

It was just two years ago that I came to this Well to mark Reverend Newsome's retirement after 38 extraordinary years as Pastor of North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church. This congregation under his leadership has become a beacon of hope in a community struggling against issues of social and economic injustice.

To Reverend Newsome's wife, Alice, his daughters Patricia Cooper and Redonda Newsome, and his son, Reverend Charles Newsome, I extend my heartfelt condolences. Their loss is shared not only by those who knew Reverend Newsome but by all who have been touched by the work he has done. We will be forever grateful for his skill, strength and courage as he sought to make our community and our country a better place for all of us. We are so grateful to his family and his church for sharing him with us for so many years. We celebrate his life without sorrow because we know God has much need of him.

"What does the Lord require of us—to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with thy God"—Micah 6.

HONORING MEREDITH KIESEL

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishment of Meredith Kiesel, a 7th grader from Northport, NY, who won first place in the World Hunger Essay Contest. Ms. Kiesel understands our country's need for a plan to eliminate hunger and food insecurity.

SHOULD FOOD BE A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT?

(By Meredith Kiesel)

I think that food should be a basic human right. In our society we have human rights. Some of these rights include freedom of speech, education, the right to vote, to think freely, and to practice and believe in any religion. These rights make our country great and strong. Food is used to give us energy, and to keep us focused on what we are doing. When a person misses a meal they become very tired and hungry.

Every person who has food can contribute to local food pantries and to food drives. If every person contributed, many people would have food. If a local grocery store donated extra food to a food drive or a shelter it would help people who cannot afford food. People who cannot get a job suffer because they do not have money to buy food. If food was a human right these people could get food to support themselves and their families.

Many people who cannot afford food do not have enough energy to do ordinary things. Kids who do not have enough food in their bodies cannot study and learn and cannot do sports or activities that are in their school. They cannot do it because they do not have enough energy. Even with eight hours they will not have the energy without food. If food was a human right they could go out for sports teams or play in their local neighborhood parks and study and become successful.

Food is very important for our bodies and minds. It helps us to think and do regular activities. Without proper nutrients our bodies cannot function properly. These are very important reasons as to why food is very important. The whole world should have food as a basic human right. It would help make the world a happier and healthier place to live.

HONORING FARRAGUT HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACH EDDIE COURTNEY UPON RECEIVING THE INAUGURAL COURTNEY COURAGE AWARD

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 18th of this year, Farragut High School Head Football Coach Eddie Courtney was named the first recipient of the Eddie Courtney Courage Award named in his honor.

This ceremony took place at the end of a grueling and testing season for Coach Courtney and his Admiral football team. Coach Courtney was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease last spring and despite months of radiation and chemotherapy, he guided the Admirals to the Class 5A quarterfinals and an 11-3 record. Throughout his intensive treatment, he never missed a team function, including summer conditioning workouts, cutting the grass and lining the field before games and scrimmages.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the readers of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring the courage, strength and leadership of Farragut High School Head Football Coach Eddie Courtney. I also include the following news article printed in the Knoxville News-Sentinel.

[From the Knoxville News-Sentinel, Jan. 19, 2006]

COURTNEY AWARD STANDS FOR COURAGE

(By Drew Edwards)

Farragut High School football coach Eddie Courtney was named the first recipient and namesake of the Courage Award at the PrepXtra football awards banquet Wednesday night in the Wolf Kaplan Center inside Neyland Stadium.

Courtney was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease last spring and guided the Admirals to the Class 5A quarterfinals and an 11-3 record. Throughout months of radiation and chemotherapy, the 52-year-old coach never missed a team function, including summer conditioning workouts.

He continued to perform his other duties, including cutting the grass and lining the field.

"It started with (my faith) and having great friends," Courtney said. "And I'm here because of the game of football. As a player, it was always just suck-it-up and go."

Farragut linebacker Nick Reveiz said Courtney's attitude rubbed off on the team.

"He's a man, and that's the true definition of a man," Reveiz told the News Sentinel in November. "He takes what life gives him. He doesn't whine about anything. That's one person that no matter what comes his way, no matter how unfair it is, no matter what happens, he's not going to complain about anything. He's going to take what's given and make the best out of it."

Courtney finished his radiation treatments last month and will visit doctors once every two months for the next year.

The Eddie Courtney Courage Award will be given each year to a player, coach or contributor to local high school football who has shown the spirit to face fear or danger with confidence, resolution and dignity.

HONORING JOAN CARR ON RECEIVING THE ATHENA AWARD

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Joan Carr, who is the recipient of the ATHENA award, which honors outstanding women for their leadership.

Since her retirement from the nursing profession, Joan has selflessly served as a volunteer for WWCS Health & Welfare Advisory for the Wayne Westland School District Family Resource Center. She has led numerous community projects, including the Red Wagon Literacy Project, Kindergarten Backpack Project and Literacy Family Fun Night. Dedicated to her community, she has tirelessly worked to identify the needs of families within the Wayne Westland School District, and is considered a mentor and role model to women in her community.

Mr. Speaker, Joan Carr has forged a legacy of commitment and dedication to helping families in the Cities of Wayne and Westland. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Joan, and I congratulate her upon receiving this honor.

HONORING THE WOODVILLE FIGHTING EAGLES 2A BASEBALL TEXAS STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Woodville High School Fighting Eagles on their 2005 2A Texas State Baseball Championship. Woodville, Texas, is a wonderful community in Tyler County and a proud part of the Eighth Congressional District. For any community in America a state championship is quite an accomplishment and one worth honoring.

While the young men and their coaches worked their way through each level of competition, everyone in the community rallied behind the team driving all over the state to cheer them on to a State Championship victory.

Team starting pitcher Casey Beck was named most valuable player at the State Championship Game. The team clinched the championship with a victory over Holliday High School located near Wichita Falls, Texas, by a score of 2 to 1. In a story that belongs in a climatic Hollywood sports movie, Beck, after throwing 134 pitches in his team's semifinal victory the day before was called in as a relief pitcher in the last two innings of the championship game.

The Austin American Statesman quoted Beck as saying "My arm was really weak. When I was warming up between innings, I had nothing. Coach came over and asked me if I had one inning left, and I told them I'd give it my all. Then that became two innings."

Mr. Speaker, there is something else that makes the people of Tyler County and the City of Woodville stand out. These families and