

World War II Memorial in Washington, DC. The first 3-day, 2-night trip was in September 2004, and two more followed in May and September 2005. In total, approximately 190 Herkimer veterans traveled to D.C. These all-expense paid trips, financed entirely by private donations, are believed to be the first of their kind in the Nation. Because all of their expenses were covered, every veteran who wanted to, and was physically able, made the trip.

In 2007, he was approached about duplicating the Herkimer project for the World War II veterans from Oneida County, New York. In the course of four trips, more than 400 Oneida veterans made the journey to Washington. After the Hamilton County, New York, legislature contacted John, 17 World War II veterans from Hamilton joined the last Oneida trip.

The son of James and Grace Brennan, John was born and raised in Cohoes, New York. He graduated cum laude from Siena College and Albany Law School. Currently, he is employed as the principal law clerk for Michael E. Daley, the State Supreme Court Justice for Herkimer County.

In addition to his work for veterans, John's service to the community includes organizing the Oneida and Herkimer Counties Bar Associations' participation in the Herkimer County Marine Corps League's Holly Days Toy Drive and serving as an assistant coach in the Herkimer Youth Basketball Program. He is also active in many community associations, including serving as the vice-chair of the Valley Health Services board of directors and on the advisory boards of the Herkimer County Salvation Army and the Herkimer County Child Advocacy Center. In addition, he is on the district council of the Boy Scouts of America, Revolutionary Trails Council and the Herkimer County Law Library Board.

John has been the recipient of numerous awards for his commitment to the community. He has received the Oneida County Bar Association Director's Award, the Mohawk Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross's Volunteer Leadership and Faithful Service Awards and the New York State Unified Court System's Merit Performance Award for Community Service and Humanitarian Pursuits. Veterans' organizations, including the Herkimer Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #4915, the Herkimer County Veterans Council and the Iliion Marine Corps League, have also recognized his work with awards.

John's exceptional dedication to veterans is to be commended. Thank you, John, for all you have done.

35TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROE v. WADE

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, January 22, 2008

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the Supreme Court decision Roe v. Wade. Since 1973, women in this country have exercised choice over their health and the future of their lives. Celebration of this landmark decision is a celebration of America's commitment to uphold freedom and liberty for all.

According to the National Abortion Federation, abortion was actually legal, common, and

publicly advertised until the mid 1880s. When abortions became illegal, many women died or suffered serious medical problems after attempting to self-induce their abortions or by going to untrained practitioners who performed abortions with primitive methods or in unsanitary conditions. Prior to this 1973 decision, women with economic means were able to access medical assistance, (however illegal) while poor women in desperation were forced to subject themselves to back-alley abortions and the subsequent consequences to health, dignity, and privacy. According to the advocacy group Human Rights Watch, approximately 13 percent of maternal deaths worldwide today are attributable to unsafe abortion—between 68,000 and 78,000 deaths annually.

Equitable access to safe abortion services is first and foremost a human right. It has been accurately stated, "Where abortion is safe and legal, no one is forced to have one"—Human Rights Watch. Having a choice and access to a safe abortion is an enormous concern, estimated to affect one in three American women by the age of 45—National Abortion Federation.

In many countries, the denial of reproductive choices makes women succumb to second rate citizenship, further perpetuating the feminization of poverty. Where women are able to exercise choice, they are in control of their opportunities without intrusion by their government. Any restriction on such a choice offends fundamental liberties.

The social, economic and physical consequences of denying women choice are devastating. Because of our global position as a model of democracy and freedom, it is imperative that we stand to acknowledge this decision of the Supreme Court that affirms women's jurisdiction over their bodies and extends the message that the United States is a country which affirms reproductive choice. May we forever remain a Nation that does not corner its citizens, but rather respects their capacity to make decisions over their health and future pursuits.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT
GENERAL JAMES L. CAMPBELL

HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, January 22, 2008

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity today to honor LTG James L. Campbell for his long and distinguished service in the United States Army. I have had the privilege to know General Campbell since 1999 when he commanded the Army's famed 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) at Fort Drum in my 23d Congressional District.

LTG James L. Campbell will officially retire from the United States Army on March 1, 2008, after more than 36 years of dedicated service to our Nation, culminating in his assignment as the 13th Director of the Army Staff. Throughout his career, General Campbell has personified the Army values of duty, integrity, and selfless service across the many missions the Army provides in defense of our Nation. Many of us on Capitol Hill have enjoyed the opportunity to work with General Campbell on a wide variety of Army issues

and programs, and it is my privilege to recognize his many accomplishments.

Upon graduating from the University of Missouri in 1971 and completing the Reserve Officer's Training Corps program, General Campbell was commissioned as a second lieutenant of infantry. Since that time, he received two advanced degrees and served in a variety of command and staff assignments, leading men and women in peace and war in places like Somalia, Haiti, and Bosnia-Herzegovina. As the leader of a joint task force in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, General Campbell helped account for America's missing service personnel from the Vietnam war. For the past 3 years, General Campbell has served as Director of the Army Staff, responsible for synchronizing the day-to-day operations of America's 1.2 million-person Army. He has proven himself a tremendous wartime leader who has demonstrated unselfish devotion to our Nation and the soldiers he leads.

General Campbell has led the Army Staff during one of the most challenging periods in the Army's history. He directed the Army's efforts to transform and modernize the force and implement the largest Base Realignment and Closure in history all during a time of war. His efforts were instrumental in leading the staff through monumental change in the way the Army sustains, transforms, grows, and modernizes. This complex effort established standard organizational designs more relevant to current operational requirements and significantly increased the Army's capability to support Combatant Commanders.

Among his many awards and decorations are the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star, and Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters.

Indeed, through these varying assignments, Lieutenant General Campbell has provided outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on numerous critical issues of enduring importance to the Army and our Nation. His actions and counsel were invaluable to Army leaders as they considered the impact of critically important issues.

Madam Speaker, it is with sincere admiration and appreciation that I pay tribute to General Campbell, his wife, Carol, and their two children, Scott and Casey, for the commitment, sacrifices, and contributions that they have made throughout his honorable military career. I thank General Campbell for his more than 36 years of dedicated and exceptional service and wish him many years of continued success and happiness.

TRIBUTE TO JOANIE HELGESEN

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, January 22, 2008

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Joanie Helgesen for winning the title of Ms. Florida Senior America 2007. A constituent of mine from Boynton Beach, Ms. Helgesen proudly represents the entire senior community of Florida, and I am honored that she resides within my congressional district.

The Ms. Senior America Pageant first began in 1971 and has since been expressing the