

congressional district in honoring the life and memory of Staff Sergeant Joshua S. Gire.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. BILL
SAMUELS, JR.

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Kentuckian, Mr. Bill Samuels Jr. On April 15, Mr. Samuels will retire as President of Maker's Mark Distillery in Loretto, Ky., leaving a legacy of old fashioned integrity and quality craftsmanship.

Our Commonwealth produces many incredible products. Along with Kentucky grown horses and tobacco, we are also known for our fine bourbon.

Samuels has dedicated his career to Kentucky's signature industry, helping to make Kentucky bourbon world renowned and contributing so much to such a vital part of the Commonwealth's heritage that provides thousands of jobs.

A seventh-generation distiller, Samuels took over the family business from his father, Bill Samuels, Sr., who invented the Maker's Mark recipe.

Samuels followed his father's lead in crafting a superior product by continuing the tradition of small, closely supervised production—keeping the bottling to about 600,000 cases per year, a fraction of most distilleries.

Though Samuels grew up around the bourbon industry, playing Lincoln Logs with an aged Col. Jim Beam, he had other ideas for his future. Samuels played basketball in high school; however, he realized he was not very good.

He then went to college at Case Western Reserve University where he studied rocket science and solid propellants. When solid propellants became obsolete, Samuels decided to attend law school at Vanderbilt University.

When he finished law school, he returned to Kentucky to work temporarily for his father, but 13 years later he was still with the company, and his father, Samuels, Sr., passed him the mantle of Maker's Mark.

Of the Nation's bourbon distilleries, Maker's Mark is the oldest distillery, continuously operating on its own site. I am proud to represent them here in Washington and look forward to their continued success.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Bill Samuels, Jr., for his dedication and contributions to the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

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

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 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:

I assisted with an Eagle Scout project at the Heritage Farmstead in Plano, Texas. The project consisted of planting eight trees along a fence. This required digging holes about four feet deep and four feet wide. After placing the trees in the holes, we had to fill the holes back up with soil, then place mulch around each tree, and finally water the trees. I also played in the orchestra for the Christmas performance at the Custer Road Methodist Church. This allowed me to work with some of the professionals in our community. This opportunity allowed me to gain more experience as a musician, as well as contributing as a member of the orchestra for my church. I played in the King's Players for the Church on two different occasions. This gave me an opportunity to give back to my church.

—Zachary Stubblefield

HONORING MAX POMERANC

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Max Pomeranc. Mr. Pomeranc has been a member of my staff since 2007. For almost four years, he has served the

United States Congress and the people of Brooklyn and Queens with honor and distinction.

Max is a native New Yorker who brought the characteristics associated with being a New Yorker to work with him every day: hard-nosed determination, a keen sense of justice and fairness, and a strong willed refusal to allow any of my constituents to get anything less than fierce advocacy and unyielding assistance from my office.

Over his many years of service, Mr. Pomeranc helped secure millions of dollars for the communities I represent. He worked with all levels of government to get the 9th district in New York as much funding as possible. Max oversaw the operations in my office that protected the elderly and disabled, give a voice in government to the disenfranchised, and honored the sense among citizens that elected officials are here to help people, first and foremost.

Max steered my district ship through many battles. There was an historic presidential election, budget battles with an all-time feverish pitch, and the passing of the most sweeping health care reform legislation since the creation of Medicare.

This chapter of Max's storied career gives way to his next adventure, and I rise to give him due recognition. He will be missed by his colleagues, my constituents, and by me.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to record my vote on the House floor during the vote on H.R. 1246 on Monday, April 4, 2011 because of family commitments in Wisconsin. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1246 (Roll no. 225).

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

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

"We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give." This quote by Winston Churchill describes me and my life. Since the seventh grade, I have dedicated my time in volunteering for various organizations that bring the community together. As teenagers, there are times when we are all busy with homework or competition, but there is always a time where we have nothing scheduled. It's moments like these where I know that instead of watching television and being a couch potato, I could actually be helping my community. I have volunteered at numerous school events, programs held by the Salvation Army, as well as activities at retirement homes. Throughout my experiences with volunteering for these activities, I have learned how to speak with the different age groups, which has improved my communication skills greatly. I also learned how many teenagers take basic necessities for granted and that we should think of those less fortunate. There is nothing better than the feeling of giving back to the community, not in one way, but in many! There is no better feeling than knowing that I helped the community by dedicating my time.

—Tina Sharma

HONORING STEPHEN M. BLOCK

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Stephen M. Block, who is retiring as Legislative Director of the American Civil Liberties Union for the National Capital Area.

Steve has demonstrated outstanding leadership and integrity during his service with the ACLU. Throughout the past 17 years, Steve has worked tirelessly on a broad range of civil liberties matters in order to bring about a more fair and just society.

One of Steve's most noteworthy accomplishments was his work on the Sexual Of-

fenders Registration Act (Megan's Law). Steve identified numerous objectionable features that would have discriminated against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. Thanks to his tireless efforts, the bill that was enacted was significantly improved. For his effective and determined work on this law, Steve received the Distinguished Service Award from the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance.

Steve also played an invaluable role in drafting and lobbying for the First Amendment Rights and Police Standards Act of 2004, which established a new regime for the exercise of First Amendment rights in the District. And he was integral to the passage of the statute establishing the Office of Police Complaints.

ACLU Executive Director Johnny Barnes puts it well:

Steve Block, in my view, cannot be replaced. A combination of intellect, wisdom, vision, grit, gnash, and tenacity, this is one gentle man with whom you don't want to tangle. Do not be deceived by his soft eyes, ready smile and grandfather-like persona, this is one tough cowboy. A former Navy officer and CIA and State Department employee, Steve reflects, in every respect, the highest honor, unblemished integrity, and flawless principle. Yet, while he is strong, he can be very sensitive. He has the capacity to address complex matters dispassionately, and at the same time demonstrate appropriate compassion. He is easy to work with, yet unafraid to stand alone. He hears the call of Ghandi and respects the legacy of King. Still, Steve happily follows, and readily leads. He is a brilliant thinker, a superb researcher, and a provocative and penetrating writer. He has been the sage on our staff, one who is always able to find a way to bring seemingly diametrically opposing forces to the same end. . . . He cannot be replaced, his impact will be felt well into the future. Yet, at the same time, the imprint he leaves will serve as a guidepost for the one who comes after him.

Steve will be sorely missed by the ACLU and the countless people for whom he has fought so hard, but his work for the advancement of civil liberties will continue to benefit us all for many years.

HONORING BOB YOUNG

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, today I stand before you to honor Bob Young, the retiring president of Central Vermont Public Service.

In his time at CVPS, Bob led the company through a cultural, service and environmental transformation to the benefit of its customers and the Green Mountain State. He turned CVPS into a leaner, more responsive company that placed customer service, reliability and corporate citizenship as its cornerstones.

When Bob assumed the presidency in 1995, CVPS faced a host of challenges, from utility restructuring to rate pressures to low employee morale. CVPS was often perceived as out of touch with Vermont values, and regulatory conflicts were common.

Bob put an end, to 'business as usual' and transformed CVPS into a world-class utility, recognized by Forbes as one of 100 most trustworthy companies in the U.S. Under

Bob's leadership, CVPS won the Edison Electric Institute's Emergency Recovery Award three times. It is the nation's smallest utility to win it even once.

Bob focused the company on reducing environmental impacts, improving wildlife habitats and creating the nation's first manure-to-energy customer choice program. The Department of Energy subsequently awarded CVPS the 2009 Utility Green Power Program of the Year.

Bob made CVPS a model of corporate civic engagement, providing leadership on a host of community projects in Vermont, and organizing blood drives that have broken the New England record three years in a row.

Bob will leave a lasting legacy when he retires on May 3, 2011. Please join me today in thanking Bob Young for his leadership and in wishing him and his wife, Vicky, the very best in the next phase of their lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor on Tuesday, April 5, 2011 due to a flight delay caused by mechanical difficulties. Had I been present, I would have voted in against the previous question motion on H. Res. 200 (Roll no. 226), against H. Res. 200 (Roll no. 227), and in favor of approving the Journal (Roll no. 228).

RECOGNIZING THE 2010–2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—ANNA SHAPOVALOVA

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

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