

Cleveland Catholic Diocese parishes that will be reopening this year.

In 2009 it was announced that several of the Cleveland Catholic Diocese's area churches, including St. Barbara's, were to close. However, just months ago, the Vatican overruled this decision and St. James' will be reopening its doors on Wednesday, July 25, 2012.

St. James Church was founded in 1908 as the founding parish for the cities of Lakewood and Rocky River. For more than a century, St. James has been a house of worship and gathering for the Catholic residents of Lakewood, Ohio.

After Bishop Lennon's 2009 announcement parishioners gathered together and formed Friends of Saint James/Save Saint James in an effort to stop the closing of their church. The members of Friends of Saint James/Save Saint James are committed to the preservation of Saint James as a parish and an architecturally significant structure in the City of Lakewood. They have dedicated themselves to the development of a long range financial plan for capital improvements and maintenance of the church and its programs.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the reopening of St. James' Church, a beloved parish that has returned to the City of Lakewood.

HONORING DR. JOHN EVANS ATTA  
MILLS

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 25, 2012*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Dr. John Evans Atta Mills, President of the Republic of Ghana. I was saddened to hear about the untimely death of President Mills. My thoughts, prayers and condolences go to his wife, Ernestina Naadu, son, Samuel Kofi Atta Mills and the people of Ghana. The world has lost a leader, visionary and champion for democracy.

President Mills pledged his life to education and the betterment of his beloved Ghana. He was born in July 1944 in the Western Region of Ghana. He was a master student who began his schooling at the revered Achimota Secondary School in Accra. He later went on to earn his bachelors and law degrees from the University of Ghana at Legon in 1967. Upon the completion of his PhD in African and Oriental Studies from the University of London, President Mills was selected as a Fulbright Scholar at Stanford University School of Law.

After setting a strong foundation he returned home to educate and impart his lessons on the youth. President Mills dedicated nearly 25 years to higher academia as a professor in numerous areas such as law, tax and African studies. He was passionate about teaching and politics. First serving in the capacity of Vice President from 1997 through 2001, Dr. Mills was sworn in as President and Commander in Chief of the Republic of Ghana in January of 2009.

I join with President Obama and various world leaders as we remember President Mills, who was often referred to as a calm politician and gentle giant. In 2009, President

Obama and the First Family traveled to Ghana in his first presidential visit to Sub-Saharan Africa. President Obama praised President Mills for making Ghana a "good news story" that had good democratic credentials. Under the leadership of President Mills, the United States and Ghana deepened our partnership in the promotion of good governance and economic development.

President John Evan Atta Mills is credited with leading Ghana through a period of stability and economic growth in the midst of unforeseen global circumstances. He is quoted as saying "Every leader has a period of service". Though his service has come to an unexpected end, as we reflect upon his life and legacy, we can appreciate his tireless efforts that have come to fruition. A shining star in West Africa, Ghana was and still remains a trailblazing nation for the region and continent, with its strong tradition of democracy. Epitomizing humility in leadership, President Mills was a calming and stabilizing force for not only his people but the continent as a whole.

HONORING MAYOR BETTY ANN  
MATTHIES

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 25, 2012*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retiring Mayor of the City of Seguin in Texas, Betty Ann Matthies. She was elected Mayor of the City of Seguin in 2004 and is ending her tenure in 2012. Her tireless efforts have improved the community and served to better the development and progress for the City of Seguin.

Mayor Matthies was born in Guadalupe County, Texas on September 23, 1934. She graduated from Seguin High School in 1953 and pursued her higher education degree at the University of Texas at Austin. Mayor Matthies graduated from Seton School of Nursing in Austin, Texas three years after graduating high school. As a registered nurse she was employed at the Nix Hospital for five years as an Operating Room Registered Nurse. By 1961, she moved to Seguin where she worked at the Guadalupe Valley Hospital until 2004—serving the patients and health care community for 41 years. As Director of Nursing, she was promoted to Associate Administrator by 1978, the same year she received her certificate in Health Care Administration from Trinity University in San Antonio.

By 2000, Matthies was elected to the Seguin City Council and re-elected for a four year term in 2002. After resigning from her council position she was elected as Mayor in 2004 and is currently on her second term in office, which expires in November 2012. I had the pleasure of working with the Mayor on various projects, such as securing over \$850,000 in federal funding on landscape improvements throughout Seguin on Interstate Highway 10, US 90 and SH 123. The transportation improvement project started in 2009 and is nearly complete.

Along with helping the city in her work as Mayor, she was active in the community as serving on the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and American Legion Auxiliary. She was also a

member of the First United Methodist Church and Seguin Shakespeare Club. Mayor Matthies was married to her late husband C.H. Matthies Jr. in 1957 until his passing in 2000. C. Henry Matthies III, Elizabeth Kelly and Wesley Matthies are their children.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Ms. Betty Ann Matthies, retiring Mayor of the City of Seguin. Her years of dedication and commitment to our community have truly impacted the quality of lives for the people of the city.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 25, 2012*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, on July 23, 2012, I was in California attending to family obligations. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall vote No. 499, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall vote No. 500, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall vote No. 501, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
CAPTAIN STANTON E. COPE IN  
THE UNITED STATES NAVY

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 25, 2012*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct privilege of rising to honor an outstanding Hoosier for his patriotism and military service. CAPT Stanton E. Cope served with honor in the United States Navy from 1989–2012, where he served in the Medical Service Corps as entomologist for 20 years.

Captain Stanton Elijah Cope was born January 5, 1954 in Huntington, Indiana. In 1976, he graduated from Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania with a B.A. degree in Biology and received a Master of Science degree in Entomology from the University of Delaware in 1981. In 1988, he completed his Doctorate in Public Health at the University of California, Los Angeles, and was commissioned in the United States Navy.

Captain Cope's first assignment, in 1989, was to the Navy Disease Vector Ecology and Control Center, Jacksonville, Florida, where he served as the Head of the Operations Department. In June 1992, he reported to the Naval Medical Research Unit No. 3, Cairo, Egypt, where he served as Head, Medical Zoology Division and Head, Risk Assessment Branch. In July 1994, Captain Cope reported to the Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit No. 6, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, as Assistant Head, Department of Entomology and became Head in August 1995. He also served as Special Assistant to the Officer in Charge for Operational Issues. In August 1997, he reported to the Navy Environmental Health Center in Norfolk, Virginia as Entomology Department Head. In January 2000, he was selected to be Executive Assistant to the Assistant