

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 150TH BIRTHDAY OF WIN- CHESTER COMMUNITY CHURCH

#### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, the Winchester Community Church was built in 1858; and Whereas, the Winchester Community Church still holds regular Sunday and week-day services today; and

Whereas, the members of the Winchester Community Church are active, important members of our community; and

*Resolved*, that along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate the Winchester Community Church and its members, for their service and dedication.

### A TRIBUTE TO BEDFORD ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bedford Academy High School, located in Brooklyn, New York, for the achievements of the principal and faculty.

Bedford Academy opened its doors in 2003 to a group of 100 underperforming students. Principal George Leonard used his 13 years of experience in educating the community's youth to create a unique learning environment that combined strict discipline with an atmosphere of compassion and encouragement.

Bedford Academy graduated nearly all of its students in its first class, the class of 2007. Many continued on to attend various colleges such as, Long Island University, Temple University, Stony Brook, Morehouse, and the New Jersey Institute of Technology, to name a few.

Under the leadership of Principal George Leonard, Bedford Academy High School received a 90 percent-plus pass rate on all New York State Regents exams. To achieve this level of success, Bedford Academy conducts rigorous after-school tutoring almost daily and on Saturdays.

As a result, Bedford Academy is now ranked the number one school in Brooklyn and the number two school in New York City.

Lastly, Principal Leonard has stated that his "vision is for every Black and Latino in the inner city to have an opportunity to learn just like anyone else in the country." In addition to his vision and the model set by Principal Leonard and the dedicated faculty of Bedford Academy High School, their commitment has

profoundly influenced the student body to achieve academically and personally.

### CONGRATULATING FRANK KARAM, RECIPIENT OF THE 2008 GOV- ERNOR ROBERT P. CASEY MEDAL FOR A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

#### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Frank Karam, recipient of the 2008 Governor Robert P. Casey Medal for a Lifetime of Service presented by the Neighborhood Housing Services of Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania.

For more than a quarter of a century, the NHS has faithfully served the greater northeastern Pennsylvania community by empowering individuals and families through home ownership, education and promotion, property rehabilitation and affordable lending. This work has resulted in thousands of educated homebuyers, over a hundred improved properties and millions of dollars worth of investment into local neighborhoods.

NHS, as part of a national network of more than 230 community-based nonprofit organizations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, has created home ownership for lower income families, produced and managed affordable, high-quality rental properties, stemmed the tide of foreclosures that threaten to de-stabilize neighborhoods and local economies and helped to revitalize and strengthen neighborhoods.

Named as a tribute to the late Pennsylvania Gov. Robert P. Casey, this award is intended to acknowledge the efforts of individuals who have faithfully invested their time and talents to the betterment of the quality of life in northeastern Pennsylvania and, equally as importantly, to allow others to learn from their service.

Frank Karam chose law enforcement as his professional outlet to relentlessly pursue making his community a better place to live.

He was a fair, honest and upright police chief for the City of Scranton. More importantly, he is a fair, honest and upright man.

Chief Karam's vision, counsel, indomitable spirit and respect for his fellow citizen have served his community well. While long in devoted service retired from public service, he has never wavered in devoted service to his family, friends and neighborhood.

He lives a life of commitment to living his faith expressed as a dutiful daily participant in early morning Mass. He lives in Scranton and remains active in business, civic, church and community, affairs.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Frank Karam on this auspicious occasion. His example and commitment to service has been an inspiration to all whose lives he has touched.

### HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF DR. KAREN J. STUCK

#### HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Dr. Karen J. Stuck, a cherished leader of the medical community, and mourn her upon her passing at age 56.

Born on September 7, 1951, and raised in Lancaster, Ohio, Dr. Stuck was inducted into her high school's Hall of Fame as a distinguished alumnus for her many accomplishments throughout her lifetime. Karen performed her undergraduate career at the University of Michigan in 1973, where she served as president of her sorority and was installed as a member of the school's academic honor society.

Dr. Stuck continued her education at the Ohio State University Medical School in 1976 and undertook internships and residencies at Duke University and the University of Michigan. Her love of medicine brought her to teach the field of radiology at the University of Michigan. Karen's profound research made her papers and exhibits nationally renowned at meetings, books, and scientific journals.

Dr. Stuck applied her medical expertise to acquire a 20-year career as a radiologist at Henry Ford Hospital; Division Head of GU Radiology; the Interim Director of Breast Imaging; and as an educator. Karen's gift in medicine permitted her to receive the profession's highest honor as a Fellow of the American College of Radiology.

Regrettably, Dr. Stuck, after a year-long battle with acute myeloid leukemia, passed away on March 5, 2008. Dr. Stuck was not purely known for her medical talents, but was also known for her love and devotion to her friends and family. To her husband, Walter; mother, Jean; her sons, Andrew and Thomas; her step-son, James; her brother, Tom (Catherine); her nephews, Thomas and Joseph; and to everyone that knew and loved her, Dr. Karen Stuck was a dedicated member of the medical community locally, nationally, and world-wide.

Madam Speaker, during her lifetime, Dr. Karen Stuck enriched the lives of everyone around her by exhibiting compassion, leadership, and courage. As we bid farewell to this exceptional individual, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning her passing and honoring her many years of loyal service to the community and our country.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

STATEMENT COMMENDING THE  
NAMING OF THE RODERICK P.  
PAIGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize our former Secretary of Education, Dr. Rod Paige, on the occasion of the naming of an elementary school in Houston, Texas in his honor. This is certainly a well-deserved honor for Dr. Paige given his years of dedication to educational excellence, and I hope that the dedication will impact a whole new generation of students who may be inspired by all that Dr. Paige has accomplished throughout his career.

On January 21, 2001, the United States Senate confirmed Dr. Roderick Paige as the 7th U.S. Secretary of Education. For Dr. Paige, the son of a principal and a librarian in public schools, that day was the crowning achievement of a long career in education.

Born in 1933 in segregated Monticello, Mississippi, Dr. Paige's accomplishments speak of his commitment to education. He earned a bachelor's degree from Jackson State University in his home state, and went on to earn both a master's and a doctoral degree from Indiana University. Dr. Paige began working with students early in his career as a teacher and a coach. He then went on to serve as Dean of College of Education at Texas Southern University (TSU) for a decade. In this position Dr. Paige worked to ensure that future educators would receive the training and expertise necessary to succeed in the classroom.

In 1989, Dr. Paige was sworn in as a trustee and an officer of the Board of Education of the Houston Independent School District (HISD), in which capacities he served until 1994 when he became superintendent of HISD, the nation's seventh largest school district.

Dr. Paige served as the first African-American Secretary of Education from 2001–2005. During his tenure, Dr. Paige continued his mission to set new standards of educational achievement for all students. Today, Dr. Paige is the Chairman of Chartwell Education Group, an organization he co-founded to improve the quality of education for our nation's school children.

The Roderick Paige Elementary School will be formally dedicated on Friday, May 23, 2008. Dr. Paige's impact on students in Houston and throughout this country will be felt for years to come. I congratulate Dr. Paige on this occasion. This is a fitting honor, and I can think of no greater individual to bestow it upon.

NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS  
MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. NIKI TSONGAS**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 19, 2008*

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1106 which ex-

presses support for designating April 2008 as National Autism Awareness Month.

Autism is a very real issue for many of my constituents whose families have been affected by this condition. I hear about the challenges that these families face at each Congress on Your Corner I host and receive many constituent letters on this issue.

My district is fortunate to house the Melmark New England headquarters. This organization is dedicated to serving children and adolescents with the autism spectrum disorders.

Founded in 1998, Melmark, New England recently celebrated its 10th Anniversary. At a recent visit in celebration of this occasion, I had the opportunity to see first hand the importance of early intervention and proper treatment for those individuals living with autism.

I commend Melmark New England and organizations like it across the country that provide quality treatment to those living with Autism.

My hope is that passage of this resolution will help to expand these programs by highlighting the need for early intervention services and appropriately trained teachers to teach, assist, and respond to special needs students.

REMEMBERING LOBSANG  
LHALUNGPA

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, Lobsang Lhalungpa was born on the other side of the world from New Mexico, but we considered him one of our own.

When he died in April, the state lost, as one resident put it, a "teacher with a capital T." For decades, Lhalungpa was a great promoter of communication. As a translator and adviser for the Dalai Lama, he brought the ideas and the struggles of the Tibetan people to American audiences. As an exile and activist, he linked Tibetan communities from India and the United States to their troubled homeland and their brothers and sisters around the world. As a spiritual teacher in New Mexico, he introduced his neighbors to a history and a way of life that continues to provide comfort to those who knew him.

Lhalungpa's family had developed a habit of being one step ahead of disaster. In 1910, his father recommended to the Dalai Lama that he leave Lhasa immediately after the Manchu General Chao Erh Feng decided to attack. The move may have saved the Lama's life, and it sealed his relationship with Lhalungpa's family. In 1947, Lhalungpa left Tibet for India, two years before China began its invasion. His escape allowed him to help establish the Tibetan government in exile and rally Tibetans in India around the cause of their homeland.

Lhalungpa's life was cut short by a traffic accident, but he had already lived 84 years filled with action, reflection and joy. Friends claim that Lhalungpa would not want us to feel sorrow at his passing. As a teacher, he told his students that life is fleeting and death comes when we least expect it. Our responsibility is not to mourn death but to celebrate life.

I rise today to celebrate the life of Lobsang Lhalungpa. Buddhism teaches that those who

don't find teachers in this life will live in vain. Those who had the privilege to be taught by Lhalungpa have lived lives more linked to their communities and more touched by the divine. He lives on in their hearts and in the memory of a grateful community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, I missed 3 recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: H.R. 6081, The Heroes Earnings Assistance & Relief Tax Act of 2008, "yes"; H.R. 6074, Gas Price Relief for Consumers Act of 2008, "yes"; and H. Res. 1144, Expressing support for designation of a "Frank Sinatra Day" on May 13, 2008, in honor of the dedication of the Frank Sinatra commemorative stamp, "yes."

A PROCLAMATION HONORING WARRANT OFFICER ROBERT D. GABRIEL FOR HIS SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Warrant Officer Robert D. Gabriel served in the United States Army; and

Whereas, he fought with an engaged infantry unit in the Republic of Vietnam; and

Whereas, Warrant Officer Robert D. Gabriel displayed personal bravery and devotion to duty as a soldier in the United States Army; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Warrant Officer Robert D. Gabriel for his contributions to his community and country.

A TRIBUTE TO EVANGELIST  
BETTY J. WRIGHT

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Evangelist Betty J. Wright, founder of "Apple of His Eye" Ministries and outreach ministry for those who understand a personal walk with God.

A native of Augusta, Georgia, Evangelist Wright was raised in Brooklyn, New York. She is a graduate of the High School of Fashion and is an alumna of the Fashion Institute of Technology of (F.I.T.). Thereafter, Evangelist Wright matriculated at O.M. Kelly Bible Religious Institute, where she earned her Bachelor of Theology and a Master of Religious Education.

Evangelist Wright is the wife of Elder Timothy Wright, mother of five sons—Danny,

Donny, David, Derrick and Dwayne—mother-in-law to four daughters-in-law, and the grandmother to many grandchildren.

In August 1990, Evangelist Wright's husband, Elder Timothy Wright, began his pastoral duties and founded the Grace Tabernacle Christian Cerner COGIC. Her recent elevation to the office of Co-Pastor resulted from her tireless support of the Grace Tabernacle ministry. In the years prior, Evangelist Wright was a member of Washington Temple COGIC from 1958 to 1990 under the leadership of the late Bishop F.D. Washington.

In closing, Evangelist Wright has proven to be a great example to many young people that she has encountered.

CONGRATULATING JAMES J. HAGGERTY, ESQ., 2008 RECIPIENT OF THE GOVERNOR ROBERT P. CASEY MEDAL FOR A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to James J. Haggerty, Esq., recipient of the 2008 Governor Robert P. Casey Medal for a Lifetime of Service presented by the Neighborhood Housing Services of Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania.

For more than a quarter of a century, the NHS has faithfully served the greater northeastern Pennsylvania community by empowering individuals and families through home ownership, education and promotion, property rehabilitation and affordable lending. This work has resulted in thousands of educated homebuyers, over a hundred improved properties, and millions of dollars worth of investment into local neighborhoods.

NHS, as part of a national network of more than 230 community-based nonprofit organizations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, has created home ownership for lower income families, produced and managed affordable, high-quality rental properties, stemmed the tide of foreclosures that threaten to destabilize neighborhoods and local economies and helped to revitalize and strengthen neighborhoods.

Named as a tribute to the late Pennsylvania Governor Robert P. Casey, this award is intended to acknowledge the efforts of individuals who have faithfully invested their time and talents to the betterment of the quality of life in northeastern Pennsylvania and, equally as importantly, to allow others to learn from their service.

As a former Secretary of State for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, James J. Haggerty has a dedication to public service that is the hallmark of his professional life.

Attorney Haggerty served as general counsel to his friend, Governor Robert P. Casey and steadfastly advanced their shared values for the betterment of the common good in the civic arena.

He is a highly accomplished businessman, community leader and man of the law, though topping the list of his many accomplishments is that of devoted family man. As a father of

seven and the grandfather of 12, his unique pride of heritage, ethic of service and spirited wit has been deeply instilled in his family and will no doubt continue to have a positive impact on the region for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Attorney Haggerty on this auspicious occasion. His example and commitment to service is an inspiration to all whose lives he has touched.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MS. NANCY SWANBORG

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Ms. Nancy Swanborg, long-time Director of the Women's Resource Center and Schoolcraft College employee, upon her retirement from an exemplary nineteen-year career in serving the public.

Ms. Swanborg obtained the position of Director of the Women's Resource Center in the summer of 1989. Through her vital leadership, Nancy has been recognized locally and nationally for her successful measures to remove the educational, financial, and legal barriers that face women. Nancy's vision to help women has inspired her to create a unique program called "From Chocolate Chips to Micro Chips to Blue Chips", which is a college program assisting women to transition from home to the work force. Ms. Swanborg's work at the college is not limited to the Women's Resource Center. Nancy is currently working on writing a grant for the school; is instrumental in the implementation of a scholarship to assist women; and is a trustee for various Schoolcraft College Foundation Scholarships.

Nancy exerts energy well beyond her responsibilities with the Women's Resource Center and Schoolcraft College. Ms. Swanborg is extremely involved in the community through activities including, Threads of Power, Detroit Race for the Cure, and organized several campus-wide memorial services. Nancy is also a loving and devoted mother of two and grandmother of four.

Madam Speaker, for nearly twenty years Ms. Nancy Swanborg has been a devoted community leader in Livonia, Michigan. As Ms. Swanborg turns over the reigns of Director of the Women's Resource Center on May 6, 2008, she leaves a community who will surely miss her strength, commitment, and movement to empower women. Ms. Swanborg's accomplishments in her personal and professional life have ensured the greatness and stability of the Women's Resource Center for years to come. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Nancy Swanborg upon her retirement and recognizing her many years of loyal service to the community and our country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF U.S. ARMY SGT. JOSEPH A. FORD

**HON. BARON P. HILL**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on May 10, 2008, the Hoosier state lost another of its brave young men. Army SGT Joseph A. Ford died from injuries sustained when his vehicle rolled over in Al Asad, Iraq. SFT Ford was from Knox, Indiana, but had been living in New Albany with his wife, Karen Christina Grimm Ford. SGT Ford deployed to Iraq with more than 3,000 members of the Indiana National Guard's 76th Infantry Battalion Combat Team.

SGT Ford was known as an intellectual among his peers and comrades. He was drawn to military and ancient history, often carrying a book along with him. While in high school, Ford was a member of the fencing club. He choreographed the sword fight scenes in his school's production of "The Three Musketeers."

SGT Joseph A. Ford is an American hero. His sacrifice for our Nation, and our State, deserves our deepest respect and most heartfelt thanks. I, along with the towns of Knox and New Albany, mourn the loss of Joseph. His mends and family are in my prayers.

HONORING JOHN F. BURNES FOR HIS SERVICE TO DUKE UNIVERSITY AND THE CITY OF DURHAM

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of John F. Burness, Senior Vice President for Public Affairs and Government Relations at Duke University. Mr. Burness will retire on June 30th after nearly 40 years of service in higher education. His has been a distinguished career that helped revolutionize the way universities handle communications and public affairs. In Durham, North Carolina, he has transformed the relationship between the town and the university in a way that few other institutions have been able to replicate.

After graduating from Franklin and Marshall College, where he currently serves as a trustee, John began his career in 1970 as Assistant to the President at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, rising through the ranks to become Deputy to the President for University Affairs and Secretary of the Stony Brook Council. From SUNY, he moved to the University of Illinois, where he was first Director of Public Affairs and then promoted to the newly created position of Associate Chancellor for Public Affairs. Following his time at Illinois, he returned to New York to assume the role of Vice President for University Relations at Cornell University. Regarded as a national expert in university public affairs, he became the founding chair of the Association of American Universities' Public Affairs Committee, as well as a founding member of the steering committee of The Science Coalition, a consortium of universities, scientific societies, and business groups that takes a grassroots approach

to promoting investments in scientific research.

John Burness's considerable talents are reflected in the many leadership positions he has held in his field: director of the National Association of College and University Business Officers; chairman of the Consortium on Financing Higher Education's Public Issues Committee; and co-chair of the Ad Hoc Tax Group, a consortium of educational institutions that monitors Federal tax policy. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the Committee on Institutional Relations for the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, and The College Board's Government Relations Advisory Panel.

I came to know John after his arrival at Duke University in 1991. Over the years, we have conferred and collaborated on a wide range of policy and funding issues in higher education as well as the special needs of Durham. During his time at Duke, he built an award-winning news office and guided a well-respected government relations operation. But it was his tireless efforts in Durham that had the most profound impact.

Under John's leadership, the Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership was created in 1996. This partnership has led to increased home ownership, improved student achievement, and greater access to health care for residents in several of Durham's neighborhoods. John was also the founding chairman of the Board of Directors of the Durham Communities in Schools dropout prevention program, and he serves on the board of MDC, a nonprofit organization located in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, which seeks to expand opportunities, reduce poverty, and build inclusive civic cultures in Southern communities.

Through his public endeavors and his behind-the-scenes work, John's efforts to improve the quality of life for his fellow Durhamites have touched countless citizens and have earned him the respect of leaders throughout the community. As a testament to John's dedication and achievements, the science center at E.K. Powe Elementary School in Durham has been rededicated as the John F. Burness Science Center, and the Duke University Board of Trustees has established an endowment in John's name to support collaboration between the Duke and Durham communities. I recently attended a retirement reception for John in a community center and was struck by the many tributes from those whose lives and endeavors John has touched.

It is thus with great pleasure that I congratulate John Burness for his outstanding contributions to the Nation's system of higher education, to Duke University, and to Durham, North Carolina. My wife Lisa and I wish him and Ann all the best in retirement, and in the many activities they will still be engaged in as active and caring members of the community.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE CONGRESSIONAL CLUB

SPEECH OF

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 19, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today to support House Resolution 1026, recognizing the 100th Anniversary of the Congressional Club. This non-political group promotes friendship and cordiality in public life, and brings the wives of Members of Congress together in a warm and welcoming atmosphere in the Nation's Capital. Not only does this distinctive club build relationships between the two political parties, but it also organizes charity events and diplomatic receptions. Every spring since 1912, the women gather to host our First Ladies' Luncheon, honoring our First Lady and donating tens of thousands of dollars to charities in her name. Many of the club's charitable recipients include mentoring programs, literacy programs, the White House library; youth dance troupes, domestic shelters, and child care centers.

Fulfilling their own mission to encourage all Americans to strive for greater friendship, civility, and generosity in order to heighten public service, elevate the culture, and enrich humanity; the women extend their hands globally in friendship and goodwill by hosting an annual diplomatic reception to entertain the spouses of ambassadors to the United States. The Congressional Club encourages all Americans to seek out opportunities to give financially and to volunteer to assist charitable organizations in their own communities. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate and recognize these kind-hearted, strong, and talented women in their efforts to promote the greater good here at home and abroad. May God bless these women and may the Congressional Club continue in their friendship and charitable efforts for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF MAXWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY OF CAMILLUS, NEW YORK

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th anniversary of Maxwell Memorial Library in Camillus, New York.

Founded in 1918, the Camillus Library Association began as the result of a public meeting. Though the original library started with only a few books in one room over a plumbing shop, it soon grew under the leadership of librarian Mary E. Maxwell. In its early years, the library moved 4 times to accommodate its growing collection of books.

In 1927, the Presbyterian Church of Camillus was renovated to become the permanent home of the library. Since its inception, the Camillus Library has become an important meeting place for the town, providing its patrons with quality reading material for many

years. With its central location, the Maxwell Memorial Library has become a neighborhood anchor and will be enjoyed by many for years to come.

The staff and volunteers of the Maxwell Memorial Library have always strived to provide the best quality and selection of reading material to the public, and I am proud to recognize them here today. I congratulate Director Kathryn Benson and the library's dedicated staff—both past and present—on reaching this milestone. On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I thank the Maxwell Memorial Library for 90 years of service that has been and will continue to be such a positive asset to our community.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 95TH ANNIVERSARY OF ERNEST WARTHER'S PLIERS TREE

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, 2008 marks the 95th anniversary of the carving of the remarkable Ernest Warther's Pliers Tree; and

Whereas, in 1933 the Pliers Tree was on display at the Chicago World's Fair; and

Whereas, the Pliers Tree remains on display in the Warther Museum in Dover, Ohio today; be it

Resolved that along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate the Ernest Warther's Pliers Tree, for reaching this milestone.

CONGRATULATING JEANNE BOVARD, 2008 RECIPIENT OF THE GOVERNOR ROBERT P. CASEY MEDAL FOR A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Jeanne Bovard, recipient of the 2008 Governor Robert P. Casey Medal for a Lifetime of Service presented by the Neighborhood Housing Services of Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania.

For more than a quarter of a century, the NHS has faithfully served the greater north-eastern Pennsylvania community by empowering individuals and families through home ownership, education and promotion, property rehabilitation and affordable lending. This work has resulted in thousands of educated homebuyers, over a hundred improved properties and millions of dollars worth of investment into local neighborhoods.

NHS, as part of a national network of more than 230 community-based nonprofit organizations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, has created home ownership for lower income families, produced and managed affordable, high-quality rental properties, stemmed the tide of foreclosures that threaten

to destabilize neighborhoods and local economies and helped to revitalize and strengthen neighborhoods.

Named as a tribute to the late Pennsylvania Gov. Robert P. Casey, this award is intended to acknowledge the efforts of individuals who have faithfully invested their time and talents to the betterment of the quality of life in north-eastern Pennsylvania and, equally as importantly, to allow others to learn from their service.

Ms. Bovard is a special friend to north-eastern Pennsylvania. As executive director of the Scranton Area Foundation, she has provided dynamic leadership to an organization that has served this community as a catalyst for change and as a vital convener of diverse groups passionate about community action.

Throughout her career, she has overseen direct and measureable improvements to our region's health, education, arts, environment, human services and civic affairs.

Although she consistently and humbly credits the foundation for its remarkable success, it is widely known that it is her own kindness, intelligence, compassion and love for this community that have been the key ingredients to its amazing impact on our region.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Jeanne Bovard on this auspicious occasion. Her example and commitment is an inspiration to all whose lives she has touched.

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#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO RON MASON

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Ron Mason as he retires after 29 years as a leader at Michigan State University. I want to thank Ron on behalf of those individuals who have benefited from his time, contributions, and dedication to world-class academics and athletics.

Ron Mason's Michigan State career began with the 1979–80 season when he became head coach of the Spartan hockey team. He became a seven-time CCHA Coach of the Year and led the Spartans to seven regular-season league championships and 10 playoff crowns. In 2001, the conference honored Mason by renaming the CCHA playoff trophy—the Mason Cup—in recognition of his contributions to college hockey and the formation of the league as well as his success behind the bench.

Considered one of the "Founding Fathers" of the CCHA, Ron joined Bowling Green's Jack Vivian and St. Louis University's Bill Selman in establishing a "coaches' league" in 1971. Among his many accomplishments included an NCAA Championship at Michigan State in 1986. His dedication to upholding the values of sportsmanship and integrity at Michigan State University, and his continued work on behalf of the university and its community, is a testament to his strength of character.

On March 18, 1994, a win over Bowling Green established him as the winningest college hockey coach in history. In 2001–02, Ron's final campaign as the Spartan coach, he recorded his unprecedented 900th win as a college hockey coach with a victory over

Ferris State (Oct. 20, 2001). In 2002, Ron was introduced as the 16th athletic director in Michigan State history. During his five-year tenure, State athletic squads have captured 11 conference championships (regular season and postseason combined) and one national championship. In addition, MSU has been represented at the NCAA Championships 72 times, including Final Four/Frozen Four appearances by men's basketball (2005), women's basketball (2005), field hockey (2002 and 2004) and ice hockey (2007).

Ron is also active in a number of local organizations and charities. He recently completed a 4-year term on the Sparrow Hospital Foundation Board and has set up the Ron Mason Fund for Kids that supports the Pediatric Rehabilitation Department, which has raised nearly \$675,000 since 1998. He also served as the honorary chairperson for the Children's Miracle Network, which has raised \$19 million over the last 19 years, and has worked with the Coaches For Kids campaign, which has raised \$5.3 million in the last 7 years for a pediatric emergency room at Sparrow Hospital. In addition, he served on the committee for the broomball game for the Legal Eagles, which benefited the Boys and Girls Club of Lansing, and spent several years on the Lansing Safety Council. Ron currently is a board member for the Lansing Chamber of Commerce.

For all his career accomplishments, Ron has been inducted into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame (1994), Lake Superior Sports Hall of Fame (1996) and St. Lawrence Sports Hall of Fame (1999). In addition, the American Hockey Coaches Association honored him with the John Machines Award for his outstanding contributions to hockey in the spring of 2003, and he received the Hobey Baker Memorial Award Foundation's 2004 "Legend of Hockey" award in April 2004.

Therefore Madam Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in honoring Ron Mason's exceptional service to students, athletes, and Michigan State University. May he know that his nation is greatly appreciative of his dedication, and wishes him the best in all his future endeavors.

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MASTER SERGEANT BRIAN  
CREMEANS HONORED WITH  
ARMY SOLDIER'S MEDAL

### HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, It was my distinct privilege this morning to participate in ceremonies here at the Capitol to honor Army MSG Sergeant Brian L. Cremeans with the Soldier's Medal for heroism.

During a 2003 tour of duty in Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, Master Sergeant Cremeans, an explosive ordnance disposal technician, was conducting a controlled demolition of 4,000 pounds of high explosives that were captured from the Taliban when he alertly realized that a fire ignited in the demolition pit. Given the amount of explosives, he realized that there was no time to evacuate the area. Master Sergeant Cremeans, without forethought for his own safety, jumped into the demolition pit and

quickly began covering the fire with dirt, extinguishing it before the entire cache of weapons exploded. He then located the fire's propellant, scooped it into a canister and continued to fight more small flash fires until they were all extinguished. His actions saved the lives of 15 Afghans and 4 American soldiers who would have been killed had he not taken those extraordinary actions.

Madam Speaker, Master Sergeant Cremeans's heroic actions were brought to my attention by my constituent Army MAJ Zachary Norsworthy of St. Petersburg, Florida, who was with the unit at the time of this incident. Having personally witnessed Master Sergeant Cremeans' quick thinking and actions, Major Norsworthy nominated him for the Soldier's Award, one of the Army's highest noncombat honors for valor. Unfortunately, the award package was lost by the Army and when time had passed with no action, Major Norsworthy resubmitted the application but was told that the two-year period for submitting an award nomination had passed and it was too late to resubmit. Major Norsworthy promptly contacted me and I contacted the Secretary of the Army who reviewed the case and quickly saw that Master Sergeant Cremeans was deserving of this honor and ordered the awarding of the medal.

This morning in my office, SMA Kenneth Preston officiated as we presented Master Sergeant Cremeans with this long-overdue recognition. Following my remarks, I will submit for the benefit of my colleagues the Army citation and Major Norsworthy's narrative outlining the brave actions of Master Sergeant Cremeans.

Madam Speaker, Master Sergeant Cremeans represents the best our Nation has to offer. He volunteered to serve our Nation in uniform and to protect our freedom and liberty. He is now retired after 22 years of service to the United States and to the Army. Please join me in saying thank you to him for his actions and his lifetime of service.

#### CITATION

To all who shall see these presents, greeting: this is to certify that the President of the United States of America, authorized by act of Congress, July 2, 1926, has awarded the Soldier's Medal to (Then) Sergeant First Class Brian L. Cremeans, United States Army, for heroism on 6 May 2003 in Meynemah, Afghanistan. Given under my hand in the City of Washington on this 30th day of October 2007.

REUBEN D. JONES,  
*the Adjutant General.*  
PETE GEREN,  
*Secretary of the Army.*

The President of the United States of America, authorized by an Act of Congress, July 2, 1926, has awarded the Soldier's Medal to Sergeant First Class Brian L. Cremeans, United States Army, for heroism: not involving actual conflict with an armed enemy on 6 May 2003, in Meynemah, Afghanistan. As enemy munitions were being placed in a demolition pit, Sergeant Cremeans saw a glimpse of smoke billow from the pit. The demolition pit was covered with approximately four inches of explosive propellant (white phosphorous) at the base that, if ignited, would detonate the 4000 pounds of high explosives rigged for demolition. Without hesitation, he immediately leapt onto the side of the twenty-foot deep pit, which caused dirt to smother the flame that had begun to build. Sergeant Cremeans' actions

provided him enough time to gain control of the flame and further extinguish it. His attention to detail and situational awareness enabled him to recognize the difference between dust and smoke as the pit was being loaded with mortar and tank rounds. Sergeant Cremeans' quick reaction prevented the propellant from igniting, which would have caused the munitions to prematurely detonate, thereby saving the lives of the fifteen Afghan Nationals and four U.S. servicemen. Master Sergeant Cremeans' courage and concern for his fellow Soldiers and Afghan Nationals were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

NARRATIVE

On May 6, 2003, Sergeant First Class Brian L. Cremeans was serving as the Senior Explosive Ordnance and Demolition (EOD) Technician to destroy the largest cache ever discovered in Afghanistan. The cache amounted to over 350,000 pounds worth of High Explosives. Over 4000 pounds worth of High Explosives was loaded into one of two demolition pits by fifteen Afghans with the close supervision of a fellow EOD technician. At this point, the floor of the pit was covered ankle deep with propellant from previous demolition shots. SFC Cremeans, 1LT Patton and 1LT Norsworthy were standing on top of the pit as the Afghans and one of the EOD technicians were loading the final mortar rounds into the pit. As he was watching the pit, a billow of smoke appeared at the bottom of the 20 foot deep pit. SFC Cremeans yelled, "Fire" and before 1LT Patton could yell burning, SFC Cremeans had dove into the pit yelling fire. As he was sliding down to the bottom of the pit a flame erupted and he slid into it causing his body to push enough dirt into the flame to momentarily smolder it. This act gave him enough time to put more dirt onto the flames and gather up loose propellant surrounding the site of ignition, thus allowing him to gain control of the situation. He immediately gathered up the white phosphorous residue that had been unearthed and the surrounding propellant and scooped them into a canister. He stayed there extinguishing the ambitious little flames until the threat was eliminated. All non essential personnel were loaded on the truck. He then calmly set the ring main and charges on the pit. He then finished by arming the M-60 fuse igniters on the ring main and was the last man to get into the revving truck. In summary, Sergeant First Class Brian L. Cremeans' courageous selfless act and impeccable attention to detail saved the lives of fifteen Afghans and four United States Army servicemen. SFC Cremeans courageous selfless act richly deserves the award of the Soldiers Medal. Through his courageous selfless efforts and impeccable attention to detail, Sergeant First Class Brian L. Cremeans reflected great credit upon himself, the United States Army and the Department of Defense.

GREAT CATS AND RARE CANIDS  
ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 19, 2008*

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1464, the Great Cats and Rare Canids Act of 2007.

As an original cosponsor of this bill and co-chair of the International Conservation Cau-

cus, I would like to thank my fellow Caucus co-chair, Representative UDALL, for his leadership on this issue.

Endangered species such as lions, cheetahs, leopards, jaguars, and Ethiopian Wolves are not just remarkable creatures, but they play an important role in eco-tourism throughout Africa, bringing in much needed revenue to very poor countries.

Unfortunately, many of these endangered animals are losing their race for survival, as habitats become compromised and poachers decimate populations. This bill will be an important tool for reversing these trends.

Importantly, this bill provides assistance for programs to preserve and protect these remarkable animals. Multinational species funds, such as this one, have enjoyed tremendous success and have played a vital role in the protection of wildlife. On average, private donors have matched 3–1 every U.S. government dollar contributed to conservation programs.

In other words, when the United States leads in conservation, others follow. As the mission of the international Conservation Caucus states, the U.S. has the opportunity to advance the protection of the worldwide environment. This bill is true to that mission.

DYSTONIA AWARENESS WEEK

**HON. RON LEWIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to Dystonia Awareness Week, designated by the Commonwealth of Kentucky for June 1–7, 2008.

Dystonia is a neurological disorder that creates painful, involuntary muscle spasms throughout the body. The public knows little about this disorder, afflicting as many as 1 million people in North America alone.

The causes of dystonia are still largely unknown within the medical community. The physical manifestations of dystonia can be debilitating and the lack of understanding among the general public often creates isolation and psychological distress to those who suffer from the disorder.

The Dystonia Association of Kentucky, Inc., was formed by patients, families, and friends to help one another and to seek a cure for their condition. Widespread public support for their efforts is essential.

I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in supporting the goals of Dystonia Awareness Week and urge all Americans to gain a deeper understanding of this disorder and those who are afflicted by it.

THE PUNGO STRAWBERRY  
FESTIVAL

**HON. THELMA D. DRAKE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mrs. DRAKE. Madam Speaker, 25 years ago, in the rural area of Virginia Beach, Virginia, known as Pungo, several locals decided

that the rest of the community should be aware of Pungo's delicious treasure: its strawberries. In 1983, locals began an annual festival, which at the time drew 2,500 people. In the years to follow, the festival's attendance grew to roughly 120,000 people each year. Today, the festival hosts many family-oriented activities, including a carnival, youth art show, and a multi-million dollar military display.

In 1985, it was deemed necessary to establish a festival board in order to accommodate the festival's growth as well as establish themselves as a nonprofit organization. To this end, the festival gives back to the community in the form of scholarships for students and makes contributions to other community-oriented programs.

To this date, the Pungo Strawberry Festival has donated over \$550,000 to the community. I want to take this moment to recognize the people behind this festival, some of whom have been involved since the beginning, and to inform my colleagues that this year the festival will be celebrating its 25th anniversary with, as always, an emphasis on the men and women serving in the military. The theme this year will be "Celebrating 25 years of Freedom, Family, and Fun." I support the community of Pungo in their efforts and look forward to attending the festival this year.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
MARY C. POLILLI FOR BEING  
TUSCARAWAS COUNTY'S OLDEST  
VOTER

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:  
Whereas, Mary C. Polilli is 102 years young;  
and

Whereas, she continues to make voting a priority; and

Whereas, Mary C. Polilli continues to be a positive influence on the lives of others and contributes to her state and country; and

Whereas, she strives to continue her good works of public service and inspire others to work for the many freedoms guaranteed by our democratic form of government; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Mary C. Polilli for her contributions to her community and country.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL  
ANNE L. DAVIS, USA

**HON. ROB BISHOP**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding military commander in the United States Army, Colonel Anne L. Davis.

As outgoing Commander of the Tooele Army Depot, TEAD, Utah, Colonel Davis has demonstrated exceptional meritorious service

during her tenure from June 16, 2005 to July 8, 2008. TEAD is a very large military installation, with 23,600 acres with extensive munitions storage handling an estimated 200,000 short tons of ammunition stocks valued at \$2.75 billion. She was responsible for logistical support to 17 United States military units as well as command and control of Hawthorne Ammunition Depot, Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant and Ft. Wingate.

Colonel Davis is a brilliant leader who makes every mission look easy. Her PhD in Business added to her skills to better manage and transform Tooele into the Depot of the future. The leaders who worked under her took pride in achieving nearly 100 percent on time, on location delivery of ammunition throughout the Western Continental United States and to various ports to support ongoing combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Colonel Davis was instrumental in the development, testing, prove-out and eventual preparation of the Stryker Brigade Combat Teams Combat Configured Loads. Her ability to safely and efficiently manage stockpile surveillance inspections while enduring personnel shortages in terms of Quality Assurance and Surveillance Specialists was superb.

Colonel Davis aggressively sought additional workload at Tooele by meeting with the Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development and by attending numerous business events throughout the country in an effort to reduce life cycle costs on her installation. Her personal attention in all aspects of safety, to include the Department of Defense Safety Voluntary Protection Program resulted in a 50 percent reduction in civilian days lost due to accidents.

Colonel Davis, a native of St. Clair Shores, Michigan, arrived at Tooele Army Depot in June 2005 as a highly regarded and decorated leader in the Army having served in leadership positions in Italy, Hawaii, and the Continental United States. She also commanded Hawthorne Army Depot in Hawthorne, Nevada from June 2000 to July 2003.

Lean Six Sigma, LSS, was implemented by Colonel Davis to ensure the Army's competitive edge and increase employee involvement. Under her control, TEAD has certified over 70 Green Belts and has an established self-sufficient LSS program with a Master Black Belt and four Black Belts. Involving over half of the workforce in projects, Colonel Davis has overseen savings to the Depot of over \$560,000 in the first two years with another \$400,000 expected by the end of this fiscal year.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, Colonel Davis has served her nation well and exhibited some of the finest qualities of leadership and good stewardship of her many responsibilities. She will be missed by the Tooele workforce and by those with whom she has associated in Utah over the past 3 years. I join with the rest of the Utah Congressional Delegation in offering our sincere congratulations on a job well-done, and wishing her the very best for her in all future endeavors.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF  
THE JONESBORO HIGH SCHOOL  
MOCK TRIAL TEAM

**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate students, teachers, judges and attorneys residing in my Congressional District. Once again, I congratulate the Jonesboro High School Mock Trial Team for winning the National High School Mock Trial Championship on May 11, 2008, in Wilmington, Delaware. The Jonesboro team also won the national title in 2007 and has held State titles six times in the last 20 years.

The Jonesboro Mock Trial Team represents some of the best and brightest of Clayton County students. I want to take a moment to recognize the aspiring lawyers, the honors students and the Eagle Scout candidates who comprise this winning team. Special recognition must go to returning members Jayda Hazell, Jurod James, Tabias Kelly and Braeden Orr who competed with the 2007 team. In addition, I congratulate Brian Bady, Miguelande Charlestin, Kayla Daniels, Dominique Delgado, Lindsay Hargis, Bridget Harris, Avion Jackson, Adrienne Marshall, Laura Parkhouse, Joe Strickland and Ralph Wilson for their win.

The Jonesboro Mock Trial Team is fortunate to be guided by legal professionals including the Honorable John C. Carbo and the Honorable Deborah Benefield, both Clayton County State court judges, as well as Ms. Tasha Mosley and Ms. Katie Powers, attorney coaches. In these exercises, students gain insight about the American legal system including trial preparation and standard courtroom procedures. Jonesboro faculty sponsors Andrew and Anna Cox also helped the team since early in the fall term to the present so that the team members are prepared for their local, State and national competitions.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I am delighted to recognize the efforts of the Jonesboro High School Mock Trial Team for their back-to-back victories. I hope to see the Jonesboro High School team compete again at the 2009 National Championship, which will be held in Atlanta, Georgia.

OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS  
FIRST CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

**HON. HEATHER A. WILSON**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, the following graduating high school students from the First Congressional District of New Mexico have been awarded the Congressional Certificate of Merit. These students have excelled during their academic careers and proven themselves to be exceptional students and leaders with their scholastic achievements, community service, and participation in school and civic activities. It is my pleasure to be able to recognize these outstanding students for their accomplishments.

Their parents, their teachers, their classmates, the people of New Mexico and I are proud of them.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD WINNERS 2008

Chelsie Alderete, School for Integrated Academics and Technologies; Marissa Andazola, St. Pius X High School; Clare Callahan, Highland High School; Gladys Delgado, Valencia High School; Aubrey Eckert, Sandia High School; Dawn Marie Goodwin, Cesar Chavez Community School; Erika Hernandez, Digital Arts and Technology Academy; Landon Hill, Cibola High School; Tony Lucero, Albuquerque High School; Nancy Molinar, Bernalillo High School; Carla Nieto, South Valley Academy.

Oscar Alderete, Century Alternative High School; Andrew Bachica, Southwest Secondary Learning Center; Marshelle Danner, Sandia Preparatory School; Bethany Dorl, Early College Academy; Chris Ela, Hope Christian School; Lauren Harding, Albuquerque Academy; Anna Herrera, Temple Baptist Academy; Andrew Krause, East Mountain High School; Sabrina Mead, Los Puentes Charter School; Cassandra Montoya, Mountainair High School; Anna Nowlin, Los Lunas High School.

Marisol Ochoa, Albuquerque Evening High School; Heather Polyard, Manzano High School; Michael Romero, Creative Education Preparatory Institute #1; Kelley Scheib, Sierra Alternative High School; Patrick Turney, La Cueva High School; Oran Wallace, Menaul High School; Hannah Perez, New Futures High School; Sean Ritchel, Del Norte High School; Felicia Salazar, Moriarty High School; Juan Soche, Valley High School; Joshua Velasquez, West Mesa High School.

HONORING BECKY YOUNG

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Becky Young, a former Wisconsin State Representative. Throughout her seven consecutive terms in the Assembly, Young was a tireless advocate for her constituents and their families, and she left a lasting impact on the entire State of Wisconsin that will not be forgotten.

Beginning her political career as a Dane County Supervisor in 1970, Becky focused on health care issues that had not been adequately addressed but were especially important to women. Becky's pioneering work did not end there. In 1974, she became the first woman to serve as Wisconsin Highway Commissioner. Later, she became the Deputy Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration. While serving on the Madison School Board from 1979 to 1985, Becky demonstrated a unique enthusiasm for education reform. Her determination to ensure that every child realizes the potential of education was indeed rare.

Becky's unwavering commitment to children and families began to permeate through the State Legislature in 1984 when she was first elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly. During her tenure in the Assembly, Young served on the Education Committee for several terms and as Chair of the Assembly Committee on Children and Human Services from 1987 to 1995. She also served as the Ranking Democratic Member on the Assembly Committee on Children and Families and chaired the Special

Committee on Women Offenders in the Correctional System. Using these avenues, Young was able to enact meaningful solutions to a range of issues facing the people of her district and the State of Wisconsin as a whole. Becky Young gave a voice to those women and children who were not being heard in the halls of the State Capitol at the time.

I was honored to serve in the Assembly with Becky from 1993 until 1999. I witnessed firsthand her passion for helping others and improving the lives of those she could reach. It was a privilege to work with as passionate a woman as Becky and her presence will be forever missed at the Capitol in Madison.

Becky's love for helping people has been evident throughout her career as she has always maintained strong ties to the community. The YWCA recognized Becky as a Woman of Distinction for her tireless efforts to improve the quality of life for all women, and the Wisconsin Women's Network named her the 1992 Stateswoman of the Year. She has also been recognized by a variety of other organizations that have benefited from her diligence and volunteerism. Undoubtedly, Becky remains dedicated to the people of Wisconsin.

For her hard work, pioneering leadership, and service to our communities, I join the entire State of Wisconsin in saluting and thanking Becky Young. She is an inspiration to all women and I carry her legacy and mission with me as I fight for all families in our Nation's capital.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY NETWORK ACT

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the "Domestic Violence Volunteer Attorney Network Act," legislation that addresses the need to increase legal services for victims of domestic violence by creating a coordinated, nationwide system of attorney referrals to assist domestic violence victims. I am joined in this effort by Representative POE.

Domestic violence continues to be a problem in our country. Nearly one in four women will be a victim of domestic violence in her lifetime, and between three and ten million children witness acts of domestic violence each year. Domestic violence is not just physical but affects every aspect of a woman's life, including her mental and emotional well-being.

In 2005, Congress reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act, continuing programs such as STOP and Legal Assistance for Victims, as well as adding new programs that focus on prevention and services for youth and children.

But there is still a huge gap in services and resources for victims who need help navigating the legal system. Obtaining effective protection orders, initiating divorce proceedings or designing safe child custody arrangements are all key components to stopping the violence, because these are often the first real steps that battered women can take to leave an abusive home.

The problem is not that the resources do not exist; in fact, many lawyers want to volun-

teer their time to provide legal assistance to victims of domestic violence. The problem is in bridging the gap between these willing and able advocates and the victims seeking access to the justice system.

Our bill, the Domestic Violence Volunteer Attorney Network Act, has several components:

Creates an electronic network of volunteer attorneys. The network will be managed by the American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence, which will solicit and mentor the lawyers and conduct training and provide other technical assistance.

Authorizes new funds to the National Domestic Violence Hotline to update the system and train advocates on how to provide referrals for voluntary attorneys.

Creates a pilot program to implement the volunteer attorney network in five states. The program will be administered by the Office of Violence Against Women in DOJ. After these five years, if successful, the program will be rolled out nationally.

Establishes a Domestic Violence Legal Advisory Task Force, which will monitor the program and make recommendations.

Mandates a study by the National Institute of Justice to assess the scope and quality of legal services available to battered women in each state. The GAO will report to Congress within one year.

The legislation is supported by a broad range of interests and experts, including the National Network to End Domestic Violence, the Legal Resource Center for Violence Against Women, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the ABA, National Legal Aid and Defenders Association, the National Association for Attorneys General, and the National Center for the Victims of Crime.

This legislation is an important next step in our fight to defeat domestic violence and assist victims. A companion bill has been introduced in the Senate by Senators BIDEN and SPECTER. I am hopeful that Congress can move quickly to enact this worthwhile and timely legislation.

HONORING PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN

**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, on March 22, 2008, Taiwan elected a new president, Dr. Ma Ying-jeou of the Nationalist Party, effectively ending the era of government rule by the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP). The DPP first came into power with the inauguration of President Chen Shui-bian on May 20, 2000.

During the last 8 years, Chen championed human rights and established the Human Rights Consultation Task Force in the Taiwan Presidential Office in October 2000. The purpose of the task force was to lay the groundwork for the establishment of a national Human Rights Commission. Because of this process, a number of seminars on human rights have been held in Taipei over the last 8 years. Today, Taiwan's 23 million citizens

enjoy human rights protection, a necessary component of any successful democracy.

In addition to the promotion of human rights, Chen was equally committed to using Taiwan's resources to bring aid to less-developed countries in Africa and other parts of the world. Unfortunately, without United Nations membership, Taiwan was denied access to many international organizations which would help coordinate more effective delivery of this aid. During his presidency, Chen continually argued his country's case before the world—that Taiwan's exclusion from the United Nations was a direct violation of the U.N. Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights provisions. In the same spirit, Chen never gave up in his efforts to secure observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Assembly. In 2004, the 108th Congress passed a bill, later signed into law, that requires the administration to make it a long-term policy to support Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization as an observer.

In terms of Taiwan's relations with the People's Republic of China (PRC), Chen has always expressed his willingness to talk to PRC leaders, despite the PRC's passage of the Anti-Secession Law in 2005 and its current deployment of thousands of missiles aimed at Taiwan. Chen sought peace and tranquility across the Taiwan Strait without sacrificing the permanent interests of the Taiwanese people.

Chen also worked closely with the United States Government throughout his administration. He helped reduce the trade imbalance between Taiwan and the United States and cooperated fully with the United States after 9/11 by supporting U.S. antiterrorism efforts in Afghanistan and Iraq and implementing Container Security Initiatives (CSI) in two major ports in Taiwan to enhance the level of security cooperation between Taiwan and the United States. President Chen has always expressed his admiration for American democracy and fondness for the American people.

Chen's accomplishments are many and it is difficult to enumerate them all here. Chen is a patriot who has shown the world that democracy is deeply rooted in Taiwan. This is most evident in the election of Mr. Chen and the DPP in 2000 and the upcoming peaceful, democratic transfer of power to President Ma and his new government this May.

Mr. Chen, you have served your people well and we will miss you.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING ROBERT'S MEN'S SHOP FOR CELEBRATING THEIR 35TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Robert's Men's Shop has been providing excellent service to the people of New Philadelphia, Ohio for 35 years; and

Whereas, Robert's Men's Shop has grown and prospered since 1973 through hard work and determination; and

Whereas, Robert's Men's Shop was named 2005 Small Business of the Year by the Tuscarawas County Chamber of Commerce; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Robert's Men's Shop for its contributions to its community and country.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE  
OF BICYCLING IN TRANSPORTATION  
AND RECREATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 19, 2008*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 305, the National Bike Bill. This resolution recognizes the bicycle as an important part of our transportation system. Investing in infrastructure that allows for bicycling produces enriched health, reduced traffic congestion and air pollution, greenhouse gas emission reductions, economic vitality, and an overall improved quality of life.

As the earth continues to warm and gas prices hover around \$4 per gallon, more and more Americans are discovering that bicycling is a smart, healthy, and environmentally sound transportation option. Across the globe—from D.C. to Portland to Paris and beyond—bicycles are being used as a means for people to reduce congestion and pollution and improve both health and quality of life. Locally, communities are seeing that investment in bike lanes and bike boulevards, as well as education on how to ride, are resulting in dramatic increases in ridership. It's time that the Federal Government steps up and becomes a better partner to the States and local governments, giving them the tools and incentives they need to create of complete and healthy communities.

The Federal Government can assist in those efforts by promoting increased bicycle safety, supporting policies that establish national target levels for bicycle use, supporting increased intermodal travel, providing incentives to State and local government, providing flexibility in Federal transportation laws, and encouraging partnerships with employers and executive agencies.

I am pleased that this legislation has over 30 cosponsors from both sides of the aisle. Increased transportation options and a higher quality of life are ideas that everyone can agree on. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H. Con. Res. 305.

HONORING WORLD WAR II STAFF  
SERGEANT EDDIE JOHNSON

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Staff Sergeant Eddie Johnson of my hometown, Flint Michigan. Eddie Johnson is a World War II veteran and is part of the Honor Flight Network contingent of veterans traveling to Washington DC to visit the National World War II Memorial.

Eddie Johnson joined the United States Army at the age of 18 on May 21, 1941. He

served until January 6, 1946. During his service he taught himself to read and write. He was promoted and became one of the first Black Staff Sergeants in World War II. He was in charge of an Engineering Platoon in the 93rd Division; Company A 318th Engineer Combat Battalion. He served through the Bismarck-Archipelago, New Guinea, and Northern Solomon Campaigns.

He is a Veterans of Foreign Wars—Lifetime Member of the Dr. George Washington Carver Post 3791, Past Post Commander and Member of the American Legion Dorie Miller Post 306. He is honored to have his own display at the Military and Space Museum in Frankenmuth, Michigan.

After his discharge from the Army, Eddie utilized the GI Bill to study tailoring and TV and radio repair. He moved to Flint in 1953 with the intention of starting his own business. Instead, he hired into General Motors V-8 Plant and worked there for 23 years. He went on to become head of security for Genesee County Community Mental Health, worked with the MTA-Your Ride program, and is head of security at Southeast Christian Church. Married to Betty, Eddie has 8 children and 5 step-children. He is the patriarch of a 5 generation family.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Eddie Johnson for his service to our country and his continuing devotion to the memory of his fellow patriots. May we always treasure men and women like Staff Sergeant Eddie Johnson for their sacrifice and fidelity to our Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT  
OF JANICE KILGORE, DIRECTOR  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
IN ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Janice Kilgore upon her retirement as the Director of the Department of Public Safety in Escambia County, Florida.

For almost 30 years, Janice Kilgore has altruistically served the civic realm. As Director of the Department of Public Safety, Ms. Kilgore dutifully fills a crucial position that greatly affects the citizens of the area. Her service spans several decades and encompasses a wide range of civic commitment.

In addition to her current position, Ms. Kilgore has dedicated most of her life to serving the interests of the public. Beginning in 1968, Ms. Kilgore worked as a student for the Escambia County Sheriff's Office. Twenty years later she was named the Emergency Management Director for Escambia County. For an area prone to hurricanes and advanced emergency escape routes, Ms. Kilgore's position was no small task. Yet, she maintained a bold persistence and remained in the position for almost 10 years. Now, as director of the Department of Public Safety, Ms. Kilgore continues to protect the living conditions and lives of those in Escambia County. The First District of Florida is incredibly fortunate to have re-

ceived the services provided by Ms. Kilgore. She will be greatly missed upon her retirement.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to honor Janice Kilgore for her enduring allegiance to the First District of Florida. I would like to congratulate Ms. Kilgore on her retirement and wish her many more years of success and happiness.

TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY KISS

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Shirley Kiss, on the occasion of her 80th Birthday. With Shirley's help and leadership, We Care of Grundy County has evolved into an organization that has helped thousands of residents in Grundy County, Illinois. We Care helps residents by giving them rides to medical appointments, help with their bills or by providing emergency babysitting services to residents in need.

Shirley Kiss began her career with We Care as a phone volunteer 2 years after We Care began providing services in 1971. Shirley's talents became quickly evident and she became Secretary of We Care's Steering Committee in 1975. In 1977, Shirley assumed greater responsibilities when she became Chairman of the Steering Committee. As Chairman, Shirley worked to increase We Care's community presence by giving interviews to WCSJ, the local radio station in Morris. Shirley also worked with community organizations and churches in order to find volunteers and build a network of relationships.

Two years after she became Chairman, Shirley was instrumental in helping We Care become incorporated. Because of Shirley's hard work, We Care became "We Care of Grundy County, Inc." on June 12, 1979. For 21 years, until her retirement, Shirley worked as the first full-time paid Administrator of We Care of Grundy County. Shirley continued her involvement with We Care by returning to a volunteer position on the Board of Directors after her 2000 retirement.

As a longtime resident of Morris, I have seen We Care grow and provide needed services to many members of the community. I congratulate Mrs. Shirley Kiss on the occasion of her 80th Birthday and thank her for all of her hard work with We Care of Grundy County.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE FOUNDING OF THE  
CONGRESSIONAL CLUB

**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express support for House Resolution 1026. For over one hundred years, the Congressional Club has been a place to cultivate friendships among the spouses of sitting or former Members of Congress, Supreme Court

Justices and Members of the President's Cabinet. Although the group was founded as an organization for congressional wives, the group includes husbands too, as we are privileged to now have 86 women serving in this great body, in addition to the many before them and those who have served in Presidential Administrations since 1908.

I am also pleased to rise today, as someone very special to me has been involved with this organization since my first election to Congress in 2002. My wife, Alfredia, was the chair of the 2008 Congressional Club First Lady's Luncheon, an event held by the Club annually since 1912. At the event entitled "The Many Splendors of Spring," Mrs. Bush was presented with a lovely quilt commissioned by Arts Clayton, an organization located in my congressional district, which was handmade by Ms. Debra Svitil of Alpharetta, Georgia.

Artist Theresa Fontes-Black, of Snellville, Georgia, was also commissioned to create over 2,000 glass-bead necklaces of various shapes and designs for luncheon attendees as party favors. It was an honor for Arts Clayton and the 13th Congressional District to have such beautiful recognition in this time-honored tradition. In addition to this outstanding social event, members are also involved in social service projects to benefit those less fortunate. Proceeds from the sale of the Congressional Club's annual cookbook not only support the clubs activities but also support charitable giving to organizations throughout the area.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the important work of the Congressional Club by celebrating its centennial on the House floor today and urging its passage.

—  
**PRaising THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF  
 AN AMERICAN PLAYWRIGHT:  
 LORRAINE HANSBERRY**

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and recognize the birthday of Lorraine Hansberry, whose work, *A Raisin in the Sun* became the first Broadway production of a black playwright. Lorraine Hansberry is the foremother of African-American drama. As the youngest American, the fifth woman, and the first black to win the New York Drama Critic's Circle Award as Best Play of the Year for *A Raisin in the Sun*, she has paved the way for many of her peers. To *Be Young, Gifted and Black*, an autobiographical portrait in her own words won the record for longest Off-Broadway running drama in 1968.

Lorraine Hansberry's work does not stop at the stages of Broadway; her work provided many in White America with their first exposure to the reality of the pain and struggles associated with being Black in America. She used the success of *A Raisin in the Sun* as a platform, becoming a spokesperson for the American Civil Rights Movement. Ms. Hansberry's first brush with the struggles of civil rights occurred when her family moved into an all-White neighborhood. White landowners in the area had relied on a restrictive covenant in order to not sell property to any person of color. The legal struggle to permit

them to move to and live in an integrated environment led to the landmark Supreme Court case of *Hansberry v. Lee*, 311 U.S. 32 (1940). This experience later inspired her to write her most famous work, *A Raisin in the Sun*.

Today marks the birth of this great American 78 years ago. Although her life was cut short, her impact on her peers and her field will continue to be a testimony to hard work and what it means to be deeply committed to the causes of justice and equality.

—  
**A PROCLAMATION HONORING SERGEANT MICHAEL L. ART FOR HIS SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY**

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Sergeant Michael L. Art served in the United States Army; and

Whereas, he distinguished himself through valorous actions while serving as a Squad Leader with Company A, 4th Battalion, 39th, an engaged infantry unit dispatched to the Republic of Vietnam; and

Whereas, Sergeant Michael L. Art displayed personal bravery and devotion to duty as a soldier in the United States Army; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Sergeant Michael L. Art for his contributions to his community and country.

—  
**HONORING DR. ANDREAS G. TZAKIS**

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Andreas G. Tzakis, who is the recipient of the Panhellenic Federation of Florida Award. A Professor of Surgery at the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine, Dr. Tzakis is one of the top transplant surgeons in the world, as well as a preeminent educator and research scientist.

A native of Greece, Dr. Tzakis attended the University of Athens Medical School and served in the medical corps of the Greek Air Force. He came to the United States in 1977 where he spent the next 6 years as a resident at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York and then the State University of New York at Stony Brook. It was said that he transformed into "one of the best surgeons in the world," while serving as a surgical fellow with the world renowned transplant team of Dr. Thomas Starzl at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Tzakis has served in several leadership positions and is a member of numerous professional organizations. He is a founding member of the International Pancreas and Islet Transplant Association. He has also published over 600 papers, abstracts, and book chapters, and has been a visiting professor at medical schools across the United States, Eu-

rope, and Asia. He was recognized internationally in 1994 for the transplantation of two baboon livers into humans, and has led the way in transplanting insulin-producing cells from the pancreas and performing intestinal and multi-visceral organ transplantations.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Tzakis is not only a great surgeon but has also developed innovative techniques that have advanced transplant surgery in general. I am truly honored to recognize a person who has contributed so much to modern medicine, his peers, and the world. His work to save lives is legendary.

—  
**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I missed a number of votes on May 6th and 7th as I was attending the funeral service for a soldier who was from my Congressional District and was killed in Baghdad, Iraq while supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

On Rollcall vote No. 249, H.R. 3658—a bill to amend the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to permit rest and recuperation travel to United States territories for members of the Foreign Service. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall vote No. 251, H. Con. Res. 317—a Condemning the Burmese regime's undemocratic draft constitution and scheduled referendum. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall vote No. 252, Table Motion to Reconsider—H. Con. Res. 317—a Condemning the Burmese regime's undemocratic draft constitution and scheduled referendum. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall vote No. 25, H. Con. Res. 1109—Honoring the memory of Dith Pran by remembering his life's work and continuing to acknowledge and remember the victims of genocides that have taken place around the globe. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall vote No. 252, Table Motion to Reconsider H. Con. Res. 1109—Honoring the memory of Dith Pran by remembering his life's work and continuing to acknowledge and remember the victims of genocides that have taken place around the globe. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 255, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 256, S. 2929 to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 257, Table Motion to Reconsider—S. 2929 To temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 258, On Motion to Instruct Conferees—Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 259, Table Motion to Reconsider—Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 260, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 261, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 262, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 263, H. Res. 1168—Congratulating charter schools and their students, parents, teachers, and administrators across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education, and for other purposes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 264, table Motion to Reconsider—H. Res. 1168—Congratulating charter schools and their students, parents, teachers, and administrators across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education, and for other purposes. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 265, H. Res. 1155—Honoring the recipients of the El Dorado Promise scholarship. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 266, Table Motion to Reconsider—H. Res. 1155—Honoring the recipients of the El Dorado Promise scholarship. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 267, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 268, On Approving the Journal. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 269, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding provocative and dangerous statements and actions taken by the Government of the Russian Federation that undermine the territorial integrity of the Republic of Georgia. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 270, Table Motion to Reconsider—H. Res. 1166—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding provocative and dangerous statements and actions taken by the Government of the Russian Federation that undermine the territorial integrity of the Republic of Georgia. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 271, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 272, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 273, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 274, H. Res. 1113—Celebrating the role of mothers in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of Mother's Day. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 275, Table Motion to Reconsider—H. Res. 1113—Celebrating the role of mothers in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of Mother's Day. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 276, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 277, H.R. 5937—To facilitate the preservation of certain affordable housing dwelling units. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 278, Table Motion to Reconsider—H.R. 5937—To facilitate the preservation of certain affordable housing dwelling units. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 279, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 280, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 281, H. Res. 1175—Providing for consideration of the Senate amend-

ments to H.R. 3221. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 282, Table Motion to Reconsider—H. Res. 1175—Providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 3221. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 283, H. Res. 1175—Providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 3221. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 284, Table Motion to Reconsider—H. Res. 1175—Providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 3221. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 285, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 286, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On Rollcall No. 287, On Ordering the Previous Question H. Res. 1174—Providing for consideration of the bill, H.R. 5818, to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make loans to States to acquire foreclosed housing and to make grants to States for related costs. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 288, Table Motion to Reconsider—H. Res. 1174—Providing for consideration of the bill, H.R. 5818, to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make loans to States to acquire foreclosed housing and to make grants to States for related costs. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 289, H. Res. 1174—Providing for consideration of the bill, H.R. 5818, to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make loans to States to acquire foreclosed housing and to make grants to States for related costs. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 290, Table Motion to Reconsider—H. Res. 1174—Providing for consideration of the bill, H.R. 5818, to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make loans to States to acquire foreclosed housing and to make grants to States for related costs. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On Rollcall No. 291, On Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### HONORING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

### HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Emergency Medical Services Week which takes place the week of May 18 thru May 24, 2008. Emergency medical services are a vital public service, and the members of emergency medical service teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Access to quality emergency care is not only a necessity but dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury. The emergency medical services system consists of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, and administrators.

The members of the emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills. It is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical service providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week.

Please join me in honoring Extraordinary People, Extraordinary Service and may we all continue to encourage our communities to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

#### REGARDING THE CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM

### HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 20, 2008*

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two young women who showed extraordinary character during a recent college softball game in Ellensburg, Washington.

Last month, the women's softball team at Central Washington University played Western Oregon University for a spot in the NCAA Division II playoffs.

During the second inning of this scoreless game, Western Oregon senior Sara Tucholsky hit the first home run of her college career, only to fall to the ground with a knee injury after rounding first base. Unable to finish running around the bases, the only option available to Ms. Tucholsky was to bring in a new runner at first base, which would replace her home run with a single.

At this point, a truly amazing thing happened. Believing that Ms. Tucholsky should not be cheated of her first home run, Central Washington University senior first baseman and White Salmon native Mallory Holtman asked the umpire if the rules would allow members of the opposing team to assist her around the bases. When the umpire agreed, she and shortstop Liz Wallace carried the injured opponent to each bag to complete the home run.

By placing the interests of an athlete from the opposing team above their own, Ms. Holtman and Ms. Wallace, along with the rest of the Central Washington University softball team demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship. Although Central Washington University lost the game, they revealed a level of maturity well beyond their years by helping Ms. Tucholsky to achieve a major softball accomplishment.

I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize Mallory Holtman and Liz Wallace and the rest of the Central Washington University softball team for their selfless actions and generosity, which have moved people across the Nation. These young women exemplified strong character and true sportsmanship with their selfless act. Their university, teammates, Coach Gary Frederick, and the people of Washington are proud of these individuals. I wish them the very best in their future endeavors.

FEDERAL REAL PROPERTY DISPOSAL ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 19, 2008*

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5787, the Federal Real Property Disposal Enhancement Act, a bill that I introduced with Representative JIMMY DUNCAN of Tennessee to address the disincentives that are currently keeping some agencies from disposing of properties they no longer need.

Last June the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released a report which found that there is currently a backlog of more than 21,000 excess and surplus Federal properties worth a total of \$18 billion. Holding onto these properties has serious implications for the American taxpayer, as it costs Federal agencies millions of dollars per year to maintain and secure properties that are underutilized or simply unneeded.

Investigations by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) have also pointed out that the administrative requirements and costs of preparing a property for transfer or sale continue to hamper some agencies' efforts to address their backlog of unneeded properties. Because it can be difficult for agencies to secure the resources that they need to prepare a property for disposal, these costs serve as a disincentive because it makes more sense, in the short-term, for them to simply hold onto a property, particularly if they do not expect to receive the proceeds of a transfer or sale.

Fortunately, over the past several years the administration and Federal agencies have made progress toward strategically managing Federal real property by establishing asset

management plans, standardizing data reporting, and adopting performance measures.

But there are also commonsense steps that we can take now to ensure that Federal agencies have the proper incentives to dispose of property they no longer need. H.R. 5787 is designed to do just this.

First, the legislation would move to help agencies deal with the administrative requirements and costs of preparing underutilized properties for transfer or sale by allowing the General Services Administration (GSA), in cooperation with agencies, to use its resources and expertise to cover these up-front costs and help agencies ensure that title records, property descriptions, and environmental clearances are in order so that properties can be classified as excess. GSA would then be reimbursed for the costs it incurs from the proceeds that agencies receive from the transfer or sale of such properties.

The legislation would also provide agencies with another incentive to reduce their inventory of unneeded properties by allowing them to keep all the proceeds received from the sale of surplus properties, which would then be available, subject to appropriations, to fund future asset management and disposal activities.

Many landholding agencies, including the three largest landholding agencies—the Department of Defense, GSA, and the Department of Veterans Affairs—already have the authority to retain 100 percent of proceeds, and it has been shown to be a tremendous incentive for some agencies to dispose of property they no longer need.

H.R. 5787 would simply extend this authority to landholding agencies that currently do not have it, and allow the proceeds agencies would receive to be used for future disposal and asset management efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage my colleagues to support this common sense effort to help Federal agencies more efficiently

manage their Federal real property assets. As we are all well aware, the Federal government faces many short and long-term fiscal challenges, which is why we must increase our efforts both to manage our existing assets more effectively and to significantly reduce the backlog of underutilized and unused Federal properties. We should no longer waste precious taxpayer funds on maintaining and holding properties that are not needed.

NATIONAL MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY

SPEECH OF

**HON. STEVE CHABOT**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 19, 2008*

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1142, a resolution recognizing May 25, 2008, as National Missing Children's Day.

As a parent, I know first hand the fears that we all experience as they relate to the safety of our children. These fears are compounded with the growing use of the Internet by our kids. Now, predators aren't limited by physical barriers, but can enter our homes, schools, and communities without us ever knowing.

With more than 800,000 children reported missing each year and 2,000 each day, we can't afford to let any tool go unused. We must recommit ourselves to ensuring that families, schools, neighborhoods, and law enforcement have the resources necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of our Nation's children. Recognizing May 25, 2008, as National Missing Children's Day provides the Nation with this opportunity.

I urge my colleagues to support our kids and families by passing this resolution.