

successfully pushing an effort to recruit minorities into area unions and his work in setting up programs designed to prepare individuals for entry into an apprenticeship program. He also worked tirelessly to get members of labor registered to vote and elected to office.

Jay's love of service goes beyond his work with his fellow tradesmen and women. Jay has maintained a long career in public service and has served on the Economic Development Corporation of Decatur/Macon County, the City of Decatur Electrical Commission, and currently the Macon County Board as its chairman. Jay has shown a dedication to our community that is second to none.

I wish Jay, his wife Cheryl and his family the best as Jay prepares to retire.

HONORING THE LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY CHEERLEADING TEAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to recognize the outstanding achievement of the Liberty High School Varsity Cheerleading team in capturing their second straight state championship.

Once again, the Liberty Varsity Cheerleaders were able to be crowned champions this year through hard work and tireless effort. This is the second straight year in a row the Blue Jays have won the state competition and the first time that Liberty High School has won consecutive state championships. To accomplish this feat was no easy task. The team started training in April and worked vigorously through each day of the summer.

Additionally, I want to recognize the exceptional leadership of coaches Brenda Moats, Daisy King, and Allison Kenealy. Through their vision and guidance, the Blue Jays were able to repeatedly deliver solid results with great athleticism and finesse.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully request you to join me in congratulating the Liberty High School Varsity Cheerleading team on their state championship.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF VOICE OF AMERICA'S UKRAINIAN SERVICE

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Voice of America's Ukrainian Service on its 60th Anniversary and to honor this organization for its commitment to broadcasting accurate, balanced, and comprehensive news and information to Ukraine.

Founded in 1949, the Voice of America's Ukrainian Service broadcasts two hours of television programming per week to approximately 4.7 million viewers in Ukraine. This service provides up-to-date information on international and American news, as well as feature stories about American life and social trends.

Voice of America's Ukrainian Service has been a steady source of unbiased information for Ukrainian citizens from the height of the Cold War to the collapse of the Soviet Union. More recently, this service was a vital source of commentary and analysis during the Orange Revolution in 2004, which saw the election of a pro-Western Ukrainian majority.

Thanks to the dedication of its staff, Voice of America's Ukrainian Service has played an important role in promoting United States diplomacy and democratic values to Ukraine. Millions of Ukrainians continue to benefit from the service's commitment to journalistic excellence.

Voice of America's Ukrainian Service will celebrate its 60th Anniversary on December 11, 2009 at Voice of America headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the Voice of America's Ukrainian Service for reaching this milestone and commending the continued efforts of this service to aid in the full integration of Ukraine into the Euro-Atlantic community of democratic nations.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SHIRLEY LAI

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Shirley Lai for her lifetime of community service to the people of Guam. Shirley passed away on November 28, 2009. Shirley was born in a small village in Canton, China on September 5, 1931 and later moved with her parents and four siblings to Hong Kong.

Shirley and her husband, Kwong Choy Lai, and her eight young children, moved to Guam in the late 1970s. Shirley started the Estimewa Restaurant, one of Guam's first restaurants specializing in Chinese cuisine. In 1983, after renting a vacant barbershop in an old hotel in Hagåtña, the capital of Guam, she opened her first coffee shop with only two employees. Shirley blended flavors of American, Chinese, Filipino and local Chamorro cuisine, and a short time later Shirley's Coffee Shop quickly grew from a nine table coffee shop into a chain of six restaurants, four in Guam and two in Saipan.

Throughout her life, Shirley continually gave back to her community. Just as she contributed much to the community of Guam, she taught her children to be generous and that success is best measured by the community's reciprocity in trust and respect. She and her family provided assistance to the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the Make-a-Wish Foundation as well as several sports leagues for children. She also assisted in disaster relief efforts during times of recovery in our region.

Like many who knew her as a close friend and community leader, I will miss Shirley. My thoughts and prayers are with her sons and their families; her daughter and husband; her fifteen grandchildren; and her great grand-daughter.

RECOGNIZING THE 225TH BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY OF FORMER PRESIDENT ZACHARY TAYLOR

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 225th birthday anniversary of former President Zachary Taylor. President Taylor was born in Orange County, Virginia, on November 24, 1784, to a family with a background in military service. His father, Richard Taylor, fought in the Revolutionary War, and Zachary followed in his footsteps in 1808 as he started a military career of his own. Zachary Taylor was personally appointed by his cousin James Madison to serve as a first lieutenant in the War of 1812, and he led many successful battles thereafter.

Because of Zachary Taylor's military accomplishments, he achieved national recognition, and won the Whig Party nomination for President in 1848. Subsequently, he became the twelfth President of the United States, joining the ranks of presidents born in Virginia. As President, Taylor implemented an effective foreign policy, especially in regards to forming a strong alliance with Great Britain.

Sadly, on July 4, 1850, after having served as President for only sixteen months, Zachary Taylor died unexpectedly. He served his country well both in the military and political fields. In honor of President Taylor, the United States Mint will be placing a Zachary Taylor coin into public circulation.

Please join me in remembering the many outstanding contributions of President Zachary Taylor.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OMNIBUS AUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, the District of Columbia Omnibus Authorization Act is a welcome committee innovation designed to achieve greater efficiency in handling local District of Columbia matters, most of which are of little importance or concern to Congress, but must come to Congress because they are restricted by Federal statute and cannot become D.C. law until approved by congressional action. All of the provisions in this bill have been passed or approved by the District of Columbia.

This bill contains several land-transfer provisions. In an important effort to continue to balance the city's growing need for land with the National Park Service's (NPS's) mission to protect park land, we are encouraged by the NPS's willingness to move forward with a few small land transfers. The land transfers consist of six small, unused parcels of land scattered throughout the city. Two of the parcels complete a previous Federal transfer to allow the development of the southwest waterfront to move forward. The other four small land transfers, mainly parts of schools and libraries, include a portion of the Marie H. Reed Community Learning Center in northwest Washington,