

in a way that will serve to inspire the next generation of explorers. We can never forget this magnificent seven, those heroes who explored the heavens: Rick D. Husband; Michael P. Anderson; Laurel Clark; David M. Brown; William C. McCool; Kapana Chawla; and Ilan Ramon.

They were individuals of the highest caliber, always striving for excellence, and exemplifying the most noble of human traits. They were skilled professionals, scientists, clinicians, adventurers, and family men and women. The crew represented the diversity of our nation—black and white, men and women, immigrant and native-born, and included a comrade from Israel embodying the international goals of peace and cooperation.

The *Columbia* crew was deeply committed to the NASA mission. NASA provides insights into the origins, destiny, and wonder of the universe and is a source of dreams for young and old alike. These seven courageous explorers paid the ultimate price to advance our understanding of the universe, to advance our medical and engineering sciences, and to make the nation safer and more secure. Before the *Columbia* started its tragic descent, the shuttle crew completed some 80 scientific experiments. Much of their research data had already been relayed to Houston where it has added to the pool of scientific knowledge.

In the two previous Congresses, I introduced legislation authorizing the issuance of Congressional Gold Medals to the crew of Space Shuttle *Columbia*. In fact, 318 joined me in co-sponsoring that legislation but the bill was never brought to the floor for a vote.

I have reintroduced the bill in the 110th Congress (H.R. 266) authorizing the coinage of a Gold Medal to pay proper tribute to our astronauts. One of the main reasons that the medal is bestowed is to make the highest ex-

pression of national appreciation for distinguished achievements and contributions.

Mr. Speaker, very shortly I will be introducing legislation authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin commemorating the 50th Anniversary of NASA and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. For a half century, NASA and the JPL have been involved in many defining events occurred which have shaped the course of human history and demonstrated to the world the character of the people of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 807 and urge my colleagues to do likewise. I also invite all members to join me in bringing to a vote on the floor H.R. 266 to award Congressional Gold Medals to the crew of Space Shuttle *Columbia* and in supporting legislation to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of NASA and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

TRIBUTE TO HERMAN BRUBAKER
AND DONALD H. SCHRIVER

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2007

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a couple of buckeyes who have played an instrumental role in the growth and development of the dairy industry.

During my years in Congress, I have had the good fortune of representing, Herman Brubaker. Herman is a dairy farmer in the Preble County town of West Alexandria and he is a leader in the dairy industry.

While serving as chairman of the Board of Dairy Farmers of America, Inc. (DFA), the Na-

tion's largest dairy marketing cooperative, Herman played an instrumental role in unifying the Nation's dairy producers' efforts to work together and promote dairy consumption. For those of you unfamiliar with DFA, it is a farmer owned cooperative with 24,000 dairy farmer members in 49 states.

Herman was the President of the Board of Directors of the Strongsville, Ohio—based Milk Marketing Inc. dairy cooperative in 1998 and played an instrumental role in that cooperative joining together with cooperatives throughout the country to form DFA. His efforts were so impressive that he was chosen as the first chairman of DFA's board of directors. He held this position until he retired in 2002. Herman has also served on the National Milk Producers Federation's board of directors.

Although Herman and I have not always agreed on the details of dairy policy, I have always been impressed with his work on behalf of dairy farmers. We have had some spirited discussions and I can honestly say it has been a pleasure to serve as his Member of Congress.

I also stand to recognize Donald Schriver, who recently retired as the executive vice president of DFA is an Ohio native and a 1969 graduate of the Ohio State University. Donald Schriver grew up on a dairy farm in Lorraine County, Ohio, and has spent a lifetime within agribusiness and the cooperative business world. Like Herman, Donald was an official with Milk Marketing, Inc. when it joined with other cooperatives to form DFA. Since DFA formed in 1998, Donald has played a vital role in the cooperative's growth and development.

I thank these men for their continued support of the dairy industry. I wish them well as they enjoy their retirements.