

entered the thermal battery business at its infancy, joining Catalyst Research, a division of Mine Safety Appliances (MSA), in 1948.

Catalyst Research had just been challenged by the National Bureau of Standards to develop a battery that could sit inertly on a shelf for years, and when needed, be instantaneously turned on without requiring any mechanical activation. Thermal batteries were the answer. Joe was part of the team that in the early 1950's provided the first thermal batteries for the U.S. Navy. Over the next decade, Joe helped refine this technology for use by our other services. In 1964, Joe went to the U.K. to start up a new MSA thermal battery factory in Scotland meeting the needs of our NATO allies.

Joe Gessler's contribution goes beyond engineering; he has been both a teacher and mentor. As the production and engineering manager at Catalyst Research, Joe had a direct and future impact on his current employer, Saft America. Three of the engineers he trained met him for lunch one day to announce they had decided to go out on their own and form KDI Score Thermal Batteries, which was eventually acquired by Saft.

Joe himself joined Saft in 1983 where he shared his expertise until his "first" retirement in 1990. But retirement for Joe Gessler meant he only worked 40 hours a week as a "part-time" employee. In the 16 years since then, Joe was instrumental in ramping up Saft's battery production for Operation Desert Storm and applying his vast knowledge of battery technology and production to help grow Saft America's Cockeysville facility to where it is today, the largest supplier of advanced lithium ion battery systems to America's Armed Forces.

Whatever the challenge, at an age when most men are content playing golf or sitting in a club house, Joe Gessler puts in a full 40 hours every week generating amazing results with the same positive "can do" attitude he had on the day he graduated college.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me today in recognizing Joe Gessler for over 58 years of dedication and contributions to the defense of the United States through superior technology, and congratulates him on his retirement as America's oldest thermal battery engineer.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, due to a combination of mechanical problems suffered by US Airways and inclement weather in the Washington, DC, area, I arrived at the Capitol yesterday later than I anticipated. For this reason, I missed the following three recorded votes on June 19:

1. H.R. 5540—Sergeant Jacob Dan Dones Post Office Designation Act—had I been present, I would have voted "aye";

2. H.R. 5504—Larry Winn, Jr. Post Office Building Designation Act—had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; and

3. H. Res. 826—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a National Youth Sports Week should be established—had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### TRIBUTE TO KERRY DUMBAUGH

### HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kerry Dumbaugh for becoming the Butler Distinguished Graduate for 2006. Having demonstrated a great degree of ability and knowledge in her field, it is my hope that she will continue to share this and grow in prosperity.

Graduating from Butler High School located in Pennsylvania's third Congressional District in 1970, Dumbaugh started out at Eastman School of Music as a piano performance major. Although she had been a piano student since she was 7 years old, she soon discovered that this was not the course she wished to pursue. She decided to transfer to Wittenberg University to study music, yet after meeting an enthusiastic professor, she was convinced to add Eastern Asian Studies to her "repertoire." After her time there, she attended the University of Pennsylvania, where she earned her master's in Chinese Studies and International Relations. Thus began her political career. Working as a legislative correspondent, assistant, and director for various United States Congressmen, she enjoyed her experience, yet felt that there was more.

When a position at the Congressional Research Service, CRS, opened, Dumbaugh seized the opportunity. She went on to earn a master's in National Security Studies from the U.S. National War College. Utilizing her knowledge about Eastern Asia, with the CRS, she provides information and analysis about the developments in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and China to U.S. Congressmen. She analyzes the political, military, economic, and security developments as well as the implications of U.S. foreign policy. She has authored over 100 articles; and since 1992, she has moderated the China Forum, a public policy TV program about China.

The Distinguished Graduate award is given to a Butler graduate each year. Kerry Dumbaugh will be the 27th recipient and the 5th woman to receive it. She is a model of excellence in academia and politics, as well as for women. Her intelligence has served to aid in furthering American policy abroad. Due to her many accomplishments, Dumbaugh deserves commendation.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join with me in congratulating Kerry Dumbaugh and her family on her receiving the Butler Distinguished Graduate Award for 2006 and in wishing her continued success in all her endeavors.

#### A TRIBUTE TO GLORIA GARNER

### HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Gloria Garner, a 38-year veteran of the Knoxville Area Urban League. Her efforts will be long remembered and continually missed.

Gloria spent her 38 years of service with the goal of helping others help themselves. She is

a great example of how individuals in our communities can make a difference in the lives of others.

I commend Gloria Garner for all that she has done for the men, women, and children of Knoxville. I wish her all the best in her future life, and am hopeful that others will stand in to follow in her path.

I would also like to include in the RECORD a June 16, 2006 article in the Knoxville News-Sentinel about Gloria's retirement and career for all of my colleagues, constituents and readers of the record, so that they can more fully understand her dedication.

HEART OF THE URBAN LEAGUE; GLORIA GARNER RETIRES AFTER 38 YEARS WITH KNOXVILLE AFFILIATE

(By Chandra Harris)

A walking encyclopedia chock-full of Knoxville Area Urban League facts, Gloria Garner is clearing out her bookshelves.

Retiring after 38 years with the league, Garner doesn't need a book to recount the history of the league because she is the history of the league.

The vice president of community affairs has held every position there is and was at the league since starting there months after its inception in 1968.

A handful of moves for the Urban League came before settling at East Fifth Avenue. But Garner was never moved to leave.

And four presidents came and went. Garner stepped in as interim director while the search was on for the next president.

When money was tight and staff was short, Garner's smile and tenacity remained steadfast through 40-plus-hour weeks.

She held onto the words of the national president from 1961-1971, Whitney M. Young, Jr.: "Every man is our brother, and every man's burden our own."

"Where poverty exists, all are poorer. Where hate flourishes, all are corrupted. Where injustice reigns, all are unequal."

Garner said she stood in then and will continue to stand in to bridge the gap of social and economic development in minority communities.

Even as she is dusting off her desk and packing up, she is still telling strangers and friends alike that they need to join the Knoxville affiliate of the National Urban League.

"Once an Urban Leaguer, always an Urban Leaguer," she said during a celebratory reception in her honor Thursday night at the University Club.

While she may no longer have an office to call her own come next Thursday, her official last day, Garner said, "I will still be around helping wherever I can."

"When you have a passion for what you do, you want to work hard."

The on-time Head Start teacher who dreamt of becoming a nurse or joining the military still found a way to help people.

"There are people in jobs today that I had a hand in, and that's a good feeling," Garner said.

"The Urban League is my family and I was busy helping people," said the mother of five adult children when asked why her tenure was such a long one.

Without her insight through the years, there wouldn't have been a foundation of the league, Ernest Fulton and Douglas Upton said.

Fulton and Upton both worked with Garner in the early days of the league.

"She has a way with people," Upton said.

"She connects with people."

And that was apparent Thursday night as dozens, including Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam and Vice Mayor and former Urban