

rapidly each year since its inception and this year will serve over 20,000 people.

For all of his outstanding work, Dr. Wooten has been honored by such groups as Family Partnership Against Drugs, Boys and Girls Clubs of Evansville, The United Way and Rotary International. On April 19, 2007, he was presented with Leadership Evansville's 2007 Lifetime Achievement Award. I am proud to have this opportunity to honor Dr. Wooten for his distinguished service to the Evansville community.

ON HONORING OLLIE L. McCOY,
VETERAN AND PUBLIC SERVANT,
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RE-
TIREMENT AND TO EXTEND
BEST WISHES TO HIM AND HIS
FAMILY

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to stand before you today to honor a fellow Louisville native; retiring Capitol Police Officer Ollie McCoy. Officer McCoy has devoted his career to public service. He served in the United States Army, Airborne Division, for 22 years, including three tours in Vietnam. As a Capitol Police Officer, he has helped protect our Nation's Capitol for 20 years, helping guard the Capitol during such crises as the Capitol shootings in 1998, the anthrax contamination of 2001 and the attacks of September 11th.

Officer McCoy has dedicated most of his life to serving his country. He has demonstrated throughout his career the true meaning of heroism. I ask that you will all join me in giving him the recognition he deserves, and in wishing that his well-deserved retirement is long and fulfilling. On behalf of Kentucky's 3rd District, I thank you, Officer McCoy, for your dedication to our Nation. You have played a vital role in the safety and security of our country, and we are proud to call you one of our own.

CONGRATULATING THE GRAND
RAPIDS COMMUNITY SUSTAIN-
ABILITY PARTNERSHIP

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Grand Rapids Community Sustainability Partnership's accomplishment in being named a Regional Center of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development by the United Nations. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of the Partnership.

The Grand Rapids Community Sustainability Partnership is an enterprise comprised of the City of Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids Public Schools, Grand Rapids Community College, Grand Valley State University, Aquinas College and 104 corporate or institutional members that strive to promote leadership in sustainable development in the West Michigan area. The recognition bestowed upon the Part-

nership by the United Nations has thrust Grand Rapids into the global spotlight as a community at the forefront of environmental stewardship. Grand Rapids is located at the Grand River watershed, Michigan's largest drainage basin, and the region is blessed with some of America's most beautiful and precious resources. The watershed drains directly into Lake Michigan, which provides drinking water for millions of people and serves as a source of fishing, recreation and transportation to the region's residents. The Great Lakes contain twenty percent of the world's fresh water supply, making them one of the world's most important natural resources.

As Michigan's second largest city, Grand Rapids has dedicated itself to preserving the environment for future generations while promoting economic innovation and growth. The Partnership formed between public and private interests in Grand Rapids has worked together to educate the area's residents on sustainable development. It has played an important role in making sure that the region's economy and environment remain vibrant. The Regional Center of Expertise, among other things, will work to manage sustainable urban growth, conserve energy and water, improve the region's infrastructure, and educate the public on how best to conserve our treasured natural resources. To this degree, the Grand Rapids Community Sustainability Partnership will ensure that our children and grandchildren inherit a thriving community.

Through the leadership of the Grand Rapids Community Sustainability Partnership, Michigan remains a principal player in the conservation and protection of not only our economy, but also our environment. I have dedicated a major part of my life and career as a scientist and representative in local, State and Federal Government toward advancing these same goals of sustainable development and environmental stewardship, so I am especially proud of my hometown on this achievement. I commend the Partnership's activities to my colleagues in the House.

TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH COHN AND
THE USPTO

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Deborah Cohn, deputy commissioner for Trademark Operations at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), for her leadership in promoting government telework. With her creativity and perseverance, Deborah Cohn pioneered the development of the USPTO's first telework program at a time when telework was far from the norm. Convincing reluctant agency executives, Ms. Cohn forged coalitions with managers, IT personnel, and the employee union to create an innovative, award-winning telework program at the USPTO.

This month, the Trademark Work at Home (TWAH) program celebrates its 10th anniversary. Established in 1997, TWAH began as a feasibility pilot of 18 teleworkers. Today, TWAH is the most innovative and progressive program in the entire Federal Government involving more than 220 employees, or 85 per-

cent of eligible examining attorneys, who spend the vast majority of their workweek at home.

The lesson learned from Hurricane Katrina is that governments and private sector businesses must continue to operate if our Nation is faced with similar disasters in the future. Telecommuting has proven benefits, not only for continuity of operations, but also energy savings, air quality, employee productivity, and employee cost savings. In short, telework is a winner all around. As the Nation's largest employer, the Federal Government should be the leader in telework policy. The USPTO is the gold standard for the Federal Government thanks to the efforts of my constituent, Deborah Cohn.

Ms. Cohn began her career at the USPTO as a trademark examining attorney in 1983. In 2001, she joined the Senior Executive Service as a Trademark Group director. She became deputy commissioner for Trademark Operations in 2005 and currently oversees the examination and processing of applications throughout the trademark operation.

Throughout her legal career at the USPTO, Ms. Cohn has been involved in work-life improvement initiatives. She is a former Council of Excellence in Government fellow where she first developed the seeds of the trademark work-at-home program. Ms. Cohn is a graduate of The American University and George Mason University School of Law. Ms. Cohn is a sought after resource and speaker as an expert on the development and management of telework programs.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Ms. Cohn's efforts in making the USPTO the most successful telework program within the Federal Government. I also ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Trademark Office's award-winning telework program.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. ARMY CAPTAIN
JAMES A. MORIN

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Change of Command of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, and the achievements of its outgoing Commander, Captain James A. Morin.

In a ceremony tomorrow at Ft. Myer, Virginia, Captain Morin will pass the company's guidon to its new Commander, Captain Michael J. Shouse.

The 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment is affectionately known as The Old Guard. It was created in 1784, and it is the Army's oldest active infantry regiment. It is also the lead Army unit for all ceremonial activities in and around the Nation's capital, and in many respects its members exemplify the best traditions of both the United States Army and of our Nation.

Captain Morin was a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and served with distinction in both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he earned several important awards and distinctions for his service. He joined the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment in 2004, and he has commanded the Headquarters and Headquarters Company since February, 2006.