

10 years in real estate, Chris' contributions in his many capacities of public service has been invaluable. Chris Smith served his community in numerous ways, including as the Director of the Clermont County Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Economic Development Director for Clermont County, and as an economic development staff member for Ohio Governor Bob Taft.

Due in part to his leadership, Clermont County has become a thriving hub of economic activity. The residential and economic growth of Clermont County is a testament to this hard work and success.

Also commendable is the positive and solutions-oriented attitude with which Chris has served. He has worked tirelessly to improve Clermont County over the years, always devoted to the big picture and listening to the people he serves, never asking or expecting anything in return.

Southwest Ohio is fortunate to have a local leader as committed to service and progress as Chris Smith is. Again, I congratulate Chris on his retirement, thank him for his public service, and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAREER  
OF COACH DAVID CLARK

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 2015*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to congratulate Coach David Clark on his 1000th win as coach of the volleyball team of Jacksonville High School, in Jacksonville, Alabama.

Clark attended Saks High School, graduating in 1986, and enrolled in Auburn University. While there, he studied architecture and received a degree in environmental design.

After a short time living in Oregon, he returned to Alabama to pursue an education degree at Jacksonville State University. After graduation, he worked for one year at his former high school before becoming part of the Jacksonville High School coaching staff.

In his 23 years of coaching, he has led the Jacksonville Golden Eagles volleyball team to three state championship wins with four state runner up positions, as well as eight county and 16 area championships.

Coach Clark's 1000th win came Saturday, October 3rd during the Calhoun County volleyball tournament. He is only the 10th coach in the history of the Alabama High School Athletic Association to reach this milestone.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Coach David Clark on his achievement.

IN HONOR OF FREDERICK  
DOUGLASS

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 2015*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frederick Douglass, a Maryland native who made tremendous contributions to

our country. This year marks the 170th anniversary of his first autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave, Written by Himself* which gives us a first glimpse of his remarkable life.

Born into chattel slavery on February 14, 1818 on the Wye Plantation near Tuckahoe, Maryland, Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey became internationally known as Frederick Douglass, a champion in his own time for eliminating slavery and an impassioned voice demanding freedom for all.

In 1838, he married Anna Murray, a free born black woman who provided him with money to escape slavery. Together they settled in New Bedford, Massachusetts and raised four children.

After escaping slavery, Mr. Douglass began to work for the abolition of slavery in the United States. In 1845, Mr. Douglass wrote and published the *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave, Written by Himself*. It is the first of a trilogy of autobiographical writings. The second, entitled *My Bondage and My Freedom*, was published in 1855, and the final work, titled *The Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*, was published in 1881.

The first autobiography, like its successors, described the system of chattel slavery and Mr. Douglass' rejection of its premise that he, like other slaves, was not a human being. Stunningly direct in its portrayal of friends and foes, the autobiographies present the conflicts between freedom and slavery. This book recounts the honors of slavery, his courageous efforts to educate himself, and his harrowing but successful escape.

In 1847, Mr. Douglass published the *North Star*, a weekly abolitionist newspaper. It was the first of 4 newspapers he owned and wrote for as a journalist.

A strong supporter of women's rights, in 1848, Mr. Douglass attended the critical Seneca Falls Convention in Seneca Falls, New York for women's suffrage and supported women's right to vote.

In 1852, Mr. Douglass gave what is regarded as the greatest abolitionist speech, "What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?" in Rochester, NY.

In 1863, during the middle of the Civil War, Mr. Douglass met with President Lincoln and successfully persuaded him to allow black men to fight for the Union. This led to the formation of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment, the first all-black combat regiment.

In addition to his writings, Mr. Douglass served his country in a number of government positions. In 1871, he was appointed by President Grant as Assistant Secretary to the Santo Domingo Commission. In 1876, he was appointed by President Hayes as United States Marshal for the District of Columbia. In 1881, he accepted an appointment from President Garfield as Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia. And in 1889, he was appointed by President Harrison as Minister and Consul General to Haiti.

In 1894, at the Metropolitan African Methodist Church in Washington, D.C., Mr. Douglass delivered "Lessons of the Hour," a searing critique of lynching.

A year later, at the age of 77, Mr. Douglass died of a heart attack at Cedar Hill, his home in the Anacostia neighborhood of Washington, D.C.

Today, Cedar Hill is a national historic site where visitors from around the world can learn

about the many contributions of Frederick Douglass, an American treasure who dedicated his life to winning freedom for all Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JACKIE WALORSKI**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 2015*

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be in Washington, DC on October 7, 2015 due to a death in the family and thus missed the recorded votes on that day. On Roll Call Votes 536, 537, 538, and 540, I would have voted yea had I been present. On Roll Call Vote 539, I would have voted no had I been present.

IN HONOR OF RETIRED MAJOR  
JESSE BALTAZAR

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 2015*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments and service of retired Major Jesse Baltazar on this, his ninety-fifth birthday.

Major Baltazar's service includes over forty years of dedication to the United States military through the Battle of Bataan in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Still recovering from wounds suffered at the hands of a Japanese attack on his camp in 1942, Major Baltazar managed to escape "the Bataan Death March" after more than three days of marching. His bravery earned him the honor of a Bronze Star, a POW Medal, and a Purple Heart, which was awarded to him this past January.

As the first Filipino native commissioned into the United States Air Force, Major Baltazar is a true trail-blazer and has helped pave the way for the many men and women who have since immigrated to the United States and joined our military.

The United States has been blessed by the sacrifices of outstanding people such as Major Baltazar who have adopted this country as their own. I am proud to represent Major Baltazar and all of the selfless men and women who serve our nation in uniform. They are truly invaluable members of our society. The debt of gratitude owed to these men and women is impossible to repay, but today, we do our small part by recognizing one special man: Major Jesse Baltazar.

IN RECOGNITION OF WINTHROP  
UNIVERSITY AND THE 50TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE NATIONAL  
COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

**HON. MICK MULVANEY**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 2015*

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Winthrop University and the 50th