

has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

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

ON THE TRAGIC BOSTON
MARATHON BOMBING

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my deepest sympathies for the victims and their families of the horrific Boston Marathon Bombing, which took place on Monday, April 15, 2013.

To date three people have been killed, including an eight-year old boy, and many were also wounded in this senseless violence as people sought to athletically express the power of perseverance, while their loved ones cheered them on. The glory and the innocence of athletic achievement as well as supporting one's families and friends in such a pursuit must not be desecrated by this tragedy.

While we will never truly understand what causes someone to seek to maim and kill others in cold blood, faith will console where reason cannot. We can find some solace in the extraordinary heroism displayed by runners who finished the race after the bombing and continued running to the nearest hospital to give blood, as well as the spectators who rushed to the aid of the wounded immediately after the blast.

Those responsible for this heinous deed will be brought to justice, and the singular steadfastness of our great nation to punish the wrongdoers and support the victimized will once again be apparent.

HONORING THE MILESTONES OF
JAMES AND CONNIE McCARTY
AND VERNON AND GENEVA
GIBBS

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize the parents and grandparents of a constituent of the sixth district of Kentucky by the name of Jim McCarty.

Mr. McCarty's parents, James and Connie McCarty, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 22, 2012 this past year. I would like to extend to them my best wishes and congratulations on such a great accomplishment.

In 2013, Jim celebrated the anniversary of his grandparents Vernon and Geneva Gibbs who have been together for 70 years. Their anniversary occurred on January 30, 2013. I want to wish Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs congratulations as well and recognize the steadfast devotion they have for each other.

Mr. Speaker, clearly in Mr. McCarty's family when you say I do, you stand by your word.

I wish Jim and his family all the best, and again congratulations.

COMMENDING MAJOR BRYAN T.
TAYLOR OF NORTH CAROLINA

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, America has the strongest military in the world because it is composed of patriotic volunteers—the men and women who put their lives in harm's way to keep our country safe. I want to recognize and congratulate a young North Carolinian who was recently promoted to Major in the U.S. Army. I have known Bryan T. Taylor since he was a child, and I served with his father in the North Carolina General Assembly and the United States House of Representatives.

Bryan was appointed to the United States Military Academy by the late Sen. Jesse Helms. At West Point, he served as captain of his senior class and on the West Point honor guard during the difficult year of 9/11/2001. He graduated in 2003 near the top of his class and was physics mentor in his third year. From West Point, Bryan took additional training as a combat engineer and was stationed in Korea near the DMZ. From there, he entered combat in Iraq and spent 12 months in Ramadi, where constant battle was waged by both the U.S. Army and U.S. Marines.

He was promoted to 1st Lieutenant during that combat and returned home. After his promotion to Captain, he served in Central America, and in 2008 he returned to Iraq. His Major promotion service was held at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Sgt. Karen Vannov and Lt. Col. Jeff Moran conducted the promotion service. Present at the ceremony were Bryan's wife, Sgt. Miriana Perez Taylor, his parents Charles and Elizabeth Taylor, bringing prayers and greeting from his mother-in-law and father-in-law Lucia Macias and Leoncio A. Perez.

I have nominated many young men and women to our service academies during my tenure in Congress. And I have known many brave men and women who have served their country with honor. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, I would like to thank Major Bryan T. Taylor and the other hundreds of thousands of our military for their service and sacrifice in keeping our country free. May God bless them one and all.

CONGRATULATING LOUISIANA
STATE UNIVERSITY—SHREVE-
PORT DEBATE TEAM

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Louisiana State University—Shreveport (LSUS) Debate team for finishing its season with a combined total of nine International Public Debate Associations (IPDA) National Championship titles after four days of competition at the 2013 IPDA's National

Championship Tournament hosted by the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Under the great leadership of Coach Trey Gibson, the LSUS team won nearly 60 percent of their preliminary rounds earning 14 spots in the elimination rounds. As a program, the team earned four national tournament titles, including the National Tournament Overall Championship title, the Scholastic Championship, and Founders title. Finance majors Cody King and Christian Juneau each made it to the final round in their respective divisions. King lost in the professional division final on a 2–1 decision. Things were different for Juneau as he defeated his opponent and took the Novice National Tournament Championship title.

Before the tournament began, the team had already earned five national championship titles for competition throughout the season. The LSUS team was the top ranked program in the Nation in the Varsity, Professional and Scholastic division season rankings. Success in those categories contributed to the Founders' Cup title making LSUS the top ranked program in the Nation for the 2012–2013 competitive season. Individually, senior Psychology major Chelsea Anthony won the season ranking title in the Varsity division.

The Season Ranking National title is the fifth in a row for LSU Shreveport. The National Tournament title is the team's second in a row and third in the last five years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering congratulations to the LSUS Debate Team, Coach Trey Gibson, and to each member for all of their wonderful successes.

HONORING WESLEY HARRIS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Wesley Harris. Wesley 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 264, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

HONORING FRANCIS J. SAVAGE

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Francis J. Savage. A resident of Olean, New York, Mr. Savage served