

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RYAN  
PECKHAM

**HON. JON C. PORTER—**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ryan Peckham, who has distinguished himself as an outstanding and devoted professional in his field as a Registered Nurse.

Ryan Peckham has been a Registered Nurse at Summerlin Hospital for three years. Since arriving at Summerlin Hospital as a New Grad RN, Ryan has excelled both as an outstanding nurse and patient advocate. In his three years, he has worked on several committees to help improve patient care and employee life in Southern Nevada including acting as the lead for a committee that overhauled the Triage process in the Emergency Department. Ryan's actions as a key member of this committee were instrumental to implementing new procedures that have helped save countless lives in the Southern Nevada community. He has also worked diligently to make Summerlin Hospital an employer of choice, not only by increasing the desire for Registered Nurses to work at Summerlin Hospital, but by also helping patients receive the highest quality care. Due to his demonstrated proficiency as a Registered Nurse, Ryan has recently been named a Charge Nurse.

Ryan is the epitome of professionalism and dedication. He has contributed to nursing as a whole in many different aspects. He maintains the belief that nursing is an attitude rather than a job.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Ryan Peckham. His professional expertise and caring nature have greatly enriched the lives of those in the Las Vegas community. I commend Ryan for his efforts and commitment to his patients and to our community.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL W. HAMPTON ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2007*

Mr. GILLMOR. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Michael W. Hampton of Waterville, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Michael's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Naval Academy this summer with the incoming midshipmen class of 2011. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer.

Michael brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class at the Naval Academy. While at-

tending Anthony Wayne High School in Whitehouse, Ohio, Michael attained a grade point average which placed him at the top of his class. While a gifted athlete, Michael has maintained the highest standards of excellence in his academics, choosing to enroll and excel in Advanced Placement classes throughout high school. Michael has been a member for the National Honor Society, Honor Roll and has earned awards and accolades as a scholar and an athlete.

Outside the classroom, Michael has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Michael has earned varsity letters in track, swimming and cross country. He was named Captain of the Varsity Cross Country team and served as President of the German Club. Michael's dedication and service to the community and his peers have proven his ability to excel among the leaders at the Naval Academy. I have no doubt that Michael will take the lessons of his student leadership with him to Annapolis.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Michael W. Hampton on his appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Michael will do very well during his career at the Naval Academy and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the Nation.

RECOGNIZING SHAWN GRAYBILL

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Shawn Graybill, a very dedicated and enthusiastic member of my Congressional staff. My office and I greatly value Shawn's hard work and commitment. Constituents have grown to recognize his attention to detail, knowledge of many issues and personal touch. His dedication to the Sixth District of Missouri has shown through over the years, which is evident by the appreciation of all with whom he works.

A native of Tarkio, Shawn began his career within my office as an intern in June of 2002 while completing his undergraduate degree from Park University. He has served admirably whether it was working on constituent case-work or as a field representative for Clay County.

Shawn also worked on my re-election campaign as my campaign manager. As anyone in politics knows, these types of jobs involve long hours and time away from your family. I appreciate his wife, Laura, for sharing her husband with me over the last 5 years.

Shawn will be leaving my office to serve as an Assistant Director for the American Truck Historical Society. In addition, Shawn and Laura are about to become first-time parents. It is my understanding that their daughter will share the name of my favorite President, Ronald Reagan.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in congratulating Shawn Graybill for his many important contributions to myself, my staff, all those he has worked with and for all those he has served. It is truly an honor to

represent Shawn in the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZES THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE AND SUBTROPICAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION'S PRESENCE IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2007*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service and Subtropical Agricultural Research Station (STARS) in Brooksville, FL. for the past seventy-five years, STARS has worked in cooperation with the University of Florida to improve animal production. Their hard work to develop superior animal production systems for the subtropical regions of the United States has established them as leaders in beef cattle and water quality research.

STARS began in 1932 with nearly 2,100 acres as a gift to the Federal Government by Colonel and Mrs. Raymond Robins. The STARS program would eventually grow to its current size of 3,800 acres and produce significant research for the categorization and conservation of tropically adapted beef cattle. Their current projects include environmentally focused analysis that will help determine the impact of the cattle on the waters of Florida and their sustainability.

Given its status as the only station located in the South, the STARS program remains a unique and significant research facility. This is extremely significant because of the fact that nearly 40 percent of the entire Nation's cattle herd is located in the southern United States. STARS also serves as a satellite repository to the National Animal Germplasm Program for tropically adapted beef cattle.

Madam Speaker, I applaud all the men and women who have contributed to the success of the STARS program over the past seventy-five years. These individuals exemplify how working tirelessly on animal production and water quality research can greatly enhance the quality of life for America. This program continues to enhance scientific knowledge of beef cattle, and I commend those involved for their efforts to produce research at the forefront of American agriculture.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2007*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the House of Representatives to honor the National Small Business Association (NSBA) as it celebrates its 70th anniversary. This first-rate organization currently reaches more than 150,000 small-business