

While my friend has been a dedicated worker for the last 47 years, and a steadfast contributor to his community, he has been an even more dedicated husband to Irene, father to Louie, Irene, and Kurt, and grandfather to three wonderful grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Loreto Gonzalez has given his time and efforts selflessly to the steelworkers with whom he has worked and to the people of Northwest Indiana for his entire life. He has been a true role model to his peers and a true friend to Northwest Indiana. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Baby Lou for his outstanding contributions to Northwest Indiana and in wishing him well upon his retirement.

SHANNON MOODY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Shannon Moody as she is recognized with the STAR Award by the Learn To Read Program for reading her 700th book to her daughter. The Student Achievement in Reading Award is given to one student per year who has shown exceptional dedication, commitment and persistence in reaching their literacy goal. Shannon worked towards this goal with the help of her volunteer tutor and utilized the vast resources available at the Manchester Public Library.

Shannon recognizes and appreciates the quality time she and her daughter share when they read together. As a parent, I know the importance of spending time with your children and she has set a fine example to her daughter on working hard towards a goal that is important to you. I'm sure Shannon's efforts have instilled a great love of reading into her daughter and she can be very proud of her achievements in the Learn To Read Program.

I congratulate Shannon and wish her all the best for continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING MR. THEODORE McCURTIS FOR HIS HONORABLE SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable disabled veteran, Mr. Theodore McCurtis, who was born September 19, 1934, in Hinds County, Edwards, Mississippi. He was the fourth of eight children born to the late Herman and Mae Bell Lloyd McCurtis. Mr. McCurtis' early years of education began at Edwards Elementary School and continued on to Southern Christian Institute High School in Edwards, Mississippi. From there, he volunteered to go to the United States Air Force while in the 12th grade.

Mr. McCurtis entered the United States Air Force on October 22, 1952, where he served in the Korean War. He received basic training at Parks Air Force Base in Pleasanton, California.

Mr. McCurtis served at Castle Air Force Base in Merced, California, and was attached to a Strategic Air Command. He was later sent to England where he served in the Military Police and embarked on missions to set up radar around the world. After dutiful service, he became disabled and lost the use of both his hands.

Mr. McCurtis is a member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Edwards, Mississippi, where he serves as a dedicated Trustee. His membership at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church began during childhood under the leadership of his grandfather, Sam Butler, who was the second minister of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

Mr. McCurtis is happily married to his wife of 45 years, Mrs. Christine E. McCurtis. They have four children: Theodore, Jr., Martin Lloyd, Andrea Denise, and Sharon Denise McCurtis.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Theodore McCurtis for his honorable service to our country.

RECOGNIZING CHESTER STANLEY LOBODZINSKI

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before you and my colleagues today to recognize Chester Stanley Lobodzinski. Chester has dedicated his life to serving the community of Northwest Indiana. His outstanding dedication put forth toward public service has allowed him the opportunity to enrich the lives of countless individuals.

For his tremendous passion to serve those in need and to encourage others to do the same, Chester is a true leader and an inspiration. He has accomplished so much throughout his life and I am grateful for his numerous contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana. Chester, a retired steelworker, founded the American Steelworkers National Day, a day that honors steelworkers who have been committed to improving the quality of life for people in Northwest Indiana. Chester is also the founder of the local chapter of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Old-Timers, an organization that brings people together through public service. Another project that Chester has organized and developed is the Hammond Tech Appreciation Society, which recognizes and honors the faculty and alumni of Hammond Tech High School. In addition to these wonderful organizations, Chester is also a member of American Legion Post 261 in Cedar Lake, Indiana, and has given much of his time to the Crown Point Little League and the Chester Stanley Lobodzinski Hope Foundation for cancer patients, among others. Chester's unwavering perseverance and his enthusiastic outlook when it comes to community service is to be admired, and he is worthy of our highest praise.

Chester's dedication to public service and the community of Northwest Indiana is exceeded only by his devotion to his amazing family. Chester and his lovely wife, Lurene, have been happily married for almost fifty years. They raised four beloved children: Cathy, Stan, Tim, and the late Anita, and have

two adoring grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, Chester Lobodzinski has always given his time and efforts generously and compassionately. I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring him for his exceptional charitable work. Chester continues to touch the lives of countless people, and for his unselfish, lifelong commitment, he is to be commended.

HONORING CHARLES T. "CHUCK" KENNEDY

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mr. Charles T. "Chuck" Kennedy on the occasion of his retirement with the National Security Agency, NSA, after 31 years of distinguished service.

As Chief of the Office of Contracting at NSA, Mr. Kennedy has been responsible for about 36,000 contracting actions per year. His expertise has been used in joint NSA initiatives with other countries and foreign contractors. Mr. Kennedy is also a member of NSA's Power, Space, and Cooling Triage Team. This cross-functional team, made up of leaders throughout the NSA Washington Enterprise, ensures that high-priority mission requirements receive the necessary power and cooling to function.

Mr. Kennedy is also a member of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence Procurement Executive Council. This interagency team examines procurement challenges, helps streamline processes and establishes contracts.

Mr. Kennedy spent his entire career in the contracting field, graduating from his internship in 1983. Over the years, Mr. Kennedy progressed through various management levels that included Chief of the Signals Intelligence Directorate/Research & Development Contracting Office, Chief of the Information Technology Enterprise Contracting Office, Chief of the Mission Support Contracting Office and Chief of the Cost and Economic Analysis Contracting Office.

Mr. Kennedy is a recipient of the Meritorious Civilian Service Award. This is NSA's second highest honorary award, given only to extraordinary individual achievements of major significance to NSA, the Department of Defense, or the United States Government.

Mr. Kennedy holds two Masters of Science Degrees, a Bachelors of Science Degree and is a graduate of the NSA Senior Cryptologic Course. His certifications include Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act Certified Level 4—Acquisition Corps and NSA Logistician. He holds an unlimited Contracting Officer warrant.

Mr. Kennedy and his wife Patti have been married for 34 years. They have three sons and three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mr. Kennedy. His long and dedicated service to the United States government is an inspiration to all of us. It is with great pride that I congratulate Mr. Kennedy on his retirement and wish him the best of luck in the future.