

and are dedicated employees of Honda North America, whose contributions to Honda's products helped the company receive four of the most prestigious awards given to automakers. Earlier this year, the Honda Civic lineup and Honda Ridgeline were selected as the 2006 Motor Trend Car and Truck of the Year. This is the first time that a single brand has won both awards from Motor Trend in the same year.

Significantly, the Civic Coupe, Civic Si and Ridgeline vehicles were researched, designed and developed at Honda R&D of the Americas with 10 facilities located across the United States. The major development facility is located in Raymond, Ohio in my 15th Congressional district. This facility employs approximately 1,000 U.S. associates and handles a variety of engineering, design, vehicle fabrication and testing responsibilities.

In addition, at the 2006 Detroit International Auto Show, the Civic lineup and Ridgeline were awarded the 2006 "North American Car and Truck of the Year". The winners of these awards are selected by 49 full-time automotive journalists from the United States and Canada. Winners are chosen based on a multitude of factors including innovation, design, safety, handling, driver satisfaction and value for the money. Once again, this is the first time a single brand has won both awards in the same year.

These achievements reflect a very significant maturation of Honda's operations in America and the meaning of American workers, and specifically Ohioans, to Honda itself. Today, nearly 30 percent of the Honda and Acura vehicles sold in the U.S. in 2005 were researched, designed and developed in America. Honda currently employs approximately 15,000 associates in Ohio and its investment includes five manufacturing plants that produce automobiles, light trucks, motorcycles, engines and transmissions. Honda utilizes more than 160 parts suppliers from the "Buckeye State" to produce these vehicles and their components—further signifying the relationship between Honda and the Ohio worker.

I want to offer my congratulations to the associates of Honda in Ohio and especially those in Raymond, Ohio at Honda R&D of the Americas on receipt of these four awards. I appreciate the House allowing me to bring this matter to its attention.

**DARFUR PEACE AND
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2006**

SPEECH OF

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, of which I am a cosponsor.

This Act authorizes the President to offer further assistance to the African Union Mission in Sudan to protect civilians and humanitarian operations. It also provides the President the authority to impose sanctions on those individuals who have committed acts of genocide and calls on the international community to contribute more aid to end this horrific crisis.

The United States and our allies must do whatever we can to help end the atrocities

that have been occurring in the Darfur region of the Sudan over the last four years. During that time over 400,000 southern Sudanese Christians have been massacred and over 1.6 million people have been permanently displaced from their homes.

To this day, the Sudanese government in the north is continuing to attempt to "ethnically cleanse" this area of its Christian population. These serious violations of international human rights and law—not to mention, plain human decency—must be stopped.

The rest of the world must put pressure on the individuals and institutions involved to put an immediate end to these crimes without regard to their economic or political interests in the area. Human life must be the guiding factor.

I applaud the efforts of my colleagues, CHRIS SMITH and DONALD PAYNE, both of whom are from my home state of New Jersey. I also thank Chairman HYDE for his tireless efforts on this legislation as well and ask that all of my colleagues support H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act.

**IN RECOGNITION OF BASIC HIGH
SCHOOL'S MARINE CORPS JROTC
PROGRAM AND PARTICIPANTS**

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of a special group of high school students in Henderson, Nevada, the members of Basic High School's Marine Corps JROTC.

Basic's JROTC unit was activated in 1977 and is one of over 200 plus units sponsored by the United States Marine Corps. Basic's MCJROTC has been designed as a "Naval Honor School" 14 times and has received state and national recognition and honors. The Senior Marine Instructor and Marine Instructors are retired Marines with over 80 years of combined military service and 30 years at Basic High School.

The mission of the MCJROTC is to develop young leaders and responsible citizens with respect for constituted authority, to help individuals strengthen character and form habits of self discipline, and to learn the importance of national security in a democratic society. Students that participate in the MCJROTC program at Basic learn self-discipline, self confidence, personal responsibility and build their character.

Basic's MCJROTC students participated in the Western United States National Drill Meet on April 1, 2006 and were deemed the overall winner for the West Coast. Other awards earned included: 1st place in Armed Inspection; 2nd place in Unarmed Inspection; 1st place in 4 Person Unarmed; 5th place for 4 Person Unarmed; 3rd place in Unarmed Inspection; 2nd place for Color Guard Regulation; 1st place for 4 Person Armed; 1st place in Unarmed Exhibition; 2nd place in Color Guard Regulation; 4th place for 4 Person Armed; 2nd place for Armed Inspection; 3rd place for Unarmed Exhibition; 4th place for Color Guard Inspection; Outstanding Unarmed Commander Cadet.

Basic's MCJROTC students have won this prestigious championship twice in the last 4

years. Their commitment to this important program and devotion to excellence has helped them achieve these high honors, and I am proud to recognize them today for their accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I salute the MCJROTC students at Basic High School.

IN HONOR OF JOHNNY RYE, SR.

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2006

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to Johnny Rye, Sr., of Poinsett County, Arkansas, a great friend, and someone who has made countless contributions to his community.

Johnny was born into a sharecropping family on September 2, 1924, in Smithville, Mississippi but moved to Arkansas just 8 years later. After finishing school, Johnny started his own grocery business in the Black Oak Community. He has operated that grocery for more than 50 years, making it the oldest grocery business in all of Poinsett County.

In addition to being a great businessman, Johnny is an active member of his community. He is known for his generosity to many local charities, and has been a member of the Marked Tree Church of God since 1946. He has also taken the time to get involved in civic activities, serving as a delegate to the Democratic State Convention and helping Bill Clinton win Poinsett County in his 1982 race for Governor.

Johnny Rye and his wife, Maxine Branch Rye, have two sons, Johnny Rye, Jr., the Assessor of Poinsett County, and Randy Rye who works for the family business. They also have one granddaughter, Robin Rye who is studying to be a nursing major at the University of Central Arkansas.

I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me today in recognizing Johnny Rye, Sr. for his significant contributions to eastern Arkansas. He is a great friend, a great businessman, and a great American.

**CARL ELLIOTT AND LISTER HILL:
TWO INDISPENSABLE GREAT AN-
GELS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2006

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, April 7, 2006, the University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies and the University Libraries will conduct a Library Services Act 50th Anniversary Program honoring Congressman Carl Elliott and Senator Lister Hill, two great legislators who were the first great federal advocates for the Library Services and the National Defense Education Acts. As the only Librarian who has ever served in the Congress I was honored to be invited to speak at this commemoration; however, the scheduled vote on the budget prevented me from attending. The following are a portion of