

duties as a Legislative Liaison and continued to honorably serve as a conduit between the Army and Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work closely with Captain Tellado over the last few years of his decorated career, both as a Fellow for the Foreign Affairs Committee, and as a Legislative Liaison for Congress to the Army. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Captain Tellado for dedicating his life in service to his country.

For all he and his wife have given, and continue to give to our country, we are in their debt. We wish him and his wife Sindia Luz Tellado all the best as they continue their journey together, wherever that may lead them.

IN RECOGNITION OF BROOKLYN
CENTRE'S BICENTENNIAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the bicentennial celebration of Brooklyn Centre, a historic neighborhood within the City of Cleveland.

Brooklyn Centre was founded by James Fish of Connecticut in 1812, marking the first settlement west of the Cuyahoga River. Just a few years later, more than 200 people had begun living in the area. On June 1, 1818, Brooklyn Township was formally organized. Throughout the next several decades immigrants from Germany, Poland and Ireland moved to Brooklyn Centre. The area became known for its tanners, shoemakers, and other skilled tradesmen. Brooklyn Centre was annexed by the City of Cleveland in the latter half of the 19th century, after which it began to grow rapidly.

Less than a century later, following World War II, the residents of Brooklyn Centre began focusing on the preservation and revitalization of their neighborhood. In 1946, the Southwest Citizens Area Council was formed. The Brooklyn Center Community Association, also known as Archwood Concerned Citizens, and the Brooklyn Centre Historical Society were founded in 1978. In 1981, the Crossroads Development Corporation was established. In 1984, the City of Cleveland recognized the historic importance and architectural significance of the neighborhood with the creation of the Brooklyn Centre Historic District. More recently, Friends of Big Creek and the Brooklyn Centre Naturalists have been established and the new Jones Home National Historic District was designated. In November 2008, Brooklyn Centre became a National Wildlife Federation registered Community Wildlife Habitat Site.

The Brooklyn Centre Bicentennial celebration began on Memorial Day with a ceremony at the Brooklyn Centre Burying Grounds, which was founded in 1835. The neighborhood will also celebrate with a parade, community picnic and historic home tour, among other festivities.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing 200 years of history and culture in Cleveland's Brooklyn Centre neighborhood.

HONORING IRIS M. ARCHER AS 2012
ANGELS IN ADOPTION HONOREE

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Iris M. Archer of Macon, GA, as a 2012 Angels in Adoption Honoree for her outstanding advocacy of adoption in the State of Georgia.

Mrs. Archer is the founding director of Covenant Care Services, a statewide adoption agency based in Macon and serving all of Georgia. Mrs. Archer founded the organization and served as Executive Director from 1989 until her retirement in May 2011.

Adoptive parents often endure a long journey that requires them to endure a great deal of sacrifice. Their journey begins long before they ever meet their bundle of joy and to prepare for this momentous occasion they often secure an advocate to help them navigate the arduous process. However, in the late 1980s, during a time when unplanned pregnancy was still very much considered shameful, one woman noticed that a very important player in this process often did not have a voice in the world of adoption. While adoptive parents were cooing over the new addition to their family with their advocates by their sides, the baby's birthmother was left by herself to overcome the sadness that often accompanies the difficult decision she made.

Mrs. Archer felt that she could be that voice for the birthmother. Utilizing her degree in counseling and previous work experience for a national adoption agency, she set out on a mission to offer counseling and education to mothers of unplanned pregnancy and offered herself as an advocate for them all around the state. By 1989, her one-woman mission had grown into a full-time cause and Covenant Care Services was established. In that time, she worked to change general adoption practices to identify a triad that included separate advocates for the family, baby and birthmother. The triad's purpose was to alleviate conflict of interest and ensure that all parties are fully served.

As the demand for their services increased around the state, Mrs. Archer began to expand the organization. By the mid-1990s Covenant Care had staff in five communities around the state and employed seventeen full-time staff members. At the insistence of Mrs. Archer, Covenant Care was built as an organization that depends on fundraising for two-thirds of its annual budget. This means that the agency is not dependent on adoption revenue to operate. Not only does it allow the agency to offer some of the lowest adoption fees in the state but more importantly the ability to emphasize education and counseling for the mother without the pressure of being forced to choose adoption. Covenant Care's work has resulted in an average of 25 adoptions each year, nearly 600 adoptions since 1989.

Iris Archer is a woman who simply saw a problem and dared to believe that she could do something about it, and something she did. Mr. Speaker, for her tireless devotion to the entire adoptive family, please join me in honoring Mrs. Iris M. Archer as a true "Angel in Adoption."

IN RECOGNITION OF NEW
AVENUES FOR INDEPENDENCE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of New Avenues to Independence, a volunteer organization that provides services to individuals with disabilities.

New Avenues to Independence was founded in 1952 by a group of parents with disabled children. Instead of sending their children off to live in institutions, the founding parents had a vision of an organization that would facilitate independent lives for their children and others with disabilities. For the past sixty years, New Avenues to Independence has provided opportunities for employment and education to the individuals it serves, in addition to various forms of therapy and recreational activities both inside and outside of its group homes. New Avenues to Independence serves people with a wide range of disabilities and is committed to meeting the specific needs of each individual.

Since its founding, New Avenues to Independence has grown in the number of people it serves as well as the number of services it provides. There are now eight homes located in the Northeast Ohio area, serving 600 disabled people each year. Over the years, New Avenues to Independence has received many awards recognizing its contributions to the community. This year marks the 60th anniversary of its founding.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring New Avenues to Independence, an organization that has provided individuals with disabilities the means to lead independent lives for the past sixty years.

HONORING TERYLE L. BERRY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman . . . who has given of herself to her country, family and community; and

Whereas, Ms. Teryle L. Berry served six (6) years in the United States Navy, she was an educator, community advocate and business owner; and

Whereas, Ms. Berry gave of her time and talent to uplift those in need by demonstrating unwavering commitment to serving the citizens of her community, her family and her country; and

Whereas, she was a mother, a daughter, a sister and a friend; she was a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting and service to our district; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Ms. Teryle L. Berry as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Ms. Teryle L. Berry is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional