

eight beloved mothers of the Dallas community who passed away this year. These women made a lasting impact not only in the lives of their own families but in their churches, neighborhoods and throughout the Dallas community.

Mrs. Bessie Nash will be remembered as the full-fledged "church mother." She was active in driving the church bus, in charge of the primary Sunday school and primary choir. Children were truly her heart. She devoted her life to children not only in her actions but in her words by offering her wisdom and guidance to make sure they stayed on the right path in life.

Mrs. Lillie Fuller will be remembered as the "neighborhood mother." Known for being kind, gentle, and generous, her love extended beyond her own children to anyone in need. Her heart and door were always open to help others. She especially loved children, and her life reflected it well.

Mrs. Ruby Page will be remembered as the "feisty mother." As the unofficial neighborhood crime watch captain, she kept a watchful eye on crime. She also looked out for her guests. When anyone visited, her culinary skills not only produced food for their body, but the warmth and care she prepared it with was food for the soul.

Mrs. Barbara Hogg will be remembered as the "mother whose love traveled across great distances." Despite the many miles between her and her children, her love went beyond borders and boundaries to the hearts of those that loved her most. Her compassion for her children could not be contained. Her love knew no limits.

Mrs. Ruthie Davis will be remembered as the "mother that held out hope in the midst of impossible odds." The love she exhibited exemplified the biblical scripture "love covereth all things." Whether it was her children or anyone else's, her motherly eyes saw beyond the crust of contrary behavior, to the core of humanity.

Mrs. China Randle will be remembered as the "gentle-hearted mother." Although gentle, her resilience allowed her heartstrings to be stretched by those she loved the most, yet still return to original shape. Her love never failed. Her gentleness was her strength.

Mrs. Peggy Washington will be remembered as the "mother who forged a path through life for her children to follow." She led by example in hopes that her children would follow. Along the way, she planted seeds of values and principles. May the seeds that she planted bring a fruitful harvest.

Mrs. Florine Anderson will be remembered as the "mother with enduring strength." The love she had for her children endured throughout her lifetime. Through the stresses and strains of motherhood, her strength and love were steadfast and unmovable. Her life reflected the quote that true character is shown under pressure. Her strength stands a pillar for all to see.

On behalf of the 30th Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to pay respect to these honorable women. Individually, they were invaluable members of the Dallas area.

HONORING AARON PAUL PRICE

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aaron Paul Price, 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 205, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aaron has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Aaron 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 Aaron Paul Price for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAVID DREIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 29, 2008*

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the gentleman from Texas, Mr. HINOJOSA, and the gentelady from Illinois, Mrs. BIGGERT, for introducing H. Res. 1079, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month 2008. As a co-sponsor of this resolution and a member of the Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus, I am proud to support this measure.

Almost a decade into the 21st century, we are finding that more Americans have access to financial services and products than ever before. With the click of a button, consumers can perform a variety of financial activities over the Internet, from paying bills to managing investments. Technology has allowed more people to enjoy the benefits of access to capital and today, half of all American households own equities. This growing number of "investor class" Americans are participating in financial markets through retirement plans, investment vehicles or Internet trading accounts.

Yet, many Americans are concerned about our economy. Uncertainty has not only had a big impact on housing markets, but has also resulted in a great deal of volatility in stock markets both in the United States and abroad. The need for financial literacy has never been greater than it is right now. While sound financial and investment decisions are necessary for creating economic booms, they are absolutely essential in weathering the busts. As working Americans, small-business owners and the ever-growing investor class address these current economic challenges, they must have the right tools to make the best decisions for their own financial security.

Therefore, it is fitting that this resolution reaffirms the important role that financial literacy plays in helping individuals evaluate the complex financial choices that they encounter and further recognizes the need to begin teaching financial management skills at an early age.

By educating our youth to understand money, savings, credit, debt and risk, we will not only be providing lifelong skills, but also can ensure that individuals will have the tools necessary to make informed decisions in this evolving 21st century economy.

It is also important to note that efforts to enhance financial literacy are not confined to our own country. Earlier this month, governments throughout Europe declared their commitment to promoting financial education. The private sector is also actively engaged in enhancing economic literacy throughout the developing world. For example, Citigroup and the Citigroup Foundation have provided more than \$22 million in support of financial education programs that have reached millions of people in more than 40 countries. These activities include community development projects to support the expansion of thrift and credit-based cooperative groups in India and the development of a microfinance industry in China. As we strive for expanded trade and investment with our global partners, it is clear that growth in world markets is increasingly linked to growth in our own economy. In other words, financial literacy abroad allows us to reap the benefits here at home.

Ultimately, expanding access to the financial system and knowledge of its workings provides individuals with greater choice and lower costs when managing finances, building wealth and making investments. These activities in turn lead to increases in economic activity and growth that benefits our entire Nation. I urge my colleagues to recognize the importance of financial literacy and support this measure.

HONORING ALESIA HAMILTON

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ms. Alesia Hamilton, an exemplary individual and first grade teacher at Edison Elementary in St. Joseph, Missouri.

In 2004, Ms. Hamilton, in accordance with her character of compassion and service, invited Mr. Alferd Williams, 70, into her class of 25 students in order that he may finally learn to read. Her generous nature and commitment to the task of working with Mr. Williams demonstrates her willingness to go above and beyond what is required as a public school teacher. Ms. Hamilton was also recently recognized as the St. Joseph School District Teacher of the Year.

In accordance with my Resolution to recognize the roles and contributions of America's teachers through National Teacher Appreciation Week, I would like to take a moment to individually recognize Ms. Hamilton as an educator selflessly committed to the development of our nation's students.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alesia Hamilton for her service to America's students and for her efforts put forth in working with Mr. Williams. It is an honor to serve both of these individuals in the United States Congress.