

Whereas, Arrianna Schrock always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Arrianna Schrock on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING HAMILTON HORNETS
GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the outstanding achievement of the Hamilton Hornets Girls High School Basketball team on defeating the Westran Hornets by a score of 46–39, to win the Class 2A girls' basketball state championship. The Hornets finished their incredible season by posting an unblemished record of 32–0 this season in Class 2A girls' basketball. This team is the second team in the school's history to have an undefeated season.

The Hornets consist of 15 remarkable young women, including Jordan Esry, Lacy Jones, Micah Brown, Taryn Bruce, Ashley Flook, Eileen Greenwood, Shelby Dickey, Carissa Conger, Brooke Flook, Lindsay Vollmer, Katie Jones, Emily Schieber, Angie Dalton, Katie Rasmussen and Kelsey Schieber.

Also, I want to recognize the great leadership of the team, including Head Coach David Prather, who was assisted by Christy Prather and Sara Lasher. I also want to acknowledge the work of school administrators, Superintendent Steve Yost, Principal Tim Schieber, and Athletic Director Troy Ford, as additional keys to success.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the achievement of the Hamilton Hornets Girls High School Basketball team on their perfect season and state championship. It is an honor to represent this team in the United States Congress.

TAYLOR PLATT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Taylor Platt who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Taylor Platt is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Taylor Platt is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Taylor Platt for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his high school career to his college career and future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CAROL
KIENER

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Carol Kiener, a resident of the First District, who passed away on March 24th of this year.

Mrs. Kiener was a pillar of her community and cornerstone of her family. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family during this difficult time.

Mrs. Kiener spent more than thirty years in the field of education. She loved life and shared that with the children she taught. As a passionate volunteer, Mrs. Kiener taught adult GED classes in her spare time.

Outside of teaching, Mrs. Kiener volunteered her time with the Washington County Historical Society, the Girl Scouts of America, and the March of Dimes. She also was an active member of the Washington County Republican Women and was a member of the B'nai Shalom Congregation in Bristol.

Mrs. Kiener was well respected by her students, colleagues, and parents as an admired educator. Madam Speaker, I ask you and my fellow members to join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Carol Kiener, a loving wife, servant in her community, and a compassionate educator, whose commitment and unwavering determination will be greatly missed throughout East Tennessee.

COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SPEECH OF

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, Martin Luther King, Jr. is a national hero. He embodied the tenacious spirit and compassionate understanding of the American ideal. The power of his words has moved millions to live with hope in their hearts and welcome in their embrace.

Dr. King fought for racial equality and desegregation with nonviolent protest. Peace, he taught us, is our most powerful weapon. He helped communities begin to heal the wounds of hatred and indignity by replacing them with cooperation and tolerance. The mark he left on our society is indelible. When an assassin took him from us on that April day in 1968, Americans mourned a terrible loss. Sooner than expected, we had to enact the lessons he taught us without his guidance to show us the way. But his ink was already imprinted on our moral fiber, and our country continued his fight to end discrimination and segregation.

Madam Speaker, let us, as an American community, pause today to remember the legacy Dr. King left for each of us to carry—to dream, to love, and to accept.

THE GOALS, IDEALS, AND HISTORY OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1021, honoring the goals, ideals, and history of National Women's History Month, which recognizes the women and organizations in the United States, past and present, who have fought for and continue to promote women's rights and history. This resolution will ensure that the legacy of gender equality continues and that the struggles of those who came before us and fought for equality are not forgotten.

The revolutionary ideas of equality on which our Nation was built took a long time to be extended to the whole population. The abolition movement of the mid–1800s fought for the equal treatment of men regardless of race and brought together many female activists, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott. These women went on to host the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention, where many women gathered in a large public forum to discuss women's rights and expressed themselves through a Declaration of Sentiments, which was based on our Nation's founding document.

Although over 70 years passed between this momentous gathering and the passage and ratification of the 19th amendment, the work and dedication of women pushing for the right to vote and equal treatment under the law is a lasting legacy. We are reminded daily of the successes of the women's suffrage movement as we walk through the United States Capitol Rotunda and pass the portrait monument to Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony.

Without the diligent work and dedication of those women who strove for equal representation in Government, we would not have been able to have you, Ms. PELOSI, serve as the first female Speaker of our House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to vote for this important resolution that will give due honor and respect to the women of America past and present with the celebration of National Women's History Month.

HONORING PFC PATRICK J.
MILLER

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, Patrick J. Miller of New Port Richey, Florida, was killed in Iraq over the weekend defending the freedom and liberties of those unable to defend themselves.

Private First Class Miller, also known as P.J., was assigned to the 1st Infantry Division, stationed in Fort Riley, Kansas. He was deployed in Iraq since September 2007 and was fatally wounded when his unit came up against an IED attack and small arms fire during combat operations in Baghdad.

Although I did not have the privilege of knowing this courageous young man, by all accounts he was someone who lived every day with the same honor and integrity that he brought to the service of his country.

Prior to joining the Army, P.J. graduated from Mitchell High School in New Port Richey. While there, he excelled both in academics and athletics. These traits would serve him well later in life in both college and as a soldier in the U.S. Army. P.J. eventually earned his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of South Florida and aspired to one day further his education in graduate school.

Private First Class Miller's life was one of courage, perseverance and determination. He gave the ultimate sacrifice to protect us and the country he loved. This is a debt that can never be repaid to his family and loved ones.

Madam Speaker, I am saddened by the loss of P.J. and grieve for his family. May God bless them and comfort them in this time of great loss. May God also bless this great country for which Private First Class Miller so nobly fought and died. We shall never forget him.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATALIA,
TEXAS AND THE 20TH ANNUAL
BLUEBONNET FESTIVAL

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of Natalia, Texas and the 20th Annual Bluebonnet Festival, to be held on Saturday, April 5, 2008. The Bluebonnet Festival has grown into a homecoming for former residents and others who wish to celebrate the incorporation of Natalia, Texas.

Natalia was founded in 1912 by Dr. Frederick Stark Pearson who named the town in honor of his daughter, Natalia Pearson Nicholson. Dr. Pearson was the engineer, designer and builder of the Medina Dam, and Natalia was established as the headquarters for the irrigation district. Destined to be the "Queen City of the Southwest," Natalia was quickly built with macadamized streets, electric power and water works. Today Natalia continues to be home to the seat of the irrigation district, now known as the Bexar, Medina, Atascosa Water District (BMA). BMA owns and operates Medina Dam, Medina Lake and the entire canal system, furnishing water for 35,000 acres of land year-round for vegetable crops, grain and hay.

Though established by Dr. Pearson, Natalia was not incorporated as a city until March 2, 1968. In January of that year, a group of 50 citizens petitioned Medina County to incorporate as a municipality using a City Council form of government. A vote was held on the 2nd of March and by a tally of 116 to 50, Natalia, Texas was incorporated. Just a few weeks later the first elections for Mayor, Alder-

man and City Marshall were held. During the 40 years of the City of Natalia's existence, the goal of its elected officials has always been to offer a better quality of life for its citizens. Natalia continues to retain its small-town charm while also constantly preparing for the future.

There is perhaps no better way to celebrate Natalia's anniversary than with the Texas Bluebonnets. The flower blooms in early spring across fields and roadsides in central and south Texas. Aptly named for its vibrant color and shape, the Bluebonnet's petal is often said to resemble a woman's sunbonnet. Though especially prevalent in towns like Natalia, the Bluebonnet has come to symbolize the entire State of Texas and it was chosen as its state flower in 1901. The annual Bluebonnet Festival celebrates not only the anniversary of Natalia, but also the wild beauty that we have come to associate with the Bluebonnet and the untamed landscape of West Texas.

As they celebrate 40 years of city incorporation, I congratulate all current and past residents of Natalia, Texas for working to achieve the dream of Dr. Pearson of being the "Queen City of the Southwest."

CHRISTINE SHEHAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Christine Shehan who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Christine Shehan is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Christine Shehan is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Christine Shehan for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her high school career to her college career and future accomplishments.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ROBERT E.
DOGGETT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Robert E. Doggett, and to honor a life spent in service to his country, his community, and his family.

As a young man, Mr. DOGGETT served our country bravely during World War II, earning a Purple Heart of Honor for his service in the first African-American army combat unit in the South Pacific Theatre. After returning stateside

from his service, he followed his parents to Cleveland to put down roots in Northeast Ohio in the late 1940's. An artist at heart and by trade, he first utilized his artistic talents by designing calendars for local businesses. He later began work with the City planning commission as a draftsman in 1951, work which would mark the beginning of a career-long commitment to the City of Cleveland and the residents of Northeast Ohio. During his twenty years at the City planning commission, he became the city's first African-American senior planner. His integrity and work ethic carried him up the ranks quickly when in 1972, Mayor Ralph Perk appointed Mr. Doggett as the Cleveland director of the federal community redevelopment Model Cities Initiative, a program dedicated to rebuild Cleveland's East Side. To top off his career of civic service, Robert is responsible for the architectural designs of more than thirty churches, office buildings and restaurants.

Recognized for his talents as a great abstract and landscape artist by his friends and family, he was also a known jazz aficionado and has met Jazz greats Duke Ellington and Lionel Hampton who both performed regularly in the Cleveland area. Mr. Doggett is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Georgia; his children Lisa, Enid and Steven; and one granddaughter. He will be affectionately remembered by his family and friends for his compassion, humor, intelligence and artistic talents.

Madam speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering Robert E. Doggett, and to honor his commitment to his country, community, and family. May his exemplary life serve as an example for us all to follow.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RHUDEL A.
GEORGE

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize a man from my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands, who is being celebrated as a "selfless humanitarian." Mr. Rhudel A. George is well known in our community as a tireless government worker, an advocate for the small businessman, a teacher and a political organizer. As a friend and supporter that I can always count on, Rhudel is exemplary. We are all encouraged by his work as president of Concerned Virgin Islanders, an advocacy group that is determined to both preserve and invigorate the cultural touchstones that make the Virgin Islands special.

He grew up in the Down Street area of Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas and graduated in 1956 from the Charlotte Amalie High School (CAMS). He relocated to New York City where he joined the army in 1957 and served honorably for two years, leaving with a rank of Specialist 4th Class. Upon returning to the territory in 1959, he worked in both the private and public sector, while at the same time pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Management at the University of the Virgin Islands in 1975. In 1975, he began to work for the V.I. Small Business Development Agency, first as a Field Investigator, and later as a Loan Officer. He was appointed Deputy Director of the