

## HONORING KEANA PARQUET

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2011*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Keana Parquet, teacher at Crooked Creek Elementary School in Indianapolis, Indiana, and recipient of the 2010 Milken Educator Award. Through her creative thinking and tireless efforts, Ms. Parquet has proven herself to be one of the most distinguished teachers in the nation and truly deserves this honor.

Providing young people with a solid education is crucial to shaping the future of our country and the world. Each year, the Milken Family Foundation honors a select number of educators who have already achieved success and who have the potential to accomplish even more. Ms. Parquet has dedicated herself to serving youth in Indianapolis. By implementing effective instructional techniques and inspiring her students, Ms. Parquet has set an example for her fellow educators. As a result, her impact on the quality of education in Indianapolis transcends the walls of her classroom.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in praising Ms. Parquet for her hard work and dedication to educating youth in Indianapolis. I have no doubt that she will build on her success and inspire the next generation of Hoosiers.

## HONORING MARTIN D. FINK

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2011*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary career of one of my constituents, Martin D. Fink, who recently retired after working for the United States Navy for 52 years. As a research and development engineer, Mr. Fink helped improve existing technologies and develop new capabilities that increased the safety, functionality, and efficiency of various Navy vessels. Mr. Fink's fine work earned him the Meritorious Civilian Service Award (1990) and the Superior Civilian Service Award (1994), the second highest civilian award that the Department of the Navy can bestow. Over the course of his career, Mr. Fink patented several inventions for use by the Navy, including a "Method for quantifying parameters for a ship roll simulation system" (2004), a "Vertical motion compensation for a crane's load" (2003), and an "Integrated and automated control of a crane's rider tagline system" (2000). Mr. Fink retired on December 31, 2010.

In 1958, Mr. Fink began his work for the Navy while still in school through a cooperative education program at the David Taylor Model Basin-Naval Ship Research and Development Center in Bethesda, Maryland. Mr. Fink earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1963 and a Master of Science degree in Engineering Administration from The George Washington University in 1972. During his 18 years

of service at Carderock, he worked on developing the performance and acquisition requirements and documentation for the groundbreaking JEFF(A) and JEFF(B) Amphibious Assault Landing Craft (AALC) air cushion vehicle test craft and was an integration engineer for the two design fabrication contracts. In 1976 Mr. Fink transferred to the Naval Coastal Systems Center (NCSC) in Panama City, Florida to continue his work on the AALC project and to help establish the AALC Experimental Trials Unit. Mr. Fink's work was critical to the development of the acquisition documentation for the current Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC), which evolved out of the AALC project and currently provides the Navy's rapid deployment capabilities for troops and equipment.

In 1981 Mr. Fink was selected to serve as manager of the Merchant Ship Naval Augmentation Program/Strategic Sealift Research and Development program at the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), then in Arlington, Virginia. While there, he improved the military utility of commercial ships in support of Naval fleet requirements by undertaking the acquisition, integration and installation of more modern Navy and commercial equipment on government-owned merchant ships. From 1992-2000, Mr. Fink worked in the Strategic Sealift Program Office in NAVSEA, where he oversaw, among other projects, the development and acquisition of new hardware to expand and improve naval sealift capacity. In 2000 Mr. Fink joined the Program Executive Office, Ships as the Acquisition Program Manager for the development of the Maritime Prepositioning Force. From 2007 until his retirement, Mr. Fink served as Principal Assistant Program Manager for Research and Development/Small Business Innovation Research and Future Platforms.

Martin Fink has made numerous substantial contributions to the Department of the Navy over his 52 years of diligent and innovative service. From aiding in the design, development, and testing of military vehicles such as the Landing Craft Air Cushion, the development of shipboard cargo handling and seabased operational logistics support systems, Mr. Fink has helped improve existing capabilities and provide the Navy with vital new tools to support our sailors and marines.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the long and productive career of Martin D. Fink and the contributions he has made to our Navy and extend our gratitude and appreciation to him for his outstanding service to our country.

## HONORING JACOB MICHAEL HOPPE

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2011*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Michael Hoppe. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the

many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Michael Hoppe for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MARTIN HEINRICH**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2011*

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, I unfortunately missed three votes on January 26, 2011, which included rollcall votes Nos. 23, 24 and 25.

If I had been present, I would have voted in favor of rollcall vote No. 23, Representative GARY PETERS' (MI-09) amendment to H.R. 359.

I would have also voted in favor of rollcall vote No. 24, the Motion to Recommit H.R. 359 offered by Representative TIM WALZ (MN-01).

Lastly, I would have voted against rollcall vote No. 25, the final passage of H.R. 359.

HAPPY 90TH TO THE DAUGHTERS  
OF MYRTLE**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 8, 2011*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be the Representative in this House of the Myrtle Baptist Church, an extraordinarily important congregation which has served predominately, but not exclusively, the African-American community in the City of Newton, Massachusetts since the 19th century. Myrtle Baptist has played an important role in the racial progress we have made from those post-slavery days to the present, and while that fight has not yet been won permanently, the leadership that Myrtle Baptist has provided in the City of Newton and the Greater Boston area has contributed significantly to the progress that has occurred.

Ninety years ago, under the pastorate of the Reverend Wade Ryan, the Church saw the establishment of the Daughters of Myrtle, which was formed with the mandate "to serve the Church and community spiritually and financially."

Mr. Speaker, they have done that extraordinarily well. From a group of committed churchwomen who were picked by the Reverend Ryan to help with the preparation of the service for Northern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting, DOM rapidly evolved into a vital part of a vital church.

Today, ninety years after its founding, DOM in their words continues "to sponsor events at the Church and have broadened our service to include helping those in need throughout our community via outreach efforts such as supporting local women's shelters, conducting annual pamper drives, and contributing to book