

straight recorded votes, I missed my first vote on the floor of the House of Representatives today as I attended the high school graduation of my daughter, Caitlin Rose Connolly.

While I take my responsibilities as a member of Congress seriously and make an effort to ensure my constituents are represented on every vote, nothing would have kept me from witnessing my daughter's graduation.

I would like to take this time to congratulate my daughter, Caitlin Rose Connolly, all of the graduating seniors at W.T. Woodson High School, and all other graduates in the class of 2009. Completing high school is a tremendous achievement. I am certain that the parents, family, friends and teachers of all of the graduates are as proud of their students as I am of Caitlin.

I would also like to take this moment to indicate how I would have voted on those votes that I missed.

On H.R. 2470, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 19190 Cochran Boulevard FRNT in Port Charlotte, Florida, as the "Lieutenant Commander Roy H. Boehm Post Office Building," I would have voted, "aye."

On H.R. 780, the Student Internet Safety Act of 2009, I would have voted, "aye."

On the Motion to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, I would have voted, "aye."

On H.R. 2247, the Congressional Review Improvement Act, I would have voted, "aye."

On H.R. 403, the Homes for Heroes Act of 2009, I would have voted, "aye."

IN RECOGNITION OF 100 YEARS OF
THE BLACKLAND RESEARCH AND
EXTENSION CENTER IN TEMPLE,
TX

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition for the 100 years of work of scientists at the Blackland Research and Extension Center in Temple. They have worked on securing a safe and affordable food supply, protecting the environment, and strengthening the economy.

The Center was created by the Texas Legislature in 1909 and was charged to solve pressing problems with the soils and crops grown in central Texas. Today the Center occupies a 542 acre site in the south-central part of the Texas Blackland Prairie, a 12 million acre agricultural region stretching over 300 miles along I-35 from the Texas-Oklahoma border to San Antonio. The Center is the state's premier research agency in agriculture, natural resources, and the life sciences.

In 1931 the USDA-Soil Erosion Service, which was later renamed the Soil Conservation Service, joined scientists at Blackland to intensify research on soil and water associated with farming the region's highly erodible soils. This began a long history of cooperative and highly productive research between the Texas A&M System and USDA in Temple, which has led to the development of many modern soil conservation practices used by farmers around the world today.

Today, the Blackland Research and Extension Center shares research facilities with the

Grassland, Soil, and Water Research Laboratory of the USDA—Agricultural Research Service. By combining innovative research, they continue to find solutions to problems and issues in the way we manage our land and water resources in Central Texas and beyond. They work regularly with scientists in the military helping to find innovative ways to restore and maintain Fort Hood's military lands in the best possible condition for training those who defend our country. The Center also works closely with USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service and other federal and State agencies to assist in applying sound scientific principles to manage our agricultural and urban lands in a way that maximizes production and profits with minimal impact on the environment. The Blackland Research and Extension Center frequently collaborates with scientists in developing countries to assist them in finding better ways for farmers to manage their water, livestock, and grow crops to feed their growing populations.

The value of research by the scientists stationed at the Temple Center is remarkable. The long-lasting partnerships between the State Land Grant Universities (Texas A&M AgriLife), and Federal Agencies (USDA Agricultural Research Service and Natural Resource Conservation Service), illustrate the superiority in effectiveness in partnerships when solving our agricultural and natural resource problems versus what individual agencies can do alone.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2847, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010.

Alvernia University, Reading PA—\$470,000 to form a partnership with the Reading Police Academy, and create a high-tech laboratory, which will be used by the Academy to train police officers and criminal justice students in investigation techniques for white collar, internet and cyber crime.

Berks County Emergency Response Team, Exeter Township, PA—\$350,000 to buy armored vehicle and other equipment to provide safe approach to dangerous scenes.

Cabrini College, Radnor PA—\$100,000 for a project that will focus on the impact of domestic violence on children and ways that school personnel can help provide support to students affected by domestic abuse.

Police Athletic League of Norristown, Norristown PA—\$90,000 to support the continued delivery of programs to youth ages 5–18 through the Norristown PAL Center.

St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA—\$200,000 requested to support and develop an interdisciplinary approach to dealing with crisis violence and create a state-of-the-art strategy for violence prevention in the communities of Pennsylvania.

Spring Township Police, Reading PA—\$90,000 for video cameras for each of the department's patrol vehicles.

IN HONOR OF THE AMAZING BICYCLE JOURNEY OF SHAWNE CAMP

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, today, a heroic journey came to a successful end when Millbrae, California's Shawne Camp parked his bicycle at the foot of the Washington Monument. In fewer than 50 days, Shawne has ridden from San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge to the nation's capital to raise funds and awareness for lung disease and the American Lung Association.

In 2000 and 2001, Shawne suffered two complete collapses to his right lung. The condition, known as spontaneous pneumothorax, is extremely painful and can be fatal if not treated quickly. After multiple surgeries, Shawne was told that he was unlikely to ever return to full strength and should resign himself to a more sedate lifestyle. But the lifelong athlete wasn't accustomed to taking it easy and set out to prove that he could come back to full strength—and then some.

With support from family, friends and his employer, Shawne turned his success at rehabilitation into a personal crusade to help others. On May 8, he headed north from the Golden Gate Bridge on a solo, self-funded bicycle ride across America to help others suffering from lung ailments.

Over the past five weeks, Shawne has endured mountains, deserts, storms, fierce headwinds, angry dogs and even bears. But he's been supported by legions of devoted followers who have tracked his 3000 mile journey online and countless strangers along the way who have helped with shelter from the rain, a warm shower, or occasional meal.

Madam Speaker, Shawne Camp is an inspiration to anyone who chooses to overcome adversity. His journey has advanced awareness for spontaneous pneumothorax and other lung afflictions and raised money for a very good cause. I am proud to call Shawne Camp my constituent and am delighted to introduce this inspiring young man to my colleagues in the United States Congress.

IN CELEBRATION OF MRS. KATHERINE Q. BUXTON ON HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, today I ask for the House of Representatives to recognize an important day in the life of a resident and friend of the 27th Congressional District, Mrs. Katherine Q. Buxton. On June 13, 2009, Mrs. Buxton reached a milestone birthday and on June 20, 2009, she will celebrate her 80th Birthday with her loving family and friends.

Mrs. Buxton, along with her husband William D. Buxton, began and ran one of Western New York's cherished family businesses, Buxton Quality Locksmiths. After the passing of her husband in 2001, Mrs. Buxton helped her sons take over the family business.

Mrs. Buxton has always been and continues to be family oriented. She opens her home to