

husband and friend, and the Vice President of the Cleveland Plain Dealer newspaper.

Mr. Greer became editor of the Plain Dealer in 1990, becoming only one of three African-American journalists to hold such a position at a major daily newspaper at that time.

Known to colleagues as Thom, he served as a role model for young and aspiring journalists. His work ethic was, as he told the newspaper in 1992, to “keep your mouth shut, hold your head up high and work like hell to make yourself and those around you as good as they can be.”

Mr. Greer was born in Nashville, Tennessee, but moved to New Jersey during his childhood. He majored in history at Dillard University in New Orleans, and later attended Rider College and Rutgers University.

In 1964, Greer was hired by the Evening Times in Trenton, NJ as a sports journalist. He moved to the Plain Dealer in 1974, where he served on the suburban news unit. His stories investigating shakedowns of late-night liquor stores and thefts of confiscated liquor by Cuyahoga County Sheriff officer, led to their arrests.

Mr. Greer left the Plain Dealer for larger papers in Chicago, Philadelphia and New York, but returned in 1983 as editor of the sports department. He expanded their news coverage from exclusively local sports to national and international stories.

Mr. Greer worked as Managing Editor, Executive Editor and eventually Editor, as he oversaw the expansion of the paper, the creation of new bureaus in other counties, and expanded coverage of upcoming issues. In 1992, he became Vice President and oversaw community outreach, volunteerism, affirmative action employment and the Plain Dealer Charities, as well as the Plain Dealer High School Newspaper Workshop.

In addition to his many roles with the Plain Dealer, he served as a trustee of the Greater Cleveland Roundtable, WVIZ-TV, the City Club, and the National Junior Tennis Association. He was honored by Kaleidoscope Magazine and inducted into the Region VI Hall of Fame of the National Association of Black Journalists.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering Thomas H. Greer, whose legacy of professionalism, positive work ethic, and commitment to justice will forever serve as an example. I extend my sincere condolences Mr. Greer's wife Maxine and to his family, friends and colleagues that knew him best.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010-2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—ALYSSA JOHNSTON

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Representatives that the students of the 2010-2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council (CYAC) from the Third District of Texas have completed a total of 500 community service

hours, fulfilling and far-surpassing the requirements of their assigned CYAC in the Community service project.

This year 46 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 10 through 12 made their voices heard by joining CYAC. As the Third District's young ambassadors to Congress, these bright high school students met with me on a quarterly basis to discuss current events and public policy. These impressive young people recognize an important truth: the heart of public service is found when giving back to the community. CYAC students volunteered their time and talents with over 30 organizations including Adopt-A-Highway, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Teen Court, and the USO, to name a few. As one student shared, “CYAC in the Community has allowed me to realize my calling to serve those in the U.S. Armed Forces.” I am beyond thrilled that CYAC has helped students unleash their full potential and chase their dreams.

President George H.W. Bush once said, “A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see; who can feel what most do not feel. Often, such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers, but as citizens—citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization.”

With this statement as a benchmark, I am proud to congratulate the members of the 2010-2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council for showing themselves to be outstanding young citizens of this nation. It is my privilege to submit summaries of their work to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to be preserved for posterity and antiquity. To these young public servants, thank you, and keep up the great work! I salute you!

A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

When I was informed CYAC members would be asked to volunteer time to make a difference in the lives of others I began to look for the perfect serving opportunity. I found it at HOPE Resource Center. My job as Diaper and Wipe Coordinator for the Blessings Boutique is to contact churches and inform them about HOPE Resource Center and the blessings that HOPE brings to the young women in our community. I ask them to hold a drive to collect diapers and wipes and then deliver them to HOPE. I help the churches by providing information to pass along to their members about the Christ-centered ministry opportunities of HOPE. I stay in contact with the churches and help them with anything they need for the diaper drive. Once the church is done collecting diapers and wipes I arrange a time for them to drop off the donations they collected. I look back today and I can see the difference I have made in my community. I have impacted the lives of numerous young mothers and their babies. I have gained new insights in the lives of people touched by community service. I have a new found passion for serving others in my community.

—Alyssa Johnston

RESTROOM GENDER PARITY IN FEDERAL BUILDINGS ACT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, public restrooms have been the site of institutional discrimina-

tion by race, physical ability and gender. Women are often forced to wait in long lines to use public restrooms, while men rarely have the same problem. It is an inconvenience seen in almost every type of public building; be it a sporting venue, office building, airport or a building designed for recreational activities. Many of these establishments were constructed decades ago, during a time in which many women did not travel, hold the same jobs as men, receive the same level of education or have the same type of social life as they do today.

The issue of inadequate accommodations in women's restrooms may be found in many professional places of employment. Restroom gender parity is an issue of equality and health. In the year 2011, it is unfathomable to think that American women are still being discriminated against by infrastructural disparities in public buildings.

Unfortunately, this is the sad truth exhibited in nearly all public buildings today. A one-to-one ratio of toilets in female restrooms to toilets in male restrooms sounds like a requirement that ought to have existed decades ago; yet there are still fewer female accommodations compared to male accommodations in many public structures.

This is why supporting the bipartisan Restroom Gender Parity in Federal Buildings Act is necessary not only for the advancement of gender parity, but for the general well being and health of women everywhere. This bill will require any Federal building constructed for public use to have a 1 to 1 ratio for toilets, including urinals in women's and men's restrooms. Moreover, the bill will impact future Federal projects by mandating that preference for Federal leasing considerations be given to buildings that already meet this criteria.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this common sense legislation to address the inadequacies in our federal infrastructure.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF MARY ELIZABETH FLAIVE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 4, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Mary Elizabeth Flaive, whose life was marked by her strong ties to the Cleveland community.

Mary was born in Northampton, Massachusetts. She obtained both an undergraduate and graduate degree in Geology. She then spent ten years working at the Springfield, Massachusetts Museum of Natural History.

She moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where she began her 42 year career with the Cleveland Natural History Museum. Her career began with an expedition to Colorado, where she assisted in a dinosaur excavation.

Her tenure at the Natural History Museum was marked by achievement after achievement. She set up the Camp Bigfoot program at the museum, a program which is still active to this very day. She also set up other programs such as the Western Heritage Expeditions.

Her mark on the community expands further than just her work at the Natural History Museum. Friends of hers, the Anderson Family,