the naming of the University as a "Military Friendly School" by G.I. Jobs Magazine for a fifth consecutive year. Access to education for our military veterans is something I am passionate about, and I am encouraged that UNC Pembroke has embraced our veterans and supported their pursuit of higher education.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of North Carolina at Pembroke as it celebrates 125 years. May it continue its tradition of excellence and its development of the future leaders of North Carolina and our nation.

HONORING VOLUNTEER FIRE
CHIEF M.L. "PUG" WELLS

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks in honor of Volunteer Fire Chief M.L. "Pug" Wells, a devoted public servant to the people of Elliston and Montgomery County, who passed away unexpectedly on March 7, 2012.

For nearly 55 years, Pug was a member of the Elliston Fire Department. He led as Chief for 48 of those years. Pug was a founding member of both the department in 1957 and of the New River Valley Swift Water Rescue and Recovery. Never tiring, Pug even found time to assist the Shawsville Rescue Squad.

In a recent interview, Pug said his greatest enjoyment came from "being able to help people." His selfless sacrifice is truly admirable. A committed family man, a noble community leader, and a friend of many, Pug will be greatly missed by his colleagues and those he served. My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Mary Lee; his four children; his family; and his friends.

Well known for his exceptional goodwill and dedication to the Montgomery community, I am honored to pay tribute to this man's many contributions. His legacy and influence will be

long remembered in Montgomery County and throughout Southwest Virginia.

HONORING DR. BARBARA DAVIS

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Barbara Davis for 25 years of service to the Hebrew Day School in Syracuse, New York.

Dr. Davis earned her Bachelor's Degree from Barnard College and received an M.A. and Ph.D. from Columbia University. She began her relationship with the Syracuse Hebrew Day School in the mid-1980's. She was a parent volunteer and served as chair of the Education Committee. Her service escalated in 1986 when she agreed to serve as co-principal of the school along with Dr. John Blasi, a position she would hold for the next 25 years.

For two and a half decades, Dr. Davis was the leader of the Syracuse Hebrew Day School. During her tenure there she was instrumental in the school's growth; a new wing was constructed, student enrollment hit record high numbers, and the endowment fund grew to nearly \$500,000.

In addition to her work at the Syracuse Hebrew Day School, Dr. Davis serves as a Professor Emerita of Modern Languages at Onondaga Community College. She was also a member of the first Lookstein Center Principals' Seminar at Bar Ilan University, a selective intensive program combining seminars in Israel and America.

Dr. Davis' dedication to her community is not only seen in her role at the Syracuse Hebrew Day School, but also in her countless hours of volunteerism and participation in numerous organizations. She serves on the board of RAVSAK, the Jewish Community Day School Network, she is executive editor of the quarterly journal of Jewish education, Ha Yidion, and has co-authored a forthcoming history of the Syracuse Jewish Community.

Dr. Davis has played a significant role in the lives of so many people, especially youths, with her dedicated service to our community. Her passion and leadership have made the Syracuse Hebrew Day School and the area it serves a better place. I thank Dr. Davis for her service and am proud to honor her here today.

FORTNEY H. "FISH" STARK III

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD a statement written by my 16-year-old son, Fortney H. "Fish" Stark III.

In 2004, I visited the Democratic National Convention with my dad. I don't remember much, being 8, but I do remember my visit with Dennis Kucinich. He was a little quirky, in a Ron Paul kind of way, but he was earnest, he was friendly, he was sincere, and he believed in what he was doing. Someone took a photo of us that night—I was almost as tall as him, even at 8—and he sent me a copy, signing it:

"Dear Fish: Someday I hope to come to the convention to help nominate YOU! Thank you for your support. Your Friend, Dennis Kucinich."

Congressman Kucinich wasn't a perfect politician. At times he's more concerned with taking a principled stand than trying to negotiate a principled compromise. But even though he was quirky and at times obstinate, he stood out in Congress because he truly believed in what he was doing, because he was passionate and never said die, because he was willing to stand up and say something that he believed needed to be said when no one else would stand up with him, because he believed strongly that our children needed to live in a world free from war, enjoy lives free of hunger, in families free from poverty.

Congressman Kucinich looks like he's going to lose in his primary campaign tonight. Congresswoman Kaptur is a great lady, even if she does have a penchant for needless military spending and has been flimsy on pro-choice issues. She'll do great things for the district, I know it.

But I want to honor Congressman Kucinich by sharing what he taught me—that it's OK, even when you're alone, to stand up for something if you feel it is right. I don't think—few do—that we should run the country exactly as Congressman Kucinich believes we should, but there always needs to be someone to say the things that he is saying—to have the bold ideas, even if they're not always feasible, to have the idealism and hope, even if it's sometimes fleeting.

"Courage is when you know you're licked before you begin, but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what"—Atticus Finch, *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Congressman Kucinich made this quote come alive for me. He stood up for peace, for health care, for the environment, for reform, even when he knew he wasn't going to win—because he believed in it. And while he never should have (and never did) run the table, he always brought something to our national discussion that contributed. It was a light, an optimism, a compassion, and a humanism.

He was willing to take a political bullet to spread that message. Tonight, that's what happened. Here's to a courageous man who stood up for what he believed in, who stood up for helping others, and who would rather lose an election than lose his principles. A man who taught an 8-year-old that believing in yourself held a far greater reward than selling yourself.

Rock on, Dennis.

RECOGNIZING THE ANNIVERSARY
OF MASSACRES AGAINST ARME-
NIANS IN SUMGAI T

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, once again I rise on behalf of the thousands of Armenian Americans in my congressional district to remember the evening of February 27, 1988, when a murderous campaign began against Christian Armenian civilians living in Sumgait, Azerbaijan. Tragically, police in nearby Baku ignored the atrocities and allowed the rampage to continue for three days.

Azerbaijani rioters murdered, raped and maimed Armenians, throwing women and children from windows and burning victims alive. While some estimate that more than 30 individuals were killed and more than 200 injured,

others estimate that hundreds were murdered. The Soviets banned journalists from entering the area and, for two decades, Azerbaijani authorities relentlessly covered up, ignored and whitewashed these tragic events.

Even worse, many believe the atrocities were officially sanctioned by Azerbaijani authorities to send a clear message to the Armenians, who were peacefully demonstrating against Azerbaijani repression and discrimination in Nagorno Karabakh just days before the massacre.

The anniversary of this horrifying moment in history serves as yet another call to action to build a more peaceful and just world. The United States must stand firmly against repression and human rights abuses.

NATIONAL BREAKFAST WEEK

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Breakfast Week, and every child should start the day with a healthy breakfast—whether it's served at home or at school.

A healthy breakfast provides the fuel a young body needs to stay alert. Studies have consistently shown that children who eat breakfast do better in school than those that go to school hungry.

Eating breakfast not only can help children improve their academic performance, but statistics show it improves their behavior and results in fewer school absences.

Unfortunately, breakfast is not always on the menu for millions of American children.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, one in five children live in a home where food is not always available. Finding workable solutions to the problem of hunger in America, and feeding America's children is a top priority.

The "Share Your Breakfast" program—a partnership between Kellogg's and Action for Healthy Kids—is working to achieve this goal. The "Share Your Breakfast" campaign seeks to provide one million breakfasts to kids by increasing participation in school breakfast programs across the country.

I encourage my colleagues and all Americans to Celebrate National Breakfast Week by sharing their breakfast with a child in need.

HONORING JOSEPH P. MURPHY

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Joseph P. Murphy of Rye, NY. Leaders of local veteran groups, as well as students and graduates of the United States Service Academies and their families, will join me Tuesday, March 13 in honoring Mr. Murphy for his three decades of distinguished volunteer service as chair of New York's 18th Congressional District's Service Academy Review Board.

Each fall, my Service Academy Review Board interviews several dozen young men