

Plan, the PACE program in Flint, the revitalization of so many parts of our community, and empowering women through the Michigan Food & Farming Systems and the Women in Agriculture program.

There were so many things that Nick did. I can't even go through the long list. But for all of us back home, we will just miss him.

His wife, Kim, and his daughters, Madison and Camryn, I am sure will miss him forever. He loved them, he loved his community, and he gave so much to his community. We loved him. He was a friend, and we will miss him.

#### RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF FORMER FIRST LADY BARBARA BUSH

(Mr. ARRINGTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the passing of a very special person and the epitome of a First Lady, Barbara Pierce Bush. As First Lady, Mrs. Bush was praised for bringing the power of literacy to others, but America will remember her most for her fierce love and commitment to her family.

Mrs. Bush embodied the best of America: strong, compassionate, and spirited. She, like her husband, believed that public service is a noble calling, and she stewarded that calling with class and grace.

Our country would not have been blessed with the principled leadership of both our 41st and 43rd Presidents if it were not for the strong character and devotion of Barbara Bush.

Her dedication to family values wasn't just a political talking point; it was her life's mission, and now, her greatest legacy.

While I grieve with my dear friend, President George W. Bush, and his family, I join them in celebrating a life well lived, and thanking God with gracing us with Barbara Bush.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF SONNY MELTON

(Mr. KIHUEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of Sonny Melton.

Sonny was lucky to find the love of his life while working at the Henry County Medical Center in Paris, Tennessee. As a certified nurse, Sonny would often assist his wife, Dr. Heather Melton, during surgeries.

Sonny and Heather had planned to move into a lake house together. They were in the process of building it in Big Sandy, Tennessee.

They traveled to Las Vegas together to celebrate their 1-year anniversary at the Route 91 festival. When gunfire erupted, Sonny died when he was trying to get his wife out of harm's way.

Sonny's wife and all those who knew him remember Sonny as an enthusiastic man who had an infectious positive attitude.

I would like to extend my condolences to Sonny Melton's family and friends. Please know that the city of Las Vegas, the State of Nevada, and the entire country mourn with you.

#### MOURNING THE PASSING OF FIRST LADY BARBARA BUSH

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my condolences and my sympathy to the family of former First Lady Barbara Bush.

Mr. Speaker, the Nation was heartbroken upon hearing the news that Mrs. Bush passed away last night at her home in Houston. She was 92.

Mrs. Bush was widely admired and a beloved First Lady. She was a leader not only for her family, but for this Nation.

She served as First Lady from January 1, 1989, to January 1993. She was known for her immeasurable kindness, yet she wasn't afraid to be outspoken—even frank—when the occasion called for it.

She was witty and feisty, and above all else, she was Barbara: a wife, a mother, and a grandmother.

This Nation will remember her as a fiercely and devoted matriarch of a great American family, but also as an advocate for all American families.

Mr. Speaker, I leave you with the words of Barbara Bush: "When all the dust is settled and all the crowds are gone, the things that matter are faith, family, and friends."

May God bless Mrs. Barbara Bush.

#### CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a historical moment for the great State of Illinois. Two hundred years ago today, in this very building, legislation was passed by the 15th Congress and later signed by President James Monroe which allowed the people of the Illinois territory to proceed with statehood.

This legislation paved the way for representatives in the territory to form a convention from which a State government would later emerge. At the time, in 1818, only 11 counties existed in the territory that could send representatives to the convention to draft governing documents.

Three of these 11 counties are within my congressional district. I have often said how humble I am to represent a

part of Illinois that President Lincoln represented when he served in this Chamber, but I am also immensely proud to represent the area that pioneered Illinois' statehood.

In December of this year, Illinois will celebrate its bicentennial as a State in our Union. I have called Illinois home for over 40 years, and I am honored to stand here today and recognize the history that was made in this building 200 years ago today.

#### RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN MARK WEBER

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Mark K. Weber who died in a helicopter crash on March 15 while serving in our Armed Forces in Iraq.

Captain Weber was a combat rescue officer assigned to the 38th Rescue Squadron based at Moody's Air Force Base in the First Congressional District of Georgia. He was one of seven in the helicopter crash who lost their lives serving our country that day. As a combat rescue officer, Captain Weber's role with his team was to fly into combat and rescue injured soldiers.

I want to thank Captain Weber and his family for his service. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and his friends.

Mr. Speaker, I want all of our servicemen and -women to know that we are ever grateful for their service. They are in our thoughts and prayers, and I could not thank them enough for the work they are doing to spread democracy and freedom across the globe.

#### HONORING MEMBERS FROM AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY INFORMATION DIRECTORATE

(Ms. TENNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members from the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate, otherwise known as Rome Lab.

Rome Lab has been recognized by the Federal Laboratory Consortium for its superiority in technology transfer work. Technology transfer work is a process by which existing knowledge or capabilities developed under Federal funding are used to fulfill public and private needs.

The winners of this year's FLC high-profile award are Ralph Kohler, Frank Hoke, Sean Patten, Joseph Mancini, David Canestrare, Daniel Carpenter, Joshua Sterling, Richard Newkirk, Sam Davis, and Mark Linderman.

This group of brilliant minds created the Android Team Awareness Kit, or ATAK. This is a profoundly useful software collaboration that runs on an android mobile operating system. It can