

years—reaching sales records above \$3,000 a year—and even earning a college scholarship. He earned Cub Scout's highest award, the Arrow of Light, as a Webelos Scout before crossing over to Boy Scout Troop 208 in Clive, where his parents, Pete and Kristin Jeffries, are active in Troop Leadership.

As a Boy Scout, Mason has volunteered in the community with the Variety Telethon, Waukee Food Pantry, Clive Greenbelt Park, Meals for the Heartland, Vacation Bible School, and various other Eagle Scout projects. Due to his dedication to the community, he was honored by his fellow Scouts in Troop 208 who elected him to serve in the Order of the Arrow, where he became a Brotherhood Member with the Mitigwa Lodge. Mason has held a number of leadership roles in Troop 208, including Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Librarian, Scribe, and twice as Patrol Leader.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout must pass specific tests organized by requirements and merit badges, and complete an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his Eagle Scout Service Project, Mason refurbished the front of the Waukee Public Library after the construction of the facility's new addition in 2014. He led a group of Scouts and adults in pulling up all the existing shrubs, bushes and plants, adding metal edging, planting over 30 grasses, shrubs and plants, and finishing the landscaping with new mulch and decorative rocks.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his family's service to their community demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Mason and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating him on reaching the rank of Eagle Scout, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

**CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING OF THE SHELBYVILLE-BEDFORD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**HON. SCOTT DesJARLAIS**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 18, 2015*

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to recognize the grand opening of the Shelbyville-Bedford County Public Library, formerly the Argie Cooper Public Library.

In any community, libraries serve an extremely important role by operating as a point of access for literary classics, promoting educational opportunities for local citizens, and fostering a love for reading in both children and adults. The Shelbyville-Bedford County Public Library has done all of these things, both meeting and exceeding our community's demands for educational resources and programs.

The new library is a tremendous asset to Bedford County and is the result of decades of a lot of good people doing great things for their community. We are all very excited to see a long-awaited dream become a beautiful reality, possessing a sense of the past while embracing the future.

I wish the best and look forward to the library's many years of service to Bedford County and its residents.

**TRIBUTE TO MRS. BENITA OSBEY**

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 18, 2015*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of Mrs. Benita Ann Robinson Osbey, she gave of herself to better our community and the causes that were near and dear to her heart; and

Whereas, Mrs. Osbey's work is present in DeKalb County, Georgia for all to see, being an advocate for the youth, education, ovarian cancer support and research; and

Whereas, this remarkable woman gave of herself, her time, her talent and her life; never asking for fame or fortune but only to uplift those in need; and

Whereas, Mrs. Benita Ann Robinson Osbey led by doing, behind the scenes, as well as front and center for the city of Los Angeles, California, DeKalb County, Georgia, the Georgia Ovarian Cancer Alliance, her beloved church Saint Phillip African Methodist Episcopal Church, and for her beloved Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; and

Whereas, this virtuous Proverbs 31 woman was a wife, daughter, niece, sister, aunt and a friend; she was a warrior, a matriarch, and a woman of great integrity; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional recognition on Mrs. Benita Ann Robinson Osbey for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens of Georgia and throughout the Nation; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR., do hereby attest to the 114th Congress that Mrs. Benita Ann Robinson Osbey of DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor."

Mrs. Benita Ann Robinson Osbey, U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 3rd day of May, 2015.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SSGT FALEAGAFULU ILAOA**

**HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN RADEWAGEN**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 18, 2015*

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Staff Sergeant (SSGT) Faleagafulu Ilaoa, who lost his life while serving our great nation.

Ilaoa, whose parents hailed from the village of Leone, American Samoa was born on April 6, 1948, in San Francisco, CA, SSGT Ilaoa spent his youth like many of us do . . . dreaming of one day serving his country in our armed forces. Never to be deterred from his goals; following graduation from high school, Ilaoa joined the Air Force as a Military Policeman. These men not only serve as police officers to their fellow service members, but also participated in rescue operations, often in hostile territory.

On Monday, May 13, 1975, the U.S. merchant ship *Mayaguez* was seized by Khmer

Rouge forces off the coast of Cambodia. The following evening a rescue operation to save those on board the merchant vessel was launched by the Air Force's 56th Security Police Squadron (SPS).

At around 8:30 in the evening, on route to the *Mayaguez*, the Chinook helicopter carrying the 23 security police operators, including SSGT Ilaoa disappeared from radar approximately 40 miles from their base in a remote area of Northwest Thailand. To this day, the cause of the crash, whether it was mechanical malfunction, pilot error or enemy fire, is not known.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives to join me recognizing the sacrifice of all who lost their lives on this mission and I personally would like to salute SSGT Ilaoa for his service to our nation and the proud legacy he left for all American Samoans.

**HONORING THE BRAUN FAMILY**

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 18, 2015*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a family whose commitment to service and Jewish prayer, study and music at my own synagogue, Valley Beth Shalom, spans more than six decades. The Braun family's dedication to Valley Beth Shalom has enriched the lives of our congregation and strengthened our community.

In 1960, Dick and Barbara Braun became members of Valley Beth Shalom. During the past fifty-five years, five generations of the Braun family have been involved in Valley Beth Shalom synagogue life. This includes, in addition to Dick and Barbara, Dick's mother Elisabeth, Dick and Barbara's four children and their spouses—Jon and Lynn, David and Sherri (of blessed memory) and Ellen, Robert and Sandra, Sarah and Shai, as well as their nine grandchildren and their spouses, and finally a great grandchild.

The contributions of the Braun family to Valley Beth Shalom are legend. Dick has sung in the congregational choir and served as Hazzan Sheyni since 1968. He has served on the Valley Beth Shalom Board of Directors for more than 40 years and also served on the Executive Committee. Barbara is also a long time member of the synagogue choir, and was an involved member of the Sisterhood and a member of the first class of the Valley Beth Shalom Counseling Center where she served for over 20 years. Jon and his wife Lynn have also served on the Valley Beth Shalom Board of Directors, and Lynn has chaired the Annual Gala Event and served on the Executive Committee of the synagogue. David is a member of the Schulweis Institute and is a Vice-President-elect of the congregation. Nate, one of the grandchildren, is secretary of the synagogue's Board, and his wife, Effie, is a Board member. In addition to all of the family's leadership contributions to the synagogue, members of the Braun family have also been generous benefactors of Valley Beth Shalom in support of all of its enriching programs.

The Braun family's contributions to the community reach farther than just our congregation: Dick is a general surgeon, who for many