

Jacobs leaves behind a wonderful family that includes his parents, Janet and Daryl Graybill, sisters, Brittany and Sierra, grandparents, Carolyn Sutton, Fannie Stoltzfus, and Lloyd and Mary Graybill, aunt Kristi Clark, and uncle, State Representative Ron Sutton of the North Carolina General Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, may the memory of Lance Corporal Jeriad Paul Jacobs live on in our hearts, and may God's strength and peace be with his family.

TRIBUTE TO 9 HEROES OF MISSOURI'S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the heroism of nine individuals in Missouri's Eighth Congressional District whose quick thinking and brave actions saved the lives of a family of five.

In the early morning hours of December 14th, a billion-gallon flood from the Taum Sauk Reservoir swept through the Johnson Shut Ins State Park. Park Ranger Jerry Toops, his wife and their three children, ages 5, 3, and seven months, were awakened to a harrowing scene as the freezing cold floodwaters crashed through their home and carried them all away.

Their rescuers were immediately set into motion. Mr. Josh McCarty, Mr. Gary Maize, Mr. Tyler Wright, Mr. Robbie Jordan, Mr. Ryan Wadlow and Fire Chief Ben Meredith of the Lesterville Fire Department, Reynolds County Sheriff's Deputy Brian Fox knew the Toops family had been in the path of the flood and raced to the scene. Also on the scene was a good Samaritan—Mr. Greg Coleman—a truck driver who had been stranded on the roof of his semi truck and heard Jerry Toops calling for help from a tree. He called the local emergency dispatcher and, as soon as the icy water receded, met the fire department and set out to find the family. Mr. Butch Walker, a neighbor, used his truck to clear a path through the flood debris for the emergency responders. They found the five members of the Toops family alive, but in urgent need of medical care.

On the ensuing ambulance rides, the lives of the three children hung in the balance. Their parents, the county, the State and the Nation all prayed that they would survive. They did. But a moment later, a minute's delay, or a notch less of urgency and the outcome could have been grim for the Toops family, laying in their nightclothes on the cold, wet ground.

If not for these nine men with their training and determination, acting fast, in the dark, frozen moments after the flood, one, some, or all of these five lives would have been lost. It is this character, selflessness, and reliability for neighbors in need that make Southern Missouri a wonderful place to live. They are heroes of whom we are proud, though they would say they are just doing their jobs or doing what anyone would do in their position. Yet they responded without hesitation, and we owe them a great debt of gratitude. I commend them today in the U.S. House of Rep-

resentatives and thank God for their great deeds.

CONGRATULATING BOB SHERMAN
ON DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN
AWARD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Bob Sherman of Denton, TX, on receiving the Longhorn Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Citizen Award for this year.

Mr. Sherman returned to Denton with his wife after 30 years of a banking career in Chicago. Bob Sherman was president and chief executive officer of First Colonial Bankshares. He is on the board of directors for Northstar Bank of Texas and serves on the President's Council, College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Board and the strategic planning committee for the University of North Texas. Today, he continues his life of service through his position on the board of Denton Christian School and is leading the capital campaign for Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home.

The Longhorn Council of the Boy Scouts of America serves more than 40,000 youths with scouting programs in Central and North Texas. More than 15,000 adults volunteer to help with the programs. This prestigious award is given to members of the community whose leadership focuses on volunteerism.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Bob Sherman for receiving the Longhorn Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Citizen Award. His contributions and service to the Denton community should inspire us all.

IN HONOR OF THE VIETNAMESE
NEW YEAR: TET, 2006—YEAR OF
THE DOG

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Vietnamese New Year: Tet, 2006—Year of the Dog. To celebrate this joyous event, the Vietnamese Community in Greater Cleveland, Inc., will gather at Bo Loong Chinese Restaurant to rejoice with family and friends and enjoy Vietnamese culture and performances.

The Tet celebration will include recognition of volunteer leaders, Vietnamese culinary offerings and dancing and entertainment by Vietnamese youth of Cleveland. Tet is the time of year to pay homage to ancestors, reconnect with friends and family, and celebrate the hope and possibility within the rising of a new year.

This year also marks the 31st anniversary of the establishment of the Vietnamese Community in Greater Cleveland, Inc.—reflecting nearly three decades of this agency's superior commitment, service and community outreach to Americans of Vietnamese heritage. The Vietnamese community in Cleveland reflects a vibrant layer within the colorful fabric of our

culturally diverse city. And the Vietnamese Community of Greater Cleveland, Inc. plays a significant role in preserving and promoting the ancient cultural and historical traditions that spiral back throughout the centuries—connecting the old world to the new, extending from Vietnam to America.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Le Nguyen, President of the Vietnamese Community in Greater Cleveland, Inc., and all members, past and present, for their dedication and support of Americans of Vietnamese heritage within our Cleveland community. As we join in celebration of the Vietnamese New Year, the Year of the Dog, may every American of Vietnamese heritage hold memories of their past forever in their hearts, and find happiness and peace with the dawning of each new day.

HONORING A.D. AND SHIRLEY
MCGREGOR

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating A.D. and Shirley McGregor as they are honored by the Saginaw County Convention and Visitors Bureau on February 17th in Saginaw, Michigan.

A.D. and Shirley McGregor are lifelong residents of the Saginaw area and have worked tirelessly to promote and enhance the life of the community. They exemplify true volunteer spirit. Since 1948 when they were still in school, the McGregors have worked tirelessly to make Saginaw a wonderful place to live. At that time they became volunteers for Healthsource Saginaw and began a lifelong commitment to service.

During the intervening years the couple has helped numerous organizations and worked at various events. For 28 years they have helped the Saginaw CROP Walk raise money to alleviate world hunger. For 30 years they have played Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus for churches, schools, nursing facilities and non-profits. They have spent the last several years organizing Christmas caroling for shut-ins. The Castle Museum of Saginaw has benefited from their help for the past 28 years.

Fridays in the summertime can often find them working with the Friday Night Live concerts for Pride in Saginaw Incorporated. Many other organizations have benefited from their dedication. The Saginaw County Fair, Rescue Mission/Community Village, Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, Temple Theatre, Saginaw Depot Preservation, and Saginaw Valley State University have all reaped the rewards of A.D. and Shirley's generous giving.

Their guiding prayer is "Jesus First, Others Second, Yourself Last." Day after day the McGregors live this prayer in an openhanded, amiable way. The McGregors are excellent role models for our youth. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise and join me and the Saginaw County Convention and Visitors Bureau in thanking this wonderful couple for their compassion, charity and congeniality.