

justifiably proud of their more than 100 years of service to the State of Kansas' most vulnerable girls and young women.

In 1900, this agency began in Topeka with a contribution of just \$100, which was given to provide much-needed community services and shelter to young women in the community.

It is worth our time to take a moment and realize just how much that small \$100 contribution has created.

Today, 100 years later, Florence Crittenton Services provides not just shelter, but cutting edge, comprehensive services to Kansas' most vulnerable girls and young women. Currently, Florence Crittenton is the only Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility in Kansas that serves female clients only.

Many people who know the Crittenton name associate it with support for unwed mothers. While this is an important part of the Crittenton legacy, the program has evolved over time to meet the increasingly complex and acute needs of at-risk young women and their families all across Kansas.

Most importantly, this array of services to girls and young women in Kansas provides opportunities for growth and support that would not exist otherwise. I am proud to acknowledge Florence Crittenton Services of Kansas for their long-standing and worthwhile efforts that give girls the tools and skills to change the course of their lives.

On this historic occasion, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Florence Crittenton Services in Topeka for their ongoing commitment to at-risk girls, young women and their families.

HONORING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL CRITTENTON FOUNDATION

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2008*

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the National Crittenton Foundation, a national organization dedicated to supporting and empowering young women and girls at-risk.

More than a century ago, founder Charles Crittenton and his colleague, Dr. Kate Waller Barrett, began an international movement to help homeless, pregnant women and their babies. Today, the unique partnership between The National Crittenton Foundation and the Crittenton Family of Agencies carries on this mission through a national network of affiliated independent, local organizations.

As a leading member of the Crittenton Family of Agencies, the Florence Crittenton Agency in Knoxville, Tennessee has worked tirelessly to ensure that the children, families, and pregnant young women of East Tennessee have the best possible services. I am proud to have such an upstanding organization located in my congressional district.

Founded in 1896 under the proud leadership of Mrs. Annie McGhee McClung, the Knoxville organization experienced a period of decline during wars and the Great Depression, but the challenges facing young women and girls remained. Seeing the great need that still existed, seven Knoxville community leaders signed a second Charter of Incorporation on

October 1, 1963, ushering in a new era of innovative services and support.

Through its active participation with The National Crittenton Foundation and the Crittenton Family of Agencies, the Florence Crittenton Agency in Knoxville continues to strengthen communities and have a positive impact on East Tennessee.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the National Crittenton Foundation and Knoxville's Florence Crittenton Agency on this historic occasion and thank them for their ongoing commitment to our communities and to our country.

TRIBUTE TO SAMMY GEORGE OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

**HON. ZACH WAMP**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2008*

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Sammy George of my hometown of Chattanooga, Tennessee, as he departs the broadcasting industry at the height of his career with 35 years of service. Mr. George has been an outstanding leader at home, in the industry and within our community. Now that he will be spending more time with his family and friends, I want to take a moment to recognize his tremendous accomplishments and thank him for all he has done in Chattanooga.

Alter serving in the U.S. Marines in Vietnam, Sammy returned to his hometown of West Blocton, Alabama, where he worked as a disc jockey, DJ. He moved to Chattanooga in 1985 to become the general manager of the upstart radio station WUSY US-101 where he has remained for more than 22 years.

During his term, the station has won countless awards and has been recognized for its distinction and excellence. These include nine Country Music Association Station of the Year awards, four R&R Station of the Year awards, one Academy of Country Music Station award, a National Association of Business, NAB, Marconi for Personality of the Year and the NAB Crystal award.

Most importantly, Sammy has focused his talent and energy on helping those in need. He has humbly led our community in raising millions of dollars for charitable causes, including \$5 million for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and \$800,000 of supplies for Hurricane Katrina victims.

Sammy retires as the market manager for Clear Channel/Chattanooga where he oversaw three popular radio stations: WUSY US-101, WLND 98.1 The Legend, and WRXR Rock 105. After taking some much deserved time off, he will bring his wealth of experience to Northwest Georgia Bank where he will be vice-president for new business.

Sammy George is a man of integrity, loyalty and outstanding leadership, and I am proud to recognize him today.

THE 2008 COOPERATIVE CONSERVATION AWARD

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2008*

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Mount Rainier National Park, the Student Conservation Association, SCA, the Washington's Trails Association, WTA, the National Parks Conservation Association, NPCA, Washington's National Park Fund, and The Mountaineers for being awarded the 2008 Cooperative Conservation Award, CCA, from the Department of the Interior. The CCA is the Department of Interior's highest award presented to private citizens and organizational partners who support the agency's mission and demonstrate significant contributions to its programs.

The award was given to the coalition for their outstanding efforts in rebuilding damaged trails, campgrounds and other facilities at Mount Rainier following the disastrous floods and windstorms during the winter of 2006. The coalition named their efforts the Mount Rainier Recovery Initiative and enlisted the help of more than 700 people from all over the country to rebuild and solidify some of the most beautiful trails, campgrounds and habitats in the country. The work they did was truly remarkable. Their dedication is appreciated by residents of the Pacific Northwest and the residents of the Eighth District, the district I represent.

The work by the coalition, along with countless volunteers, will be enjoyed for years to come by the thousands of visitors to Mount Rainier. With all the coalition has accomplished, their efforts continue by expanding their reach outside Mount Rainier to other areas in Washington State affected by extreme weather utilizing the success of their Mount Rainier Model. Again, congratulations the SCA, the WTA, the NPCA, Washington's National Park Fund and The Mountaineers for their dedication to the natural wonders of the Pacific Northwest and urge them to continue in their efforts.

THE CITY OF ROCK PORT, MISSOURI

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to recognize, the City of Rock Port, Missouri, the first community in the United States of America whose energy source is totally wind powered.

Rock Port, where Lewis and Clark camped in 1804, the county seat of Atchison County—named after United States Senator David Atchison—and the home of the annual Atchison County Fair, has come a long way to be the undisputed leader of energy innovation by becoming the first community in our Nation to be totally energy independent of foreign resources.

Named for the soil that it is built on, Loess Hills Wind Farm is located on agricultural lands within the city limits of Rock Port. The

four wind turbines that make up the Loess Hills Wind Farm will produce 16 million kilowatt hours of electricity per year. Rock Port will truly be the first community in America capable of meeting its entire annual electricity demands from wind power.

As a long standing supporter of wind energy, I am a proud to report the first 100 percent wind-powered community in the United States is in the Sixth Congressional District of Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and the entire United States House of Representatives join me in celebrating with the City of Rock Port, Atchison County and the great State of Missouri in being the "true" leader for this Nation for energy independence.

DESIREE LAWRENCE

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2008*

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

The dedication demonstrated by Desiree Lawrence 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 Desiree Lawrence for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING RACHEL RUSSELL FOR WINNING THE OHIO DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Rachel Russell showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Rachel Russell was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Rachel Russell 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 Rachel Russell on winning the Ohio Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

RECOGNIZING THE FLORENCE CRITTENTON HOME IN LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

**HON. BEN CHANDLER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2008*

Mr. CHANDLER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the 125th anniversary of the National Crittenton Foundation, an organization that supports empowerment and self-sufficiency for young women at risk. In particular, I want to celebrate the work of a leading member of the Crittenton Family of Agencies: The Florence Crittenton Home in Lexington, Kentucky.

Established in 1894, The Florence Crittenton Home in Lexington is a private non-profit residential treatment facility that provides comprehensive services to girls who have been abused, neglected, abandoned or are experiencing pregnancy and parenting in the face of mental health and behavioral challenges. Every day, this dedicated organization strives to provide a stable, safe and nurturing atmosphere to help its clients achieve the personal growth and family stability necessary to thrive as adults.

Originally known as the Lexington House of Mercy, the Florence Crittenton Home opened its doors on September 3, 1894 in response to community concern about the lack of support for the city's girls. Over the years, with help from community partners including the Fayette County Board of Education, the University of Kentucky, the Keeneland Foundation, the Junior League of Lexington, numerous churches and dedicated volunteers, the Florence Crittenton Home has provided important social services to thousands of Kentucky's young women.

The National Crittenton Foundation and Lexington's own Florence Crittenton Home are to be commended as organizations that allow Kentucky's young women to believe in and empower themselves. It is with this ongoing contribution in mind that I recognize them both on this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO JANET ELIZABETH THIESSEN

**HON. RICK LARSEN**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2008*

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who spent more than 20 years working for the people of the 2nd District of Washington State. Janet Elizabeth Thiessen, who passed away last month at the age of 78, was at the side of former Congressman Al Swift, throughout the years he represented the 2nd District from 1978 until 1995.

Ms. Thiessen's service to the 2nd District didn't begin with Rep. Swift; she first worked for his predecessor, Congressman Lloyd Meeds, as a caseworker in the district office and later as a member of his DC staff.

After graduating from Western Washington State College, Ms. Thiessen started out her career as a teacher. When she and her husband moved to Skagit County, she turned her

attention to raising sons Kyle and Scott and volunteering in the community. One of her volunteer projects she was most proud of was helping to bring childcare to migrant families in Skagit County so children wouldn't have to be in the fields while their parents were in the fields picking fruit and vegetables. It was during her years as a volunteer for the local Democratic Party that she met Lloyd Meeds. Her volunteer efforts for Rep. Meeds led to a job helping his constituents, first in the district office and then in Washington, DC. Ms. Thiessen and Swift both worked for Rep. Meeds and when Swift was elected, she became office manager and ultimately his Chief of Staff.

Ms. Thiessen was respected and admired by all who worked in the office. She set high standards and expected top-quality work from all staff in the Swift office. Her hand was in nearly every issue that Swift worked on throughout his tenure in Congress, from his Motor Voter bill, which eventually became law, to the various projects that he sponsored around the 2nd District, such as the 88th Street Interchange on I-5 and the return of passenger rail service between Seattle and Vancouver, BC. She knew the issues, she knew the district, and she made sure everything ran smoothly for Rep. Swift and his legislative staff.

Her writing and grammatical skills were the envy of the entire office. I've been told that both she and Rep. Swift were terrific editors, but her eagle eyes would rarely let a misspelled word or typo slip by in any of the correspondence that went out of the office. Outside of the office, her ability to work a crossword or any type of word puzzle was legendary!

She was one of the first to arrive in the office each day and usually the last to leave at night. She took young staffers under her wing and often pushed them to better themselves in their careers—whether that meant going back to school or taking another job. Many of Swift's former staffers whom Ms. Thiessen helped nurture have gone on to become state legislators, CEOs, judges, attorneys, public affairs officers, top congressional staff, archivists, and teachers. I am fortunate that my own district director for many years worked with and was mentored by Ms. Thiessen.

Janet Thiessen was an independent woman who made her way in a world that was, at that time, often dominated by men. She rose from an unpaid volunteer to the Chief of Staff for a veteran congressman, all on her own. Her intellect, political skills, loyalty, sense of humor and kindness served her well in her career on Capitol Hill and in life. She will be greatly missed.

HONORING THE GRAND OPENING OF THE LEWIS LIBRARY AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 17, 2008*

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, on April 19, 2008, the city of Fontana and neighboring cities in the region will gather to celebrate the grand opening of the Lewis Library and Technology Center located in Fontana, CA.