

serve. I congratulate Sheriff Perez on his retirement and thank him for his service to Kane County.

RECOGNIZING DONALD E. GRAHAM

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, December 11, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Donald E. Graham for his outstanding contributions to the nation and to the people of the nation's capital. Don Graham is best known for his unique contributions to the field of journalism, but he is also greatly admired in the District of Columbia, his hometown, as a citizen and leader.

For more than four decades, Don Graham has played a significant role in the life of the nation and here in the District of Columbia. Don served his country for two years during the Vietnam War, prior to returning to the District of Columbia and joining the D.C.'s police department, the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). At MPD, Don courageously dedicated himself to serving the residents of the District as a patrol officer in the Ninth Precinct in the Northeast section of the District of Columbia. Only after charting his life with these experiences, life changing in themselves, did Don begin his career in professional journalism, in 1971, when he joined the family business as a reporter. Don Graham proceeded to come up through the ranks of the Washington Post and eventually became Publisher of the paper and then Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Washington Post Company. During his tenure, Don Graham shepherded a historic era at the Post. Under his leadership, the Post not only won more than 20 Pulitzer Prizes, it entered into the digital age, launched a website, and began printing in color.

Beyond his stellar accomplishments in journalism, Don Graham also has made notable contributions to the District of Columbia and its residents. He has continued a family tradition of service to the District with special attention to secondary education and higher education. Don was the driving force behind the D.C. Tuition Assistance Grant program (DCTAG), not only in our ability to achieve federal funding for higher education unique to the District, but in what it has taken to maintain it for 15 years. DCTAG has doubled college attendance in the District of Columbia, allowing D.C. students, who have no state university system, to attend any state university in the country with up to \$10,000 per year in assistance. Moreover, Don has gone even further in pursuit of higher education opportunities for D.C. residents. He is a co-founder of the D.C. College Access Program, which has assisted over 13,000 D.C. students and provided over \$18 million in scholarships. Most recently, Don has formed TheDream.US, a new scholarship program that seeks to assist undocumented students, who cannot qualify for federal financial aid programs. Don sold the Post to engage in other pursuits, leaving the paper in good hands to continue its distinctive contributions. However, Don Graham's dedicated public service as a private citizen continues to this day.

Mr. Speaker, I could only summarize Donald E. Graham's achievements. Even so, it should now be clear why I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Donald E. Graham for his service to American journalism and for his continuing service to the residents of the District of Columbia.

HONORING WEE CARE NURSERIES
AND LEARNING CENTERS, INC.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a landmark establishment within the City of Tchula that provides one of the most critical and essential services for all working parents: Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center, Inc.

Tchula's Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center began as Tchula Day Care. Tchula Day Care opened its doors on September 3, 1991. The name was later changed to Tchula's Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center, Inc. On May 15, 1995, Wee Care Nursery and Learning Center #2 opened its doors in Lexington, MS.

Tchula's Wee Care capacity is 142 and Lexington's is 169. Current enrollment is 77 and 54 respectively.

At Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, their mission is to provide child care that meets the needs of each child and family in a safe, educational environment.

They take pride in the Centers and focus on the individual needs of each child, while providing quality, reliable and safe child care.

The goals of At Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers are: 1) To provide affordable, convenient, dependable child care services; 2) To create a child care setting for social, cognitive, and physical development; 3) To provide a nurturing environment; 4) To provide learning experiences for children; and 5) To provide a preschool program, readying children for lifelong learning.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc. believe that a high quality early childhood program provides a safe and nurturing environment that promotes the physical, emotional, social, and cognitive development of young children while responding to the needs of families. They believe in promoting an anti-bias, pro-social curriculum that teaches children to value and respect themselves and others for their own unique individuality. Each child is considered unique in temperament and rate of development. Curriculum is planned to enhance and challenge particular, distinct individual needs, interests and abilities. The curriculum includes: manipulatives, art, music, games, and outdoor play. They believe child-initiated, child-directed, teacher-supported play is an essential component of developmentally appropriate practice. Activities and relationships occur in a healthy, positive and relaxed environment in which well-qualified staff—provide personal attention, guidance and nurturing to each child.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc. strives to maintain continuity and consistency throughout the program by conducting helpful staff planning, training and a variety of joint activities involving various groups of chil-

dren. In this context, all caregivers at Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers are encouraged to express their individual educational strengths as they work with children and in their cooperative efforts with other staff members.

When you come to Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, your child will receive the best care the industry has to offer. All you need to do is "expect more." They have been fortunate to get special recognition from: Greenwood Voters' League, Mississippi State University, The Cities of Tchula and Lexington, Mississippi Building Blocks and The Delta Foundation.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Center is able to care for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years. Along with regular childcare services, they also provide before and after school care and a summer reading and math enrichment program.

Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc. have a Motto/Slogan: Building a better world one child at a time. Learning Today . . . Leading Today!

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Wee Care Nurseries and Learning Centers, Inc. for its past and present dedication to providing impeccable, dependable childcare services in an effort to help families of all backgrounds within the Tchula community.

NIGERIA WILLIAMS HONORED AS
TRAINEE OF THE YEAR BY THE
GERMAN AMERICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to recognize the accomplishment of Nigeria Williams, a senior at South Aiken High School in the Second Congressional District of South Carolina, who was recently named Trainee of the Year by the German American Chamber of Commerce.

Established in 2012, the apprenticeship program at the MTU Aiken Plant in Graniteville, South Carolina, provides high school students in the Palmetto State the opportunity to participate in the first-ever registered vocational apprenticeship program in the state of South Carolina. This two year program, developed in partnership with Aiken County Schools, Aiken Technical College, and Apprenticeship Carolina gives high school juniors and seniors a chance to experience hands on vocational learning opportunities in a real manufacturing environment. Graduates of the program earn an Industrial Mechanic-Basic certification.

Ms. Williams is the first female participant in the MTU Aiken Plant apprenticeship program. I congratulate her on this achievement and offer my best wishes for continued success.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognition of Ms. Williams's accomplishments.

JOE BRESSI, 2014 PENNSYLVANIA
SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Joe Bressi for his recent induction into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame.

Mr. Bressi has had a long and successful career as an athletic coach, where he has demonstrated an exceptional ability to lead his teams to victory. His career highlights include:

Ten seasons as the head coach of the Bishop McDevitt High School girls basketball program, finishing with a 238–40 record, eight conference titles, five District 3 titles, and appearances in two state championships.

Eight years with the Bloomsburg University women's basketball program, where he finished with a 175–47 record and led the team to seven PSAC East titles, one PSAC playoff title, and four NCAA Division II tournaments. During the 1988–1989 season, his team became the first NCAA Division II women's team to go undefeated.

Six years with the Lycoming College men's basketball program, where the team had a record of 97–53 and reached the NCAA Division III tournament twice.

For his hard work and dedication, Mr. Bressi was inducted into the Pennsylvania Basketball Hall of Fame, two regional chapters of Pennsylvania's Sports Hall of Fame, and the Hall of Fame at East Stroudsburg where he attended college. During his time at Lycoming, he received the Middle Atlantic Conference Coach of the Year award twice. He also coached three Freedom Conference Players of the Year, two rookies of the year, and nine all-conference picks.

In 2000, Mr. Bressi left Lycoming College to become the director of athletics for Central Dauphin High School, where he worked for 11 years. Mr. Bressi retired, but shortly returned to coaching in 2013 as the head girl's basketball coach at Bishop McDevitt High School.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bressi has shown outstanding athletic achievement and coaching ability, leading his teams over 500 victories. Therefore, I commend him on his induction into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN HENRY WAXMAN AND CONGRESSMAN GEORGE MILLER ON THEIR RE- TIREMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the career of Congressman GEORGE MILLER.

I had the pleasure of serving on the Education and Workforce Committee with GEORGE. During his time in Congress, Congressman MILLER has been an outspoken leader on issues related to health care, workers' rights, and quality education. His leadership, knowledge, and mentorship will be sorely missed in Congress.

Congressman MILLER's legacy spans many issues facing Americans including raising the minimum wage, improving conditions for workers, fighting for equal pay for women, protecting the environment and bettering our education system. His 40 years of tireless service have undoubtedly positively improved the lives of countless Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the service of Congressman GEORGE MILLER.

RECOGNIZING THE WEBB CITY CARDINALS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Webb City football team for winning their fifth straight state football championship.

The Webb City Cardinals clenched their fifth consecutive state title by defeating the Cape Central Tigers 48–21. Through their hard work and excellence on and off the field, the Cardinals have developed into a truly great championship team.

I also want to commend Head Coach John Roderique for a job well-done on developing such a strong football program. In his 18 years of coaching the Cardinals, his teams have won ten of the school's 13 state titles.

The Webb City community is rightly proud of this astonishing group of young and talented student-athletes. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Webb City Cardinals as they celebrate their fifth consecutive State Championship.

FAREWELL REMARKS

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 11, 2014

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, what a blessing it has been to serve in the United States Congress! Indeed, it has been a dream come true—an opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of the people back home and the communities in which we live, work, worship, retire, and play.

Over the course of 18 years in Congress, we have been blessed to have accomplished a great deal together with the citizens of the Seventh Congressional District.

This job could not have been done without the people, purpose, and partnerships that have been integral to our work.

Indeed, none of this would have been possible without the strong support of my family—my wonderfully amazing, astute and astounding wife Dee, without whose wisdom, counsel, inspiration, analysis, steadfast partnership, and love I would have never been able to run—much less survived—in public service; and my two sons, Joshua and Stephen, whose imagination, intelligence, and insight, as well as their proclivity for the pragmatic, practical, and positive aspects of politics and public service (not to mention patience with having to eat a lot of barbecue and chicken bog!) always kept our serious perspective for

the future balanced with laughter and common sense.

And I would like to extend a personal token of my appreciation to my wonderful staff throughout these years. These individuals have graciously given their very best in the service of their country and our district, and I am grateful for their work and their friendship. Indeed, through teamwork and loyalty, they have demonstrated what it truly means to answer the high calling of public service.

I owe a special thanks to my colleagues here in Congress who have worked diligently with us, reaching across the aisle to find real solutions to our nation's greatest challenges and to help our great state to prosper.

It has been a blessing to serve alongside these men and women who have devoted their lives to public service.

Thank you especially to my friends in the Congressional Prayer Caucus and in the Congressional Prayer Breakfast for the friendships that have transcended party labels and focused on answering the call that the good Lord has laid upon our hearts to help the people back home and across the nation.

Second, it has been the purpose which has guided our actions:

My favorite Old Testament verse is from the Book of Proverbs (29:18 a): "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

During my 18 years here, we have sought to pursue a vision that offers hope to others and a bright future for our next generation.

It was in June of 1973, as rising high school senior, that I attended a student leadership seminar, the Washington Workshops Congressional Seminar.

I had just visited my then-freshman Congressman, Charlie Rose, and I meandered over to the Senate side to find the senior Senator for North Carolina, a white-haired gentleman who quoted Scripture as an old country lawyer, Sam Ervin, Jr.

He was conducting something called the "Watergate hearings."

All three national TV networks were there.

I waited in line and stood in the back of the hearing room on the day that John Dean began his testimony, which was the beginning of the end of the Nixon White House—a day I'll never forget.

I went home for my senior year of high school and came back to DC the next summer, 1974, as an intern for my Congressman. That was the summer that Nixon resigned.

I decided to major in political science as I headed off to the University of North Carolina that August, thinking that, "maybe someday I'll get to come back to this place."

And 22 years later, that dream came true.

"How could you be interested in politics?" everyone asked. "It's so dirty, so corrupt," they said.

I gave them the same answer then that I gave people when I first ran 18 years ago, that I still give today: "If all the people with the right motives stay out of politics, then who's left to run our government?"

"If we who are serious about our faith and our vision don't become involved, then by definition, there is going to be a void."

We should remember that so many times the world says, "you must be successful," but the key to success is first being faithful.

We must be faithful to our calling—answering the call that God has laid upon our hearts.

"He who is faithful in little will be faithful in much."