

The Neighborhood Music School is not your ordinary school. Its 3,000 students hail from communities across Connecticut and range from 6 months to over 80 years of age. The Neighborhood Music School offers a myriad of programs in music and dance that are open to children and adults regardless of age, economic status, or experience. The arts, in all of its many mediums, are both a celebration of culture and tradition as well as a means of personal expression. The Neighborhood Music School has opened the doors of opportunity to thousands throughout its century-long history and has become a beloved community treasure.

The Neighborhood Music School has a particularly interesting history. When it first opened in 1911, on Wooster Street in New Haven, it was established in conjunction with St. Paul's Church as a settlement house and social services organization for local immigrants known as the Neighborhood House. However, in its first four years Neighborhood House saw such a demand for music programs it was decided that a separate entity, the Neighborhood House Music School was created and placed under the leadership of its first director, Susan Hart Dyer, a violinist and graduate of the Yale School of Music.

Faculty came from the Yale School of Music and the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. The school grew rapidly and even during the most difficult economic times of the Great Depression, the demand for the programs remained high. In 1945, Neighborhood House Music School officially became an independent entity called Neighborhood Music School and during the next decade a change in admission policies broadened the school's reach and enrollment reached new heights. It was in 1968, after a 4-year long building fund campaign, that the Neighborhood Music School opened its new home on Audubon Street, in what is now the heart of New Haven's thriving arts community.

Today, in its 30,000 square foot facility, Neighborhood Music School is home to thirty-three studios, practice rooms, a recital hall, and a library, showcasing the extraordinary talents of thousands of children and adults every year. In fact, just a few years ago, eighteen students from the Neighborhood Music School participated in the White House Community Classroom Music Series program with First Lady Michelle Obama. It was an extraordinary opportunity for them and a testament to the incredible opportunities this organization provides.

The Neighborhood Music School is an extraordinary organization—a place where anyone can explore their passion for music and dance. I am proud to join our community in congratulating them on their 100th anniversary and wish them all the best for many more years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHAIRMAN  
VICTOR V. SCUDIERY

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Victor Scudieri upon his retirement from his position as Chairman of the

Monmouth County Democratic party. Chairman Scudieri has faithfully dedicated his time and political experience to the constituents of Monmouth County, New Jersey and is truly worthy of this body's recognition.

Victor Scudieri was born and raised in Newark, New Jersey where he was active in local politics. Chairman Scudieri is an alumnus of Seaton Hall University where he earned a degree in business administration. Chairman Scudieri served two years active duty and four years as a reservist with the United States Army upon graduation. Along side his brother, Chairman Scudieri began to embark on his business endeavors and opened Interstate Electronics, Inc. (IEI) in 1968. Interstate Electronics was the beginning of a successful business enterprise that later included a record company, a series of children's albums and coloring books, and numerous successful music and pictorial productions. The Airport Plaza Shopping center on Route 36 in Hazlet, New Jersey remains the Chairman's primary base of operation. Through his efforts, Airport Plaza has been revitalized. Chairman Scudieri continues to admirably oversee several other business ventures throughout the State of New Jersey.

In addition to his business ventures, Chairman Scudieri served under former Governor Brendan Byrne on the Ethics Advisory Council. Chairman Scudieri was also appointed to serve as Co-Chairman of the Boy Scouts of Monmouth County, Technical Advisor at Kean College and Chairman of the Buck Smith Scholarship Award Foundation. Chairman Scudieri sits on the Bayshore Community Hospital Board of trustees and is the Chairman of the Bayshore Senior Health, Education and Recreation Center Board of Directors. He is a dedicated member of the Bayshore Hospital Health Care Center. Chairman Scudieri is also a long time member of the Northern Monmouth Chamber of Commerce and was recently appointed to the Board of Directors. As a result of his hard work and dedication, he was honored with the 2008 Business Ambassador of the Year Award.

Victor Scudieri was elected Chairman of the Monmouth County Democratic Party in 1989. Under Chairman Scudieri's leadership, the Democratic party of Monmouth County continues to make impressive strides to assure that Democrats are elected to office. Multiple towns in Monmouth County with long tradition of Republican leadership now have a Democratic presence as a result of Chairman Scudieri's direction. The Chairman will be retiring from his position in 2012. His steadfast leadership has boosted the Monmouth County Democratic party. He will continue to serve as an inspiration to future Democratic leaders.

Mr. Speaker, Chairman Victor Scudieri has dedicated his life to various philanthropic, business and political endeavors. Please join my colleagues in thanking the Chairman for 23 years of service to the Democratic Party and dedication to the Monmouth County, New Jersey community.

LORI PRUSSMAN

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Lori Prussman of

Saint Joseph, Missouri. Lori is active in the community and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award: Woman in Volunteerism.

Lori Prussman is a valuable volunteer leader and has provided faithful services within the PTA for nearly 20 years. Ms. Prussman has served two terms as the St. Joseph PTA Council President. In that capacity, she has worked tirelessly promoting new schools and new technology and has patiently addressed hundreds of questions from concerned citizens. Ms. Prussman has been actively involved in leading PTA projects like the Character and Spiritual Scholarship and has worked to keep the organization solvent through the Major Savers Fundraisers. Thanks to Lori Prussman, the PTA manages to keep attention focused on advocating for children in the St. Joseph community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Lori Prussman. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 362, On agreeing to the King Amendment—I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 363, On agreeing to the King Amendment—I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 364, On agreeing to the Blackburn Amendment—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 365, On agreeing to the Blackburn Amendment—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 366, On agreeing to the Sullivan Amendment—I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 367, On agreeing to the Turner Amendment—I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 368, On agreeing to the Polis Amendment—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 369, Motion to Recommit H.R. 5855—I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 370, Final passage of H.R. 5855—Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act—I would have voted "aye."

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE GREATER LANSING BUSINESS MONTHLY

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2012*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Greater Lansing Business Monthly, which this month will mark the 25th anniversary of its founding by mid-Michigan entrepreneur Chris Holman.

Twenty-five years ago, Mr. Holman saw the need for a publication that would promote, publicize, and support local companies, provide a forum for ideas, and keep members of the community informed of the services and products offered by businesses in the area.