

routinely rely on him to supervise or solve difficult problems and demanding situations. Boatswain's Mate First Class Flickinger consistently seeks to improve the quality and enjoyment of Coast Guard life with an uncommon commitment to the morale and welfare of others. These exceptional qualities are likely the reasons he was given the title of 2007 Coast Guard Enlisted Person of the Year.

In addition to the prestigious Person of the Year Award, Boatswain's Mate First Class Flickinger has received several additional military awards. He is the recipient of the Commandant's Letter of Commendation, three Coast Guard Good Conduct Medals, and two Coast Guard Achievement Medals. He has also been presented with the Transportation 9–11 Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Medal.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor BM1 Robert M. Flickinger. His legacy as compassionate yet assertive leader will be remembered by his crewmates and superiors for years to come. It is with great pride that I congratulate Boatswain's Mate First Class Flickinger on his exemplary service to our Nation in the United States Coast Guard.

120TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TWIN  
OAKS ESTATE

**HON. DAVID WU**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2008*

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 29th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act and the 120th anniversary of the Twin Oaks estate in Washington, DC, a National Historic Site and the former residence of nine ambassadors from the Republic of China.

The Twin Oaks estate, located on Woodley Road in Northwest Washington, DC, is considered the largest privately-owned estate in the District of Columbia. The land upon which Twin Oaks rests belonged originally to Uriah Forrest, an American general in the Revolutionary War, a member of the first Continental Congress, and one of Maryland's first delegates to Congress. In 1888, the property was sold to Mr. Gardiner Green Hubbard, founder and first president of the National Geographic Society. Mr. Hubbard commissioned one of America's leading architects at the time, Richard Allen, to design and construct a 26-room house in the early Colonial (Georgian) Revival style. Mr. Hubbard's son-in-law, telephone inventor Alexander Graham Bell, once lived at the estate.

In 1937, the Twin Oaks estate was rented to the Government of the Republic of China, and in 1947 the property was formally sold to that Government. The estate remained in possession of the Republic of China Government after it moved to Taiwan at the end of the Chinese Civil War in 1949. From 1937 to 1978, the Twin Oaks estate was the official residence of nine Republic of China ambassadors, who used the estate for social gatherings and business meetings with senior members of the U.S. government and members of the diplomatic corps.

In late 1978, President Jimmy Carter announced that the United States would shift

diplomatic relations from the Republic of China to the People's Republic of China on January 1, 1979. Fearing that the People's Republic of China would claim ownership of all its assets in the United States, the Republic of China government in Taiwan asked Thomas G. Corcoran, Sr. to help arrange for the sale of the Twin Oaks estate to a private American civic organization, the Friends of Free China Association, co-chaired by Senator Barry Goldwater.

However, the passage of the Taiwan Relations Act, signed into law on April 10, 1979, rendered the transaction unnecessary and ensured that Twin Oaks would remain under ownership of the Republic of China.

Twin Oaks is an invaluable symbol of friendship between the peoples of the United States and Taiwan. Today let us honor the 120th anniversary of the Twin Oaks estate and the 29th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CAREER  
OF HAZEL HALEY

**HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2008*

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of Polk County's beloved educator, Hazel Haley, who died on April 7, 2008.

Holding the record for the longest tenure of a Florida teacher, and thought to have been the longest-serving teacher in the country as well, Miss Haley dedicated 69 years of service to the classroom and to multiple-generations of Polk County families, including Florida Governor Lawton Chiles.

Polk County, and especially Lakeland High School—where Hazel taught for 67 years—has not only lost a dear friend, but an advocate, a mentor, and a community leader. Her legacy and memory lives on through the thousands of students lives she impacted. It is estimated that she taught 13,500 students, proving that one person can touch many lives. In addition, Florida Southern College and Polk Community College both award scholarship funds in her name.

A fan of crossword puzzles, episodes of "Law & Order," and all things Shakespeare, Hazel also had a passion for traveling. Living life to the fullest, in 1973 at the young age of 57, Hazel made it a goal to take two international trips each year. Hazel even managed to physically travel around the world, not just once, but twice. She considered herself the biggest Anglophile in the USA, and always found a way to work London into her itinerary.

Known for her sharp wit, frankness, and big heart, Hazel will long be remembered in the halls of Lakeland High School. Classroom 106—where she taught from 1953 to 2006—will forever retain the many lessons Hazel instilled in students of American and English Literature. In 1984, the Polk County School District honored Hazel's steadfast commitment to education officially naming the wing where her room was located as the "Hazel H. Haley Building."

There is no arguing the multitude of contributions Hazel conveyed to her students, her community, and her profession. Hazel's life is not one that we should mourn, but one that

we should commemorate for her genuine love of life she bestowed upon so many lives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ARMY  
SPECIALIST GREGORY B.  
RUNDELL

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2008*

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember and honor the life and courage of U.S. Army Specialist Gregory B. Rundell. The 21-year-old, a native of North St. Paul, MN, was killed by hostile fire on March 26, 2008 while guarding a U.S. military base in Taji, north of Baghdad.

Specialist Rundell joined the Army in 2005 after graduating from North St. Paul High School in 2004. His expected year-long deployment to Iraq began last December for a tour of duty as a member of a Stryker armored vehicle unit. He was assigned to B Company, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

Rundell served his nation and his fellow soldiers with honor and with courage. His commitment to this noble service earned him the Bronze Star for meritorious service in Iraq, a Good Conduct Medal, a Combat Infantry Badge, and the infantry blue cord.

Rundell's desire to serve his nation and his State is an inspiration to his community. After his career in the U.S. Army, he planned to become a police officer because he wanted to help people. His mother, Joanne, describes her son standing "tall and brave" for others, and his sacrifice exemplifies his family's remarkable commitment to military service. His grandfather, uncle, and brother have all worn the uniform in service to our nation.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying the highest respect to Specialist Rundell and his family. He is a Minnesotan and American hero. His courage and sacrifice honors our nation. Specialist Rundell's parents as well as his brothers and sisters, Kyle, Wayne, Desiree, Andria, his many friends, and his comrades in Iraq have my deepest sympathies for their profound loss.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
LAVELLE SPIVEY FOR WINNING  
THE BOYS' DIVISION I STATE  
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Lavelle Spivey showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Lavelle Spivey was a supportive team player; and

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

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Lavelle Spivey on winning the Boys' Division I State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous

hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING NICK STAMOS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nick James Stamos of Independence, Missouri. Nick is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1138, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nick has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nick has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nick James Stamos for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

A TRIBUTE TO LYDIE H. MASSE

**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2008*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Lydie H. Masse, recently awarded the 2008 Congressional Volunteer Recognition Award by the 2nd Congressional District of Maryland's Veterans Advisory Council.

Lydie Masse works as a hospice night nurse at the Baltimore VA Rehabilitation Extended Care Center (BRECC). While many of the night duty personnel leave once their shift is over, Lydie always stays to escort patients to breakfast, where she plays the piano as breakfast is served and encourages singing among the patients. Fellow workers and volunteers admire how her music enhances the quality of life among the patients. Her gentle, friendly manner endears her to the patients, and whenever she plays music, encouraging them to join in, a sense of good will pervades the room and brightens the day of many of her patients.

An injury caused Lydie to work with a brace on her leg for several weeks, but despite her long recovery she continued her work, never hurried or impatient with the veterans and always in a positive mood. After her arduous night duty is completed every morning, she stays as long as she is needed to help the patients start with their day, tending to any need her patients may have. She volunteers much of her free time to the patients she works with every night, doing her best to better their lives.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Lydie Masse. She is a remarkable volunteer for Maryland's veterans. Through her ongoing efforts, she has brightened the lives of the veterans she works with, making their stay at the BRECC as pleasant

as possible. Lydie has gone above and beyond the call of duty to aid those who have sacrificed to serve our great Nation.

HONORING OWEN HALL FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO MERCER COUNTY AND OHIO

**HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2008*

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Owen Hall, a leading citizen of Mercer County, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to public service. For 18 years, Mr. Hall has contributed his time and talents in leading the Mercer County Republican Party, and for this, I offer him my utmost congratulations and thanks.

However, Owen's love of public service is not confined to the political world. Owen is a man committed to his community, serving on many boards and commissions. He is the Past President of the Ohio Association of Realtors, Past President of the National Realtors Land Institute, member of the Ohio Auctioneers Hall of Fame, Director of the Lake Development Corporation, Past President of the Ohio Churches of God Youth Advance, lifetime member of the Church of God, and Past President of the church council.

Owen's record—as a committed community man, a church leader, and as a good neighbor helping those in need—will leave an enduring legacy in Mercer County. His leadership will be missed, but the footprint he has left will inspire many to emulate his good works.

Owen, I offer my congratulations and gratitude for your long and successful career in public service. I wish you well in your future retirement, and I hope you continue to achieve happiness and success wherever your life journey may lead you.

COVENTRY LIONS CLUB 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2008*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and congratulate the Coventry Lions Club for its 50th anniversary this year. The Coventry Lions Club held its first meeting on April 15, 1958 and was chartered by the International Lions Club to serve the area that is now known as the Owen J. Roberts School District, which includes seven townships in its community of service. Of the charter members, only two are known by the Club to still be living in the area—Dr. Robert Barr and Mr. Stauffer Kutz—who have agreed to be a part of the Club's celebration.

Over the years, the Coventry Lions Club has boasted a membership that includes business and community leaders willing to work under the International Lions slogan of "We Serve." That history has continued into the present time with a membership that seeks to serve the local community, as well as participate in international programs that serve the less fortunate of the world. There are numer-

ous examples of the great work they do in our community and abroad, including: providing eye examinations and glasses for children whose families are unable to meet the necessary financial requirements; delivering food boxes to needy families at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter; providing financial assistance to families who have experienced hardship due to injury and natural disasters; cleaning up and maintaining stretches of local roads; giving financial scholarships to deserving high school graduates; and participation in many other projects within its Lions District, the Delaware Valley and the Tri-State area.

One example of an international project the Coventry Lions Club is working on is the Campaign Sight First II conducted by Lions Club International Foundation. This project is hoping to provide \$200,000,000 to attack preventable blindness throughout the world and contribute toward other humanitarian causes. The Coventry Lions Club has contributed financial resources to numerous noteworthy projects such as this over the years.

Madam Speaker, the Coventry Club has a long and wonderful history of helping its community, and all those throughout the world who may need help. I know my colleagues join me as I congratulate its members for their inspirational work and exceptional public service.

HONORING DR. HWA-WEI LEE

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 10, 2008*

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the many contributions and achievements of Dr. Hwa-Wei Lee. After an esteemed 5 years as the chief of the Asian Division at the Library of Congress—a bookend to his dedicated 50 years in the library profession, Dr. Lee is retiring.

Before joining the Library of Congress in 2003, Dr. Lee had already achieved a distinguished career in the pursuit and preservation of knowledge. He first served at the Main Library of the University of Pittsburgh, where he also completed two master's degrees and a Ph.D. He then advanced his career working at many other libraries, including Duquesne University, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok, Thailand, Colorado State University, and Ohio University. Dr. Lee was Dean of Libraries at Ohio University for 21 years. During that time, he was able to transform a relatively unassuming university library into a prestigious member of the Association of Research Libraries, and ranked among the top 70 academic research libraries in North America. Recognizing Dr. Lee's numerous and incredible accomplishments, Ohio University displayed its enormous appreciation of Dr. Lee by not only naming the first floor of its main library the Hwa-Wei Lee Center for International Collections, but also dedicating a new library annex after him.

During his short tenure at the Library of Congress, Dr. Lee focused his energy on completely rejuvenating and reorganizing the Asian Division. He introduced innovative programs designed to improve and expand the division's resources, collections, services, and outreach.