

Kyle 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 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle 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, Kyle has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OREO COOKIE

**HON. ROBERT J. DOLD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2012*

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Oreo. In 1912—the same year the South Pole was discovered, and the Titanic sank—the Oreo was first introduced. Growing up, there were many days where I would enjoy dunking an Oreo in my milk and that tradition continues today with children and adults all over the globe. There is no doubt Oreos bring joy to many people throughout the world.

Kraft Foods, headquartered in my district, is the proud custodian of Oreo, and Oreo is one of the company's 12 "billion-dollar" brands. Enjoyed in more than 100 countries, today the Oreo brand is the world's top selling cookie. Here is to another 100 years of Oreo being the world's number one cookie.

HONORING CONNOR S. THOMAS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Connor S. Thomas. Connor 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 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Connor has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Connor 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, Connor has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

HONORING THE MODESTO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON 100 YEARS OF BUSINESS LEADERSHIP

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the rich heritage of the Modesto Chamber of Commerce as they celebrate 100 years of business leadership in the Central Valley.

Anniversaries such as this provide an opportunity for us to reflect upon the significant impact our local businesses, both large and small, have on job creation and economic growth. It is critical that we continue to increase opportunities for business owners and entrepreneurs to take risks and succeed, so that they are able to grow, innovate, and create jobs. Throughout the years, the Chamber has stayed true to its mission statement, which is "to promote the region's economic strengths and vitality; identify and promote services that are valuable to our members; advocate for public policy that is advantageous to the business community; and fully participate and partner in activities to improve quality of life."

Also celebrating 100 years is the iconic Modesto Arch. The Arch was erected by the founders of the Modesto Chamber of Commerce as a symbol to promote the city, and remains as a welcome when you enter downtown Modesto with the ever present slogan "Water, Wealth, Contentment, Health."

I would also like to recognize the following six businesses for their continuous membership in the Modesto Chamber of Commerce for the past 100 years: Foster Farms, Bank of America, Pacific Bell/ATT, Chicago Title Company, Pacific Gas & Electric, and J.S. West. They should all be commended for the community support and dedication to the city of Modesto.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating with the Modesto Chamber of Commerce on a day where we recognize not only where we have been, but the tremendous opportunities we have ahead in our efforts to fulfill our vision for the future. Congratulations on the past 100 years, and I wish you the best success in the years to come.

HONORING EVAN JONATHAN LINARD

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Evan Jonathan Linard. Evan 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 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

many years Evan 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, Evan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

INTRODUCTION OF THE FOX-WISCONSIN HERITAGE PARKWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA ACT OF 2012

**HON. THOMAS E. PETRI**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2012*

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join my colleagues . . . in introducing the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway National Heritage Area Act of 2012, legislation which would designate the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway as a National Heritage Area. I am also pleased that Senator KOHL is introducing companion legislation in the Senate.

The National Park Service defines National Heritage Areas as:

. . . places where natural, cultural, historic and scenic resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally important landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography. These patterns make National Heritage Areas representatives of the American experience through the physical features that remain and the traditions that have evolved in them. These regions are acknowledged by Congress for their capacity to tell important stories about our nation. Continued use of National Heritage Areas by people whose traditions helped to shape the landscape enhances their significance.

The Fox Wisconsin Heritage Parkway, which runs through parts of 15 counties throughout Wisconsin, marks the route taken in 1673 by explorers Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet as they traveled from the Great Lakes to the Mississippi River. This journey is an integral part of Wisconsin's and our nation's development. We should do all that we can to preserve it so that future generations have an appreciation for our country's unique history, culture and heritage.

Establishing the Fox Wisconsin Heritage Parkway as a National Heritage Area will accomplish that preservation goal in a cost-effective manner. By utilizing public-private partnerships, the National Heritage Area designation can serve as a structure to coordinate the activities of businesses, non-profits and residents so they can highlight their region's unique contributions to America's national story.

Again, I am very pleased to support this region's designation as a National Heritage Area, and I ask for my colleagues' support in this effort.

HONORING STEPHEN DEAN  
NOLTING

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Stephen Dean Nolting. Stephen 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 247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Stephen has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Stephen 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, Stephen has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Stephen Dean Nolting 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. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2012*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on March 5, 2012, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 95. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 95: "Yes"—Roy Schallern Rood Post Office Building.

HONORING JEFFREY JOSEPH  
DUER, JUNIOR

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeffrey Joseph Duer, Junior. Jeffrey 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 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jeffrey has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jeffrey 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, Jeffrey has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

CELEBRATING THE 76TH ANNUAL  
WESTERN NEW YORK SAFETY  
CONFERENCE

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2012*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 76th annual Western New York Safety Conference, which will be held in my Western New York community March 12th-March 15th, 2012.

What began as a small group of safety-minded individuals in 1935, has evolved into a conference attended by over 500 delegates each year, and the largest gathering of safety-oriented and interested people on the East Coast.

The Western New York Safety Conference is recognized by both employers and employees alike as an outstanding organization. This annual exchange of safety, health and environmental information has contributed greatly to the advancement of safety for the worker, and the general public. I applaud their dedication to the conservation of human life and the safety and health of the individual through the prevention of accidents and occupational diseases.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate those who have led the effort to host this important conference, and am sure that they will continue to service the Western New York community to reduce injuries and illness.

SUPPORT OF THE CONFERENCE  
REPORT TO H.R. 3630

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Conference Report to H.R. 3630, Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012. The bill extends unemployment for those currently out of work through 2013. It continues the payroll tax break for the middle class through 2013. It prevents the scheduled cuts in Medicare reimbursement to doctors. It extends the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. It protects current federal public servants by protecting their pensions and by dropping language that would have perpetuated an unjust and unnecessary payroll freeze. As a Member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I offered an amendment in Committee last week to protect the pensions of future federal public servants as well.

However, while providing needed relief, this bill is very flawed. It reduces benefits for new federal public servants, cuts assistance to hospitals and cuts long term unemployment benefits. It is wrong to limit any crucial safety net.

Still, extending the payroll tax means that middle class families in Ohio will have about \$1000 more in their pockets at a time when speculation has pushed gas and basic food prices up. The needs of my district are urgent and immediate. This legislation will deliver relief. I stand with the workers and those trying to find work and I pledge to continue to fight

for the middle class. When Congress returns we must ensure that our communities are protected and that hospitals and workers are taken care of. I will work with my colleagues to remedy the shortcomings of this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 2012 NOMINEES  
FOR THE PRINCE WILLIAM  
COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR/  
AGNES MEYER OUTSTANDING  
TEACHER AWARD

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 6, 2012*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the nominees for the Prince William County Teacher of the Year/Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award.

The Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award program was established by "The Washington Post" to "recognize excellence in teaching, to encourage creative and quality instruction, and to contribute in a substantive way to the improvement of education in the Washington metropolitan area."

The annual recipients are comprised of one representative from each of the 19 metropolitan public school systems and a single representative from the area private schools. The winner selected from the Prince William Public School Division is also named the Prince William County Teacher of the Year. Teachers who meet the criteria for the award are those who instill in students a desire to learn and achieve, understand the individual needs of students, and demonstrate a thorough knowledge of subject matter and have the ability to share it effectively with students.

I extend my personal congratulations to the 2012 Prince William County nominees for the Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award:

Mrs. Anita Al-Haj—Osborn Park High School; Ms. LaTicia Anderson—Coles Elementary School; Mrs. Jenny Bates—Henderson Elementary School; Ms. Spring Byard—New Directions Alternative Education Center; Lt. Col. Ronald Cartee—Battlefield High School; Ms. Sharon Christner—Hylton High School; Mrs. Jessica English—Hylton High School; Mr. Aaron Finney—Victory Elementary School; Mrs. Kelly Haynes—Ashland Elementary School; Mr. Philip Keirstead—Marsteller Middle School

Ms. Hess Moore—Beville Middle School; Ms. Rebecca Patonetz—McAuliffe Elementary School; Mrs. Ingrid Perry—Gar-Field High School; Mrs. Ramona Richardson—Coles Elementary School; Mr. Richard Scavongelli—Brentsville District High School; Ms. Lydia Stewart—Osborn Park High School; Mrs. Patricia Swanson—Ashland Elementary School; Ms. Kendra Yount—Battlefield High School; Mrs. Ruthann Zalewski—Loch Lomond Elementary School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the nominees for the Prince William County Teacher of the Year/Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award and in thanking them for their dedication to our children. Their continued service will ensure that Prince William County students are provided with a world class education in a more vibrant learning community.