

handled this increased responsibility with ease and soon he became the director of the Community Services Department. During his 3 years time in this position, he saw the department's budget increase by nearly 20 percent and successfully supervised eight divisions within the department, administering programs to not only help the unemployed but also veterans and families.

Wayne's vast contribution to Escambia County and his ability to administer so many programs at once eventually resulted in being hired as the Assistant County Administrator. His supervision of nearly 800 employees was instrumental in the continued growth of a number of county programs—programs ranging from transportation to agriculture and healthcare to industrial services. It was only natural for him to become the County Administrator for the next 3 years. In this capacity, he reported directly to the Board of County Commissioners and also served as the Director of Emergency Management. Escambia County was in good hands with Wayne in this position—he knew the county inside and out. Even after 1991, as he became the Trial Court Administrator for the First Judicial Circuit of Florida, a position he holds to this day, Wayne's work for this area has not stopped.

There is no question that Wayne was a civic leader for northwest Florida who set the bar high for those who followed. His leadership and knowledge has left Escambia County a better place, and his service to those in his community will be missed. I remain confident that Wayne's input will still play a great role for local leaders.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is with great admiration that I recognize the retirement of Mr. Wayne Peacock. May his years ahead be filled with joy, and may they shine with good health and happiness.

HONORING THE BUCKS COUNTY
WOMEN'S FUND

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to rise before you today in recognition of the Bucks County Women's Fund.

For sixteen years the Bucks County Women's Fund has provided more than \$200,000 to 36 local organizations to support programming in the critical areas of domestic violence prevention, economic self-sufficiency, vocational education, finance, leadership, mentorship and literacy. The Fund has opened countless doors to the women and girls of Bucks County, recognizing their potential for success and presenting them with opportunities to achieve their dreams.

The Bucks County Women's Fund is a real source of inspiration to the citizens and organizations back home, and clearly demonstrates how much we all benefit from the advancement of women. The Fund leads by example: women manage the Fund, run its programs and promote policies for women's rights. It is also active in a global network of funds with common goals, working to ensure rights and opportunities for girls and women

all over the world. What started as a humble organization has now established an endowment, ensuring that it will continue as a pillar of our community for years to come.

Madam Speaker, the mission of the Fund has a special significance for me personally. My daughter Maggie was born three months ago, and I want to thank the Bucks County Women's Fund for building a better future for my little girl and all of the girls and women in our county. I offer my hearty congratulations as they prepare for "Creating Change, Transforming Lives," their 16th annual dinner celebration on March 8, 2007. Madam Speaker, on Maggie's behalf, I commend the Fund as it continues its good work for our wives, mothers, sisters, daughters and friends.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR.
THOMAS STEPHEN GLEASON, SR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of a good man, a proud American, and a fine member of the south Alabama community, Mr. Thomas Stephen Gleason, Sr., who passed away last month.

An excellent businessman and a true community leader, Mr. Gleason was loved by his family and friends and respected by his peers. South Alabama is truly a better place because of the life of Tommy.

A resident of Mobile since childhood, Mr. Gleason made many important contributions, professionally as well as personally, to the advancement of south Alabama. After graduating from McGill Institute and Spring Hill College, Mr. Gleason began what was an almost 50 year real estate career. At one time, he was even the youngest licensed realtor in the State of Alabama. In 1975, Tommy founded Gleason and Associates, which has been instrumental in transforming commercial real estate development in south Alabama. Gleason and Associates has been responsible for bringing many companies to south Alabama, including several of the district's leading employers.

Along with his significant professional success, Tommy led a highly involved civic life as well. Mr. Gleason was a member of the Jaycees, the Board of the Museum of Mobile, as well as St. Ignatius Parish. He was loved by many, and he loved life, particularly time spent golfing at the Country Club of Mobile, and fishing with the Mobile Big Game Fishing Club, where he served as board member.

Madam Speaker, Thomas Stephen Gleason, Sr., is survived by his wife of 45 years, Frances; a son, Thomas Stephen Gleason, Jr.; a daughter, Mary Gleason Geil; and 3 grandchildren. May his family know that they are in the thoughts and prayers of so many in South Alabama.

HONORING STEPHANIE DUNTON

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2007

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Stephanie Dunton from Winterport, a small town in central Maine.

Stephanie, a student at Samuel L. Wagner Middle School, was recently named one of the top two youth volunteers in Maine for the 12th Annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. This program is America's largest youth recognition program based exclusively on volunteerism.

Stephanie is a tireless young woman who has given her time and energy to help the less fortunate. Inspired by her sister's satisfaction from volunteering, Stephanie searched for her own community service project. Initially, she wanted to volunteer at her local food pantry, but was unable to do so since she attended classes during the pantry's hours of operations.

Stephanie instead went above and beyond, creating and conducting her own monthly food drive called the "Food Shuttle," which has collected more than one thousand pounds of donated food for a local pantry. Her dedication is truly extraordinary and deserves our sincere admiration and respect.

While numerous studies have shown that Americans today are less involved in their communities than before, it is essential that we support the kind of selfless contributions that people like Stephanie have made. She is an inspiring example to all of us, serving as one of our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

I join with her family, friends and community in congratulating Stephanie for this fine honor. The citizens of the State of Maine are extremely fortunate to have such a fine, young public servant.

TRIBUTE TO THE "FIGHTING
LONGRACKS"

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2007

Ms. HOOLEY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to praise the courage, dedication, and selflessness of the following 116th Air Control Squadron volunteers.

The "Fighting Longracks" from Camp Rilea, Warrenton, Oregon answered the call of service and stood up, so their active duty counterparts could temporarily stand down for the holidays.

From September 2006 through January 2007 the Oregon Air National Guard in association with citizen-airmen from Air National Guard units from Hawaii, Ohio, Puerto Rico, and Wisconsin provided tactical command and control for all combat assets within Afghanistan.

Unfortunately, too often we stand here in this chamber to publicly acknowledge the contribution of our military and their families after a tragedy—we honor our fallen—and often forget the living, our veterans.

Lieutenant Colonel Timothy Olson, Lieutenant Colonel Jim Gregory, Major Paul Evans,