

squad out of trouble, he would have to distract the enemy. He and another soldier began shooting at opposition forces as to draw fire onto themselves while the rest of the squad snuck away. An enemy sniper managed to shoot Walter in the back that fateful morning, but he still found a way to ensure that he and his fellow soldier, who had been more seriously injured, made it to safety. Because of his efforts and quick thinking, countless Allied soldiers' lives were saved that day. D-Day became a day that would live on as a costly success for all Americans, and especially for Walter, when he found that his brother had not survived.

After the war, Walter returned to Kansas for a short time before permanently moving out west to California. He had always dreamed of making it big in Hollywood and acting in movies. Though he did earn one movie credit starring as West Point Cadet Mike Shannon in the 1955 film, "The Long Gray Line," his desire to serve within the community quickly became his top priority. Walter accepted a job as a benefits counselor at the Veterans Administration soon after and went on to help his fellow veterans in any way that he could for many years to come.

It is no surprise that Walter became very decorated over the years considering the immense service he committed to the United States. He was the recipient of a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart for the injuries he sustained in combat, and the nation's highest military award, a Medal of Honor. Throughout his life Walter was highly sought after to attend speaking engagements, and also spoke to President Clinton and Queen Elizabeth II of England during the 50th Anniversary of D-Day in France. He even found himself with an invitation to every presidential inauguration since Dwight D. Eisenhower's. Walter's legacy will live on in the form of the Walter D. Ehlers Community Center in Buena Park, an action figure made in his likeness, and the street named after him in Manhattan, Kansas.

Walter is survived by his loving wife, Dorothy; daughters, Cathy Metcalf and Tracy Kilpatrick; son, Walter Jr.; sisters, Leona Porter, Marjorie Justin and Gloria Salberg; 11 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

On Saturday, March 8, 2014, a memorial service honoring Walter's life will be held. Walter will always be remembered for his incredible leadership, service to our country, fearlessness, contributions to the community and love of family. His dedication to everything he did is truly a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Walter's family and friends; although Walter may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAJOR CARLO
ROBERTO BRANCATO, USMCR

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Major Carlo Roberto Brancato as he is honored as the Man of the Year by the Amerigo Vespucci Society of Long Branch,

New Jersey. Major Brancato is truly deserving of this recognition for his service to the Amerigo Vespucci Society, his community and our great nation.

Major Brancato joined the Marine Corps Reserve in 1995 and worked his way up the ranks, earning his promotion to Major in 2012. He served as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and the U.S. Southern Command's Tradewinds operations in Belize and Antigua-Barbuda. He is the recipient of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Service Medal for Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Operation Enduring Freedom Campaign Medal and the NATO ISAF Medal for service in Afghanistan. He is currently demobilized and serving as an artillery officer with the Third Battalion, 14th Regiment in Bristol, Pennsylvania and attending the Marine Corps' Command and Staff College Distance Education Program.

In addition to his service with the Marine Corps, Major Brancato is active in his local community. He is a Trustee with the Amerigo Vespucci Society, a member of the Marine Corps League and a member of the Knights of Columbus. He is currently pursuing his master's degree in history at Monmouth University in West Long Branch.

Major Brancato is the son of Charles Erasmus Brancato and Berenice Viali Johansson and a graduate of Middletown High School North. He received his bachelor's degree in history from Loyola College, where he was also a member of the Men's Varsity Rowing Team and an inductee into Phi Alpha Theta historical honor society.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Major Brancato on his recognition as Man of the Year by the Amerigo Vespucci Society and thanking him for his honorable service to our nation.

PLANET HONDA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Planet Honda for achieving 25 years of outstanding membership in the West Chamber serving Jefferson County.

Membership in a Chamber of Commerce comes with commitment, dedication and contribution to community. Chamber members are leaders in the community mentoring other businesses, creating positive environments for business to thrive. The West Chamber serving Jefferson County is a strong and vibrant organization today due to members like Planet Honda.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Planet Honda for 25 years of leadership and inspiration you provide in our community. I look forward to many more years of your service.

HONORING MOTHER EVELYN
MARSHALL-MAYS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mother Evelyn Marshall-Mays. Mother Marshall spent her early years in historic Mound Bayou, Mississippi with her parents, the late Alford and Evelyn Harvey Marshall, along with nine siblings. She graduated from Mound Bayou High School in 1951.

Mother Marshall married Eddie Lee Mays in 1952, and they are the proud parents of five children. She worked diligently as a nurse for 25 years. Upon retirement, she operated a daycare center for over eight years.

Mother Marshall is an integral part of Liberal Trinity Church of God in Christ, fulfilling numerous roles: church mother, teacher of the primary Sunday school class for 57 years; mentor for young children and young women through conversation and an exemplary lifestyle, holding true to Psalm 121, encouraging everyone to love others and to follow God's Word and mandates.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mother Evelyn Marshall-Mays for her dedication to serving others.

HONORING NELLIE LONGSWORTH
AS "A PIONEER IN PRESERVATION"

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am writing to recognize Nellie Longworth of Maryland. As Founding President of Preservation Action, Ms. Longworth was at the forefront of America's preservation movement, working tirelessly to protect historic places from destruction.

In 1974, historic preservationists came together to create Preservation Action in order to preserve our historic assets and make historic preservation a national priority. From the historic rehabilitation tax credit to historic preservation funding, Ms. Longworth and Preservation Action built and deployed a grassroots constituency empowered with information and training to advance these worthy goals.

Mr. Speaker, Nellie Longworth's career is the embodiment of the purposes underlying the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which read in part:

The spirit and direction of the Nation are founded upon and reflected in its historic heritage;

The historical and cultural foundations of the Nation should be preserved as a living part of our community life and development in order to give a sense of orientation to the American people;

The preservation of this irreplaceable heritage is in the public interest so that its vital legacy of cultural, educational, aesthetic, inspirational, economic, and energy benefits will be maintained and enriched for future generations of Americans.

All Americans who care about our nation's cultural resources are indebted to, and inspired by, Nellie Longworth. As we observe

National Historic Preservation Advocacy Week, preservationists from across the nation will honor Nellie Longworth for her extraordinary legacy.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Nellie Longworth as a Pioneer in Preservation.

WELLS FARGO-APPLEWOOD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Wells Fargo-Applewood for achieving 25 years of outstanding membership in the West Chamber serving Jefferson County.

Membership in a Chamber of Commerce comes with commitment, dedication and contribution to community. Chamber members are leaders in the community mentoring other businesses, creating positive environments for business to thrive. The West Chamber serving Jefferson County is a strong and vibrant organization today due to members like Wells Fargo-Applewood.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Wells Fargo-Applewood for 25 years of leadership and inspiration you provide in our community. I look forward to many more years of your service.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF STUART COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, this year, Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart in Princeton, New Jersey celebrates its 50th anniversary as an independent, Catholic school that prepares young women for lives of leadership and civic engagement. Stuart Country Day School prides itself on educating young women of all faiths and fostering in them the strength of individual thought and expression.

Over the years, I have been fortunate to meet with the Stuart students who travel to Washington, DC and to take them on a tour of the Capitol Building. I am continuously impressed with their interest in our country's governance and with their insightful, inquisitive questions. After each visit, I come away inspired knowing they represent some of our country's next generation of leaders.

The success of the school and its students is not surprising. Even the main school building itself emphasizes the values of the school. Designed by New Jersey architect Jean Labatut 50 years ago, the building is immune to the changing fads and styles of our time. Original, warm, genuine, detailed down to the height of each step, adjusted for the demands of the 21st century, it is a model for emulation by other schools. And just like the building, its faculty and students embrace advancements in technology and pedagogy while remaining true to the personal faith, intellectual values, and social awareness so treasured by the Sacred Heart community.

I congratulate Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart for fifty years of fostering young women to reach their full potential and become their better selves. May the next 50 years bring the same success and see generations of students develop into successful, upstanding citizens.

HONORING JAMES R. FIGGS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary Black History honoree, Mr. James R. Figgs.

Mr. Figgs is an activist for the Civil Rights Movement of Mississippi and the United States. He has participated in so many activities of discrimination against people of color. Mr. Figgs was involved with the late Medgar Evers of the NAACP Council Member through Voter Registration. Blacks were not able to register, because of their inability to pass a written exam.

He was involved as a youth college student and as an employee of several organizations. Mr. Figgs' mother, Ruth E. Figgs, instilled in him as a little boy to always stand up for his rights. His mother was also a Civil Rights Leader in Marks, MS.

Mr. Figgs has dedicated his entire life to working to make life a better place for the people of color.

Now Mr. Figgs is 71 years old and still fighting for just cause. For the past 45 years, he has been fighting for the rights of people, equal opportunities for jobs without discrimination, housing and protection from police brutality.

Mr. Figgs was a part of several marches and just to name a few, marched to free Nelson Mandela and marched to make sure poor people had an opportunity to register and vote. Mr. Figgs stated that he has been marching and petitioning in Mississippi all of his entire adult life.

He learned from and worked for the late Aaron E. Henry, of the Mississippi NAACP and the late Ben L. Hooks, the National Director of the NAACP for 16 years. Mr. Figgs is still on the battlefield fighting until all of the dreams of the Civil Rights Leaders become a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. James R. Figgs for his dedication, hard work and being a part of history.

WELLS FARGO-GOLDEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Wells Fargo-Golden for achieving 25 years of outstanding membership in the West Chamber serving Jefferson County.

Membership in a Chamber of Commerce comes with commitment, dedication and contribution to community. Chamber members are

leaders in the community mentoring other businesses, creating positive environments for business to thrive. The West Chamber serving Jefferson County is a strong and vibrant organization today due to members like Wells Fargo-Golden.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Wells Fargo-Golden for 25 years of leadership and inspiration you provide in our community. I look forward to many more years of your service.

HOUSTON RODEO

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it's no secret that March is the month for Texas. Starting with the Texas Declaration of Independence on March 2, the fall of the defenders of the Alamo on March 6, and one of my personal favorite times of the year: the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo—the world's largest rodeo. All in the same week, Houston saddles up to reflect on Texas history and partake in the Houston Livestock Show, where millions of people flock to from all over the world for this one-of-a-kind Texas tradition.

Everyone knows about the Texas stereotype. When "Northeasterners" find out I'm from Texas, often times I am asked if people ride horses around town and if cowboy boots are worn every day. The truth is, during the Rodeo season, that stereotype comes to life. You bet you'll see trial riders parading through downtown Houston. Most years, it's on Texas Avenue, the historic street built to accommodate the early longhorn cattle drives coming to town on their way to the rail station.

Fun and games set aside, there is a very rich history behind the Houston Rodeo, in particular. The tradition began in 1931 when a few men came up with a unique idea to get together and have a "Fat Stock Show." As strange as it might have sounded back then, the idea worked. Year after year, the show grew a little more. It used to be held in the Sam Houston Coliseum but has since been housed in different locations. I'll never forget the first year the show made its way to the Astrodome before officially landing at Reliant Park. Not to mention when the country music king, George Strait, honored and thanked the Astrodome for hosting so many years of the Houston Rodeo. He sang his famous "Cowboy Rides Away." Other famous artists who have performed include Elvis Presley, Roy Rogers, Gene Autry and my all-time favorite, Charlie Pride.

To think that just a handful of men made it their mission to show off their livestock and share their passion of agriculture with Texas 83 years ago is fascinating. Not knowing the fate of their simple idea, the rodeo has evolved into the world's biggest and best-known livestock exhibition, the largest regular-season rodeo, some of the best musical performers, and the city's most popular and popular occasions. Additionally, the rodeo holds everything from the world's largest barbecue cook-off to a Texas-size fair.

Each year, Houston experiences a significant economic lift. With the millions of people who travel to Houston for the rodeo, the city