

terminated under "close-out procedures", as a federally supported urban renewal project as of 1975. Project activities remaining to be completed now fall to the Township's community development department.

After the annexation of the north end of the Township to the City of Oak Park, the current population is approximately 2,840 people."

This is not an easy history, but it is one that we must remember. The financial collapse and the economic recession have also been difficult for the Township and its residents. But I have always been struck by the fabric of community that exists in Royal Oak Township, the generations of families whom have called it home and the determination to maintain the identity of the Township and build a stronger future.

I have enjoyed participating in many activities and events in the community like the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Day commemoration and the ever popular Pearls of Wisdom luncheon, which honors citizens of 90+ whose lives represent the splendor of the American story.

Newly elected Township Supervisor, Donna Squalls, along with all of the dedicated Township Trustees and other local elected officials are poised to move the Charter Township of Royal Oak forward, and I look forward to following their success in the years to come.

As I close, I can say with confidence that Royal Oak Township and its residents are in good hands with Congressman GARY PETERS. My office will, of course, stay in close touch on issues that impact Oakland County and southeast Michigan as we all work together to revitalize our Michigan economy.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA HICKS,
SATSUMA EDUCATOR AND HALL
OF FAME COACH

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join with the citizens of Satsuma, Alabama in mourning the loss of one of their most distinguished and beloved citizens, Patricia Hicks, who passed away December 8, 2012, at the age of 71.

A native of Satsuma, Pat Hicks was a graduate of Satsuma High School and William Carey University in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

She embarked on a life-long career of coaching in 1975 when she helped petition the Mobile County Board of School Commissioners for support of girls' sports activities in the city.

As coach of the Satsuma High School "Lady Gators" softball team, she led her players to state championships in 1986, 1987 and 1990. She also coached the Lady Gators to the 1994 title game. The 1986 championship team garnered the first state title won by any Satsuma High School team, boys or girls, earning a 43-1 record.

She was also an accomplished volleyball coach, totaling an impressive 476-175 record. She was named Mobile County softball coach of the year nine times and twice as Mobile County's volleyball coach of the year. She was also a member of the Mobile Bay Sports Authority.

In 2001, Pat's lifetime of contributions to sports were recognized on the state level when she was inducted into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame. On December 2, 2012, Satsuma High School named the "Pat Hicks Softball Field" in her honor.

In addition to her distinguished teaching and coaching career, Pat was active in giving back to her community as a long-time member of the Satsuma City Council, serving for twelve years. She also was a member of the Satsuma City School Board since June 2011.

Pat has been described by many of her friends and former players as both a legend and an inspiration. She was a role model and advocate for our youth and her presence in Satsuma will be sorely missed.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I offer my personal condolences to her husband of 49 years, Neal; her son, Chris; mother Mary Piece; and many family and friends. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

RECOGNIZING THE NORTHVIEW
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM
AS CLASS 1A FLORIDA STATE
CHAMPIONS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Northview High School Football Team as Class 1A Florida State Champions.

No single component by itself renders a champion, but rather it requires a combination of discipline, desire, focus, and determination. The Northview High School Football Team found the perfect blend of each element, and these student athletes proved that this year was theirs by capturing the championship title after their 42-21 win over the Trenton Tigers at the Florida Citrus Bowl.

While the Northview Chiefs Football Team may have entered the championship as the underdog, under the leadership of Coach Sid Wheatly and with the help of over 1,500 fans who made the 450 mile journey to Orlando to cheer them on, the Chiefs came out on top and dominated the state's previously number one ranked team. After a scoreless first quarter, the Chiefs went on to have a 21-point run in the second quarter that helped propel them to victory. The win was a team effort with excellent defense that forced turnovers in the air and on the ground and with an offense that produced over 226 total yards. The Chiefs made school history on November 30, 2012, earning their first state championship.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the players, coaches, students, faculty and staff at Northview High School and their continuing commitment to excellence. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating the Chiefs on this impressive victory, and we wish them all the best for continued success.

EPA'S FOOD RECOVERY
CHALLENGE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in the United States, more than 34 million tons of food waste is generated each year. Individuals, households, businesses, restaurants, hospitals, and schools are some of the many institutions that are contributing to this national dilemma. As a result, our landfills overflowing with food waste.

We are challenged daily by the economic impacts that food waste has on our society. Clearly, we need to take action.

The Environmental Protection Agency is confronting this issue with their Food Recovery Challenge. Specifically, the EPA is asking for participants to reduce their food waste through donation and recycling.

Among food that is thrown away, a majority of it is wholesome and unspoiled. This could be donated to help feed American people at soup kitchens or shelters. In other words, we should use food to feed people, not fill our landfills. Other food that is unfit for human consumption can be disposed of in an environmentally safe way, for example, composted.

Two major universities in Houston are currently participating in the Environmental Protection Agency's Food Recovery Challenge. The University of Houston and Rice University have committed their efforts to reducing food waste on their campus.

These Houston universities are setting a great example of how our country should be addressing issues at home. They are taking preventative action through the Food Recovery Challenge to fight our economic and environmental issues of tomorrow.

This is one EPA idea that I support. And that's just the way it is.

HONORING ELIZABETH E. (LIZ)
BASS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Tuolumne County Supervisor Elizabeth E. (Liz) Bass on her retirement from the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors and to thank her for her dedicated public service.

Liz Bass has been a resident of Tuolumne County for 40 years, and her entire time in Tuolumne County has been spent serving in either public education or local government.

Liz began her local public service career in 1972, when she joined the faculty at Sonora High's "Opportunity School," a continuation program, as a teacher. She continued her service in public education until her retirement as Principal of Cassina High School in 1996. Even before her retirement as a teacher and school administrator, Liz made time to run a successful election to the Sonora City Council in 1994, where she served for 10 years.

Also, unique to any other locally elected official, Liz hosted a radio show on KVML called

"Talk Back" between 1997 and 2000. On the show, Liz would hold on-the-air conversations with everyday residents, as well as local political figures.

One of Liz's most cherished accomplishments is to have served as the first female Mayor of Sonora between 2000 and 2002. Liz stepped down from the City Council, when she was elected to the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors in 2004. In 2002, she was recognized for her service on the City Council with the Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce's "Excellence in Government Award."

Liz is leaving the Board of Supervisors after eight years of service as the District 1 Supervisor. During her time on the Board, Supervisor Bass worked hard to bring civility to boardroom dialogue; champion issues related to youth, seniors and affordable housing; privatize Tuolumne General Hospital; support recreation, library and behavioral health services; push for reforms in the County's solid waste program; initiate and complete an overhaul of the Board's committee and commission system; and provide the political leadership needed to establish the first ever Tuolumne County Flag.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Tuolumne County Supervisor Liz Bass on her retirement and commending her exemplary service to the community as an educator, member of the Sonora City Council, and representative on the Board of Supervisors.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
MORRIS PETTUS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of my friend, Morris Pettus, for his unyielding service, accomplishment and leadership as a key member of my Congressional staff

For nearly 10 years, Mr. Pettus worked with expertise, compassion and perseverance in addressing numerous issues of constituent concern. From veterans and military issues, to critical casts involving individuals in immediate crisis—he approached everyone who sought assistance with unwavering respect and dignity, working diligently to find a solution.

Mr. Pettus' concentration in the area of Veterans Services was invaluable to the citizens of northeast Ohio. As a liaison connecting veterans with local and Federal agencies, his work enabled thousands of veterans and active military members to find resolutions across a wide array of casework. Most significantly, Mr. Pettus' expertise and determination enabled countless veterans and their families to obtain crucial medical and disability benefits they rightfully earned and deserved.

Mr. Pettus quickly emerged as a trusted leader in my Congressional office. His positive energy, strong work ethic, insightful nature and wonderful sense of humor easily drew staff members to him, and he cultivated not only dynamic working partnerships, but lifelong friendships with his Congressional Staff colleagues.

His ability to connect with others extended outside the District Office, where he effectively represented me at numerous events, forming

vital bonds with community leaders throughout northeast Ohio. Everyone from colleagues to Members and leaders within our Cleveland community consistently sought his collaboration, ideas and advice. His influence upon all of our lives is immeasurable.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Morris Pettus, whose service as a member of my Congressional staff reinforced and advanced my work as a United States Congressman. His ability to tackle difficult cases on behalf of countless citizens, especially our veterans, served to empower, uplift and renew their lives. His service, framed by integrity and heart, will forever impact our entire community.

TOWN OF SHARON ADOPTS RESOLUTION TO PROTECT DEMOCRACY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the Town of Sharon, MA adopted a resolution calling on us to adopt a Constitutional amendment that would protect in the Constitution two important principles that have recently been undermined by narrow majorities in the Supreme Court. The Town of Sharon asks us to make it clear in the Constitution that only human beings and not corporations are to be given the rights of citizenship, and that unlimited election spending is not free speech, but rather a threat to democracy.

Mr. Speaker, it is particularly appropriate that the Town Meeting in Sharon, a very democratic forum of government, adopted these two principles in this resolution and asked us to put them into the Constitution because they are both important for the protection of our democracy. I submit the resolution from the Town Meeting of Sharon.

TOWN CLERK

Sharon, MA, December 3, 2012.

Article 10.

Voted: That the Town adopt the following resolution: To call upon the United States Congress to pass and send to the States for ratification an amendment to the Constitution of the United States that would firmly establish two principles:

1) Only human beings, not artificial entities such as corporations, are entitled to the rights and privileges guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.

2) Election spending is not free speech guaranteed by the First Amendment, and is therefore subject to regulation by federal and state governments.

A True Copy.

Attest:

MARLENE B. CHUSED,
Sharon Town Clerk.

IN HONOR OF DR. YVONNE
KENNEDY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay trib-

ute to an outstanding educator and public servant, Dr. Yvonne Kennedy. Sadly, Dr. Kennedy passed away on Saturday, December 8, 2012. A number of tribute events will be held in Mobile, Alabama starting December 14, 2012 and culminating with a State Funeral on Saturday, December 15 at 11:00 a.m. at the Mobile Convention Center.

Dr. Yvonne Kennedy was born on January 8, 1945. A Mobile, Alabama native, she and I were schoolmates in high school. She received an Associate's degree from S.D. Bishop State Junior College, a Bachelor's degree from Alabama State University and a Master's from Morgan State University. She also earned her Ph.D. from the University of Alabama and was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Letters from Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee.

Dr. Kennedy was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives in April 1979, representing the 97th District in Mobile County. Dr. Kennedy was at the forefront of the fight against Alabama's voter ID law. She was also a strong advocate of extending voting rights to ex-felons in Alabama. She served as Ranking Minority Member of the Economic Development and Tourism and the Children and Senior Advocacy House Committees. She also served on the Transportation, Utilities and Infrastructure Committee.

Dr. Kennedy served as president of Bishop State Community College from 1981 to 2007. She was appointed as the second president after the passing of the first president, my father, Dr. Sanford D. Bishop, Sr., for whom the college was named. During her tenure, the college was expanded from one campus to three and dramatically broadened the curriculum.

After being initiated into Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in 1964 at Alabama State University, Dr. Kennedy served in several leadership positions from the local to the national level. She served as the sorority's 19th National President from 1988-1992. During her tenure as president of Delta, she launched SCHOOL AMERICA, a program to promote literacy issues. Under her leadership, Delta Sigma Theta completed the renovations of its national headquarters and made significant achievements in advancing its global impact.

Dr. Kennedy loved her community dearly, and in addition to representing it in the state legislature, she was actively involved within it. She served as Chairman of the Mobile County United Negro College Fund Campaign, Youth Director for the Board of Christian Education—Southeast Alabama Conference, and former Chairperson of the Alabama Legislative Black Caucus. She was also a member of the Board of the American Association for Higher Education and America's Junior Miss Scholarship Foundation, Inc., as well as a Trustee of Miles College in Fairfield, Alabama. She was a lifelong member of Stewart Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

On a more personal note, I first met Yvonne as a 12-year-old having to speak behind her on a Youth Day program at the Stone Street Baptist Church in Mobile. She wowed the congregation and made me determined never to follow her on a program again! While she matriculated at Bishop State Junior College, she was a student assistant in the President's Office. The President, my father, spoke often and proudly of her intellect, eloquence and leadership potential. While he died before she