

commending her for her extraordinary selflessness and service.

CONGRATULATING THE MISSION SHARYLAND RATTLERS VARSITY SOCCER TEAM

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Mission Sharyland Rattlers varsity soccer team of Sharyland High School in Sharyland, Texas on winning the UIL Class 5A state boys soccer championship. The Sharyland Rattlers boys' soccer team victoriously ended a long season on Saturday, April 21, 2012, at Birkelbach Field in Georgetown, Texas.

A crowd of more than 750 fans watched the Sharyland Rattlers team win 3–2 in a shootout to defeat Katy Morton Ranch. In their long 31–3–3 winning season, this outstanding boys' soccer team proved that hard work, dedication, and skill are the perfect recipe for champions. These high school soccer players were led to the championship title through the tireless leadership of their Head Coach Reveriano Hernandez. I congratulate the educators and leaders of this superb team. Key players in the team include Most Valuable Player during the Championship game Jesus Olivarez and Jorge Medina, Most Valuable Player Defensive during the Championship game. Parents, faculty, family, friends and former students traveled to the championship game to support and encourage the boys' soccer team. This championship marks an accomplishment and proud occasion for the team, school and those who attended the game to show their support.

Sharyland High School is part of the Sharyland Independent School District. It was Sharyland's first time playing at the UIL state tournament and has now set a pace for winning tradition as the school's first state soccer championship for Sharyland High School. The Sharyland Rattlers have been recognized for setting the area record for 31 (wins) 3 (ties) 3 (loses). With the motivation to bring home the state championship the team devoted 18 hours a week in training and practiced diligently during Christmas and Spring Break.

I am honored to praise the accomplishments of Sharyland, Texas' home team, the Sharyland Rattlers boys' soccer team as the Class 5A boys' soccer state title champions. Congratulations.

GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTEERISM

**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate those in my State being honored with Governor's Award for Volunteerism. The following Maine people and organizations have showed exemplary commitment to donating their time and energy to help others:

Volunteer of the Year Julia Brown, Service-Learning Practitioner Donna Vigue, Out-

standing National Service Volunteer Elisabeth Lohmueller, Youth Volunteer Julia Brown, Corporate Volunteerism honoree Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, Outstanding School District Sanford, and Outstanding Nonprofit Volunteer Program Trekkers.

In a cynical world that calls us to believe no one does something for nothing, these volunteers and thousands more like them continue to give us hope and belief in each other's goodness.

HONORING KATELYN MOODY

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great Nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share these with my House colleagues.

Katelyn Moody is a sophomore at Deer Park High School in Harris County, Texas. Her essay topic is: In your opinion, why is it important to be involved in the political process?

IMPORTANCE OF PARTICIPATION IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS

In life each person is responsible for finding his or her own happy ending. This also suggests that we walk a path in our life with our happiness. The pursuit of happiness as we have come to phrase it in our own government. Within our pursuit of happiness, we are not only one, we are a unified nation, who has withstood the best of times and the worst of times, who has come to the rescue when no one else will take a stand. A unified nation who is not made of one, but made of many. For our country depends on those who are in pursuit of America's happiness and therefore citizens must stand for what is right and what is just. Our first step to pursue our country, the United States of America's happiness is to step forward and become involved in the political process.

It is of vital importance that each and every person is involved in making decisions for our country. If we are a nation who will stand for nothing, we will fall for anything. The citizens must be the strong hold of our country and hold our ground. For instance being involved in the political process is a citizen's duty and responsibility. Citizens must be aware of current events in the world and how that one situation could impact us locally, nationally, and globally. It is imperative for one to know what is going on in your country for you to be able to form decisions about what is right and what is just. Knowledge is valuable and can reveal to us what is best for our country. If a person isn't involved in our country's political process it shows a lack of interest in what is best for America and its people. If we lose sight of how our country was based on the ability to make choices that benefit our government and its inhabitants, we have lost our patriotism. Our country is only as good as it's citizens collective efforts.

They say character is what you do when no one is watching. From my standpoint, I interpret this as we can't only take part in the political process when it is important to us, but we must take part in the political process at all times because it is important to every American. Americans' beliefs, ethics, morals and values are illuminated through our choices and our political standpoints. Our voices should not be silent echoes ringing through our nation, but should envelop the nation with our prevalent concern. Our voices will be heard, but the choice is ours to speak up. Speaking up shows our character and who we each are and what we believe in. It unveils how we should be constant participants in America's political process. If we all stand together for what we believe in and what are values are, how could our country go wrong? We can't prevail with only some participants, everyone must participate to guarantee our freedoms and our pursuit of happiness.

You see, our founding fathers put forth an insurmountable effort to guarantee our freedom and our pursuit of prosperity. We must ask ourselves, to what extent will our generation rise to protect those same rights for another strong hold, another upcoming generation. We must speak up, show what we stand for, and let the character of America be unveiled. We must not sit like ducks thinking to ourselves, "Oh well, they can handle it, they will surely speak up" because if they don't, our strong hold is no longer and we will show our lack of interest in our political processes which protect freedom and the pursuit of a full and prosperous life. And, without those things we would be left in an abyss of nothingness. It is shown here how important taking part in political processes proves to be and the consequences of not doing so. Remember, the choice is ours to speak up. American's are responsible for finding our own happiness and to continue pursuing this, no matter the cost.

IN MEMORY OF DELORES A. PARKS

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to the late Delores A. Parks, a woman who spent her entire life tirelessly caring for her community. Mrs. Parks passed away in her sleep on Sunday, April 15, 2012. She was 77.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve." Mrs. Parks was blessed with many gifts and talents, but her greatness came from her dedication to the community. She is truly a hero of mine. Mrs. Parks was a generous, warmhearted and loving woman who always went the extra mile to support her neighbors.

I know the difference one person can make because I am a witness to the impact of Mrs. Parks' extraordinary career of service to others on the lives of ordinary boys and girls and men and women. There is much wisdom in the ancient proverb that says if you catch a person a fish, you feed him for a day; if you teach a person to fish, you will feed her for a lifetime. Mrs. Parks was a great lady but what makes her truly special is her commitment to serving others altered for the good the trajectory of thousands of lives.

Mrs. Parks first answered the call to serve as a daycare provider, a field she worked in for 53 years. She later founded the Compton Family Day Care Association, which provided instruction to others on how to become daycare providers. She took pride and much joy in her work, offering meals to the children and their families and planning sporting events, field trips, and church activities. Her hard work and joyfulness undoubtedly transformed the lives of these young children and her community as a whole.

Faith and love for the Lord played a large and constant role in Mrs. Parks' life. She was raised as a devout Catholic, and she later became a licensed missionary for the First Church of Deliverance under the late Elder O.D. Russell. In 1997, she became a member of King's Dominion Life Center under the leadership of her son-in-law, Bishop T.A. Moore.

When remembering the life of Mrs. Parks, I cannot help but call to mind this scripture: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God" (Matthew 5:8-9). Truer words were never spoken. Mrs. Parks reflected these words in her manner and deeds, and she served as an example of the selflessness and kindness we should all strive to display in our own lives.

Mrs. Parks was preceded in death by her loving husband of 38 years, Willie M. Parks, and by her daughter, Katrina E. White. Left to cherish her memory are her children Emerson Mims, Parris Parks, and Donna Moore (Bishop T.A.); grandchildren Huber White, Eboni Galloway, Ferrante Manning, and Breana Moore; great grandchildren Kameron White, Huber White, Kutura White, Akhella White, and Taylor Bibbs; brothers Carl McDonald and Rickey McDonald; and a multitude of relatives, neighbors, and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my sympathies to Mrs. Parks' family. My thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time. They have lost a beloved mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, great grandmother. The community Mrs. Parks served for more than a half century mourns the loss of a hero. I mourn the loss of a dear friend and role model.

On this sad occasion, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in a moment of silence to honor the memory of Mrs. Delores A. Parks.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 170 (to provide an extension of Federal-aid high, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund) when I meant to vote "no."

I would like to correct for the record that I wanted to vote "no" on rollcall vote 170.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for votes in the House of Representatives between April 16th and 18th. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: Rollcall No. 152 for H.R. 3001, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall No. 153 for H.R. 4040, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall No. 154 for H. Res. 614, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; rollcall No. 155 for H. Res. 614, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; rollcall No. 156 for H. Res. 614, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; rollcall No. 157 for H.R. 1815, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall No. 158 for H.R. 4089, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall No. 159 for H.R. 4089, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall No. 160 for H.R. 4089, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall No. 161 for H.R. 4089, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall No. 162 for H.R. 4089, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; rollcall No. 163 for H.R. 4089, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall No. 164 for H.R. 4089, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; rollcall No. 165 for H. Res. 619, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; rollcall No. 166 for H. Res. 619, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; rollcall No. 167 approving the Journal, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; rollcall No. 168 for H.R. 4348, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; rollcall No. 169 for H.R. 4348, had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; rollcall No. 170 for H.R. 4348, had I been present, I would have voted "nay"; rollcall No. 171 for H.R. 2453, had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

CELEBRATING MURIEL "MANNY" TUTEUR

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate my friend and role model, Manny Tuteur and to wish her a very, very happy 90th birthday.

There are some people who seem bigger than life—whose accomplishments make you pause to wonder how one person could achieve so much. Manny is one of those people.

It's almost impossible to catalogue all the accomplishments in her life.

She's a veteran. During WWII, Manny served in the Women's Army Corps and received training at the Parachute Training School.

She's a problem solver and a teacher. She worked as a caseworker for the Cook County Bureau of Public Welfare and taught preschool at Jewish Community Centers.

And she has been a fighter for working men and women for over 70 years, starting as a

milling machine operator at the U.S. Steel South Works plant in Chicago and going on to work at the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union where she started the Amalgamated Day Care and Health Center. She directed that Center from 1969 through 1983.

Manny is a natural leader—who has served on the Chicago and Central States Joint Board of ACTWU, co-chair of the Coalition of Labor Union Women's National Child Care Task Force and a member of CLUW's National Executive Board.

I have relied on Manny for sound advice and inspiration for years—and I'm not the only one. Manny has advised the National Implementation Task Force of the White House Conference on Families, the Illinois Women's Agenda, and Women for Economic Justice. Manny's extraordinary work has been recognized by many—induction into the Chicago Women's Hall of Fame, the National Council of Jewish Women's Hannah G. Solomon Award, and the Coalition of Labor Union Women's Florence Criley Award are just some of her awards.

Manny's life is not just committed to social and economic justice, but to her family. The love of her life was Charles, her husband of 63 years. She adores her children, Peter and Judy, and her 13-year-old granddaughter Rebecca. Manny's legacy includes not just her record of improving workers' rights, women's rights and human rights, it also includes her family and her many friends whose lives she has touched and made so much better.

Manny turns 90 on May 17th—and, now living in Laguna Hills, California, she continues working to make the world a better place. Whether it's registering voters, fighting against the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, demonstrating with striking grocery store workers, or speaking out in support of Roe v. Wade, Manny continues to lead a life of activism. At a die-in protect recently to fight cuts to Adult Day Health Care. Manny said at the protest, "I'm fighting to the very end. I'm fighting for the rights of people to have a decent quality of life."

Manny, I love you and thank you for your friendship, and hope you will continue to organize for justice for many years to come.

HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE APRIL 24, 2012 EASTERN IOWA HONOR FLIGHT

**HON. DAVID LOEBSACK**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2012

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, today, eighty-six Iowa veterans of the Greatest Generation have travelled to our Nation's capital. Accompanied by twenty-seven volunteer guardians who have also served our country in uniform, they have travelled to Washington, DC to visit the monument that was built in their honor.

For many if not all of the Iowans who will be here today, this will be the first time they have seen the National World War II Memorial. I can think of no greater honor than to be there when they see their memorial for the first time and to personally thank each of them for their service to our Nation. They truly are Iowa's, and our Nation's, heroes.

I proudly have in my office a piece of marble from the quarry that supplied the stone