

Mr. Anderson's passion to help people and his desire to rid the world of cancer.

By 1945, Anderson, Clayton, and Company owned and operated 233 gins, 33 cottonseed oil plants, and 123 warehouses worldwide, and Fortune Magazine named this small start-up enterprise the largest cotton buyer, seller, storer, and shipper of cotton in the world.

The company remained private until 1945 when it was listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Because of this business strategy, it allowed the M.D. Anderson Foundation to purchase land for the Texas Medical Center through the sale of the company's stock. The Anderson, Clayton, and Company, by this time, had diversified its capital into a marine insurance company, a barge line, cotton mills, an investment bank, machine works, and even a foods division. After 1950, the multimillion dollar company was known as ACCO, or the "BigStore", and their international market sales reached three and half percent of all the world's production.

The positive impact of the Anderson, Clayton, and Company had on agri-business and the cotton trade as well as the M.D. Anderson Foundation's influence on medicine, research, and education throughout Tennessee's 8th Congressional district and the country is still being felt today.

Mr. Anderson's generosity through his foundation has built libraries, auditoriums, college buildings, and a planetarium on the campus of Lambuth College in Jackson, Tennessee as well as the 49 buildings at the Texas Medical Center.

Because of the positive legacy that M.D. Anderson has left, the city of Jackson, Tennessee along with Madison County passed resolutions in 2009 to honor Mr. Anderson and to rename the plaza between the two Federal Buildings in Jackson, Tennessee as "M.D. Anderson Plaza".

I am not alone in my effort to recognize Mr. Anderson's achievements. I would like to recognize the support of Mayor Jerry Gist of Jackson along with the Jackson City Council members Charles "Pepper" Bray; Ernest Brooks, II; Harvey Buchanan; Johnny Dodd; Danny Ellis; Maurice Hays; Frank Neudecker; Charles Rahm; and Randy Wallace.

In addition to the Jackson City Council, I would also like to recognize Madison County Mayor Jimmy Harris and the County Commission members Jimmy C. Arnold; Fred W. Birmingham; Katie Y. Brantley; Claudell Brown, Jr.; Gary D. Deaton; Aaron D. Ellison; Jim Ed Hart; Arthur D. Johnson, Jr.; Mark G. Johnstone; Terry H. Kuykendall; Larry V. Lowrance; William C. Martin; Luther T. Mercer; Dale Morton; John W. Newman; James W. Pearson; Joe A. Roland; Lacy R Rose; Douglas S. Roth; Billy Spain; Doug Stephenson; Bill Walls; and Arthur Wilson.

Finally, I would also like to acknowledge and thank Mr. Dickie Day of Jackson, Tennessee and Mr. Carter Edwards of Crockett Mills, Tennessee for working on this effort.

Today I join my distinguished colleagues in the city of Jackson and Madison County to rename the plaza between the two Federal buildings in Jackson, Tennessee as the "M.D. Anderson Plaza" by introducing this bill to recognize and honor the life and accomplishments of M.D. Anderson.

Furthermore, I would like to point out that this bill will place no burden to the taxpayers

of this great country due to the generosity of the West Tennessee Health Care Foundation in providing the funds necessary to rename the plaza and honor Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House (and Senate) to support me in this tribute to a great American.

RECOGNIZING MR. TIMOTHY HESTER AS THE 2011 HURLBURT AFA CHAPTER 398 HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Timothy Hester as the 2011 Hurlburt AFA Chapter 398 High School Teacher of the Year. For more than 30 years, Mr. Hester has been an inspiration to his students and colleagues, and I am honored to recognize this achievement.

Out of his passion for teaching and love of aviation, Mr. Hester creates a unique and stimulating learning environment. His introductory middle school course on aeronautics has been adopted by middle schools throughout Okaloosa County as the model for their aeronautics programs. Mr. Hester built on that success and translated it to the high school level, where he currently teaches introductory courses in aviation, aerospace, and space flight in three high schools through the CHOICE Aviation Institute.

Through his tireless work and dedication, Mr. Hester has ensured that the equipment, teachers, and programs necessary to advance aeronautical education are readily available to his students. Last year, he raised \$50,000 in donations and grants to fund these needs, and he has expanded the Aviation Institute, recruiting students and establishing a classroom, among other efforts.

To Mr. Hester, learning is not isolated within the classroom walls. He has afforded his students the opportunity to fly with the Experimental Aircraft Association Young Eagles Program and has hosted field trips to Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. Education in the classroom coupled with practical experience in aviation has amplified the innovative learning experience, providing students a foundation for success and earning him the recognition of High School Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Mr. Hester as the Hurlburt AFA Chapter 398 High School Teacher of the Year and for his continuing commitment to excellence. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Timothy Hester, and we wish him all the best.

TRIBUTE TO COACH MIKE GOTTFRIED—2010 MOBILIAN OF THE YEAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, in my home state of Alabama, we know something about

winning football, and there is one fact we don't dispute. Behind every winning team is a great coach. The success of the City of Mobile is due in no small measure to the tireless efforts of our own "coach" and my dear friend, Mike Gottfried. I'm especially proud to note that Coach Mike Gottfried is being honored on April 7, 2011, with a most deserving honor, 2010 Mobilian of the Year.

Many Americans may recognize Mike Gottfried as a long-time ESPN sports analyst who covered both college and NFL football for nearly two decades on prime time television. A fixture on the cable network's Thursday Night Game of the Week and College Football Thursday Night, not to mention ESPN's NFL draft coverage, Mike was particularly compelling as a voice for character as well as athletic achievement.

An Ohio native, Mike was quarterback at Morehead State University from 1962 to 1965. Upon graduation in 1966, he proceeded to coach high school football in Ohio before embarking on a distinguished college coaching career that took him to Murray State, Cincinnati, Kansas and Pittsburgh. During his four years at Pittsburgh, Mike earned a 26–17–2 record, including wins over rivals Notre Dame, Penn State and West Virginia.

Mobile was fortunate when Mike moved to our city in 1990 and became an active member of our community. A member of the Mobile Sports Hall of Fame, Mike is credited with helping to establish the GMAC Bowl—now the GoDaddy.com Bowl—in Alabama's port city.

Mike may be a giant on gridiron, but he stands even taller in the lives of hundreds of young men who grew up without fathers. In 2000, Mike founded Team Focus, an organization which has enabled hundreds of single parent children to advance their education in an environment in which they are "motivated, encouraged, and challenged."

He is the co-author of Coach's Challenge: Faith, Football, and Filling the Father Gap, written with Ron Benson in 2007.

A nationally sought-after motivational speaker and supporter of youth programs, Mike partnered with First Lady Laura Bush in promoting her Helping America's Youth (HAY program), benefitting at-risk students. For over ten years, Mike and his wife, Mickey, have also led fundraising efforts for L'Arche, a Christian community for people with intellectual disabilities, raising more and a half millions dollars. Mike and his wife are also the recipients of the 2010 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award for their community outreach work with Team Focus.

Mike's selfless record of service to disadvantaged youth and his uncommon devotion to our community, have certainly earned him the honor of 2010 Mobilian of the Year.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I congratulate Mike on receiving this award and I extend a personal thank you to Mike and his wonder wife and partner, Mickey, for all they continue to do for our community and our country.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GARRETT
JOSEPH MALISKA

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Garrett Joseph Maliska of Bryan, Texas.

Garrett entered into rest on February 28 at his home with his family by his side. He was 17 years old. Garrett had battled with Spinal Cord Glioblastoma Cancer since March of 2008.

Garrett was an exceptional young man. He touched everyone that he came in contact with. His friends, teammates, teachers, and classmates all admired the strength with which he carried himself through his hard fought battle with this disease.

Garrett, a member of the baseball team, continued to remain on the team's roster throughout his cancer fight. Many of his teammates and friends all shaved their heads in solidarity with him over this time.

Garrett was a senior at Bryan High School who was well respected in the community for his character and perseverance during his difficult fight. He made a lasting impression on everyone in the community he met, who saw the strength in which he carried himself despite facing this hardship.

Garrett planned on attending Texas A&M upon graduation and becoming an Aggie. His spirit will live on and a scholarship will live on in his name, "The Heart of G Scholarship."

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Maliska family at this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING FIREFIGHTER JIM
RITCHIE OF THE HARBOR BEACH
AREA FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR 50
YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to pay tribute to Firefighter Jim Ritchie of the Harbor Beach Area Fire Department located in beautiful Huron County, Michigan. This year marks the 50th year of service for Mr. Ritchie who began his career with the Department in 1960 at 22 years old.

Mr. Ritchie has consistently set high standards during his outstanding career in the fire services. The State of Michigan, the 10th Congressional District and the City of Harbor Beach have benefited greatly from his devotion, sacrifice and strong leadership skills. He was among some of the first individuals in the surrounding Thumb Area to become a state certified fire instructor—demonstrating his commitment to be a great mentor and teacher to younger volunteer firefighters joining the profession.

Mr. Speaker, firefighters are the backbone of our communities. They are often the first to respond to an emergency. Whether it is a fire, car accident, natural disaster, an act of terrorism, medical emergency, or hazardous spill, extraordinary men and women stand ready to

serve. They have an unwavering dedication to protect those who are in distress.

But sometimes, first responders are taken for granted. That is until a crisis strikes and the public reaches out for help. Against their better judgment, firefighters rush to the scene of an emergency and into harm's way. When our natural instincts tell us to flee, firefighters rush in. And without the promise of fame, fortune, or as much as a simple "thank you," firefighters remain constantly vigilant.

Despite this, Firefighter Ritchie continues to show true bravery and courage in times of panic and crisis. He has served a key role with the Harbor Beach Area Fire Department. He is a great American and I salute him.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud of all the men and women who risk their lives to protect our safety and well-being, so it is my honor to offer my sincere gratitude to Mr. Jim Ritchie for his 50 years of service. His leadership, integrity, and dedication are greatly appreciated. I wish him all the best as he continues to serve the citizens of the City of Harbor Beach.

"AN UNJUSTIFIED ASSAULT ON
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT"

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, very few financial instruments in American history have had the extremely high degree of reliability as full faith and credit, general obligation bonds issued by states or local governments. The rating agencies themselves have acknowledged that there are virtually no defaults of such bonds, and even for those bonds that are funded by particular dedicated revenue sources, and are somewhat less solid, as Iris Lav notes in the New York Times last week, "The leading rating agencies estimate the default rate on rated municipal bonds of any kind at less than one-third of 1 percent; in contrast, the default rate on corporate bonds reached nearly 14 percent during the recession and hovers around 3 percent in good times." I note here, Mr. Speaker, that while I am skeptical of the predictive abilities of the rating agencies, I do not doubt their ability to count what has happened and that is what we are referring to here.

Despite this extraordinary solid record of repayment, there are some in the investing community who are promoting uncertainty by predicting that there will be, in an unprecedented way and quite contrary to the fiscal facts—an outbreak of defaults. This is not only without any factual basis; it is one more assault on the ability of state and local governments to provide for the needs of the people who live in these jurisdictions. Transportation facilities; sewer and water projects; public safety and health and education facilities—all of these are funded by bonds, and the record, as Ms. Lav makes clear, is that those who invest to help build these are always paid back as promised.

In her op-ed article in the New York Times, Iris Lav, of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, decisively refutes this effort to drive up the interest rates that state and local governments have to pay, requiring them either to raise taxes at the state and local level, or to

diminish important projects that both support employment and provide necessary public facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Iris Lav's thoughtful and irrefutable argument be printed here.

UNBREAKABLE BONDS

(By Iris J. Lav)

WASHINGTON.—Late last year a well-known financial analyst, Meredith Whitney, predicted that "50 to 100 sizable defaults" by state and local governments, amounting to hundreds of billions of dollars, were just around the corner. Since then that fear has produced a near-panic, with municipal bond markets down significantly and some even calling for a law to let states declare bankruptcy.

But this fear of an imminent bond crisis reflects a profound misunderstanding of the differences between the short- and long-term challenges facing state and local governments, and what these governments can do to address them. Indeed, such talk hurts those governments in the long run by undermining investor confidence and raising their borrowing costs.

Municipal bond default is actually quite rare: no state has defaulted on a bond since the Depression, and only four cities or counties have defaulted on a guaranteed bond in the last 40 years. A few minor bond defaults do occur each year, usually on debt issued by quasi-governmental entities for projects that didn't pan out, like sewers for housing developments that never were occupied.

Indeed, last year's total defaults amounted to just \$2.8 billion—a drop in the bucket compared to the nearly \$3 trillion in outstanding municipal bonds. The leading rating agencies estimate the default rate on rated municipal bonds of any kind at less than one-third of 1 percent; in contrast, the default rate on corporate bonds reached nearly 14 percent during the recession and hovers around 3 percent in good times.

So why are so many people afraid of a looming wave of bond defaults? The confusion is rooted in a failure to distinguish between cyclical budget problems and the longer-term soundness of state and local borrowing.

State and local budget deficits need to be understood in context. These governments always have trouble balancing their budgets during economic downturns, and this downturn has been worse than most. The 2007–2009 recession and the slow recovery, along with housing foreclosures, caused a big drop in state and local revenues; state revenues remain an estimated 11 percent below what they were before the recession.

Meanwhile, state spending on public services has risen, driven in part by increases in the numbers of unemployed and newly poor residents. The result has been huge and continuing, but understandable, deficits.

Such deficits make for frightening headlines because these days, most governments are legally required to balance their budgets each year, and they have been closing those gaps by cutting programs and raising taxes, neither of which sits well with voters.

But these operating deficits are cyclical: as the economy picks up, demand for social services will decline and tax revenues will increase, just as they have after previous recessions.

To be sure, states also suffer from longer-term "structural deficits" because their revenues are not growing as quickly as their costs of providing services even during good economic times. These structural deficits, which states must address, make it harder for them to meet their responsibilities each year.

However, that doesn't mean their bonds are in trouble. Bonds are a long-term obligation. They finance projects like bridges,