

has not only earned numerous awards, but also the respect of her family, peers, and community. The Venturing Silver Award is the equivalent of obtaining an Eagle Scout and recognizes the high level of achievement Brooke has accomplished through the Venturing program.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brooke Jackson for her accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Silver Award.

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2014

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Older Americans Month. Each May, we celebrate the contributions and sacrifices that the older members of our communities have made to our nation.

The theme for this year's Older Americans Month is "Safe Today, Healthy Tomorrow." We must encourage older adults to protect themselves from injury and remain active. Unfortunately, unintended injuries to our population of older Americans result in 6 million medically treated injuries and more than 30,000 deaths each year.

We must emphasize safety in public and private settings. Falls are a leading cause of injury and subsequent hospitalization for older Americans. In order to keep the older population in our country contributing to society, we must ensure their health and safety.

Older Americans Month lets us celebrate the achievements of our parents, grandparents, friends, and neighbors. Seniors across the country deserve our recognition because they have built our strong foundation.

Please join me in celebrating Older Americans Month during May. Our seniors, a continuously growing number of Americans, deserve our recognition and our care.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2014

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 181, I was predisposed at this time.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2014

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 182, I was unable to return in time for votes due to a personal conflict.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING THE SERVICE OF REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL CAREY

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2014

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Representative Michael Carey.

A native of Leeds, Maine and graduate of Dartmouth College, Michael Carey has served the State of Maine through four terms in the Maine House of Representatives as well as through his membership on the board of several community organizations and local businesses.

Representative Carey currently serves on the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee and as Chair of the House Committee on Elections. He has also served on the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee, Transportation Committee, as well as the special committees on Regulatory Fairness and Reform and Maine's Energy Future during his time in the Maine Legislature.

Representative Carey's long list of legislative achievements includes playing an instrumental role in the development and passage of the state's biennial and supplemental budgets. He has also sponsored successful legislation to strengthen penalties for violations of election laws, improve the Freedom of Access Act, preserve Code Enforcement Officer Training and Certification, improve lobbyist disclosure policies, help non-profit organizations take part in the legislative process and assist local towns in providing tax relief to residents.

In addition to his legislative accomplishments, Representative Carey has served Maine through his membership on the board of several local organizations and businesses, including Community Concepts, AVESTA Housing and Androscoggin County Habitat for Humanity.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Representative Michael Carey for his service to the state of Maine and in wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING ALEXANDER MEYER BLACKBURN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alexander Meyer Blackburn. Alexander 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 1393, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alexander has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alexander 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, Alexander has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Alexander built a fire pit for Heartland Presbyterian

Center, a conference and retreat facility in Parkville, Missouri.

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

HONORING 16 PALM BEACH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO PLAN TO ENLIST INTO THE MILITARY AFTER GRADUATION

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2014

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of 16 high school seniors from Palm Beach County who plan to enlist into the military after graduation this spring. Their maturity and courage are a testament to their dedication to our country, and they rightfully deserve our recognition and admiration.

I am proud to represent a district that is home to such a large number of men and women in the military, veterans, and their families. I feel tremendous gratitude to those who fought in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, and to a new generation of heroes from the Gulf War, Iraq, and Afghanistan. My father, Bernard Deutch, volunteered to fight in World War II as a teenager where he earned a Purple Heart at the Battle of the Bulge. It was his example of service to our nation that motivated me to serve in Congress.

Congratulations to Christopher Barnikel, Arturo Ipina Jr., Jose Pascual Tomas, Justin Grad, Adam Pendleton, Jason Marlin, Charles Green, Alexander Costello, Marc Velazquez, Sumer Boardman, Mauricio Alvarez, Trystan Anderson, Aprilday Lytal, Samuel Steinhouse, Elyzae Reina, and Shereek Powell for their service.

HONORING MICHAEL KAISER, PRESIDENT OF THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2014

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, for nearly 15 years, Michael Kaiser has served excellently as President of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in our nation's capital. Throughout his distinguished career, Michael's talents and devotion to the arts have helped establish the Kennedy Center as one of the nation's premiere performance venues, a destination for artistic talent and a bustling hub of creativity. This weekend, the Kennedy Center community will gather to pay tribute to Michael's outstanding leadership as he steps down from his post later this year.

Since he took the helm in 2001, Michael Kaiser has enthusiastically and passionately embraced the mission of the Kennedy Center, always maintaining, as President Kennedy once said, that "The life of the arts . . . is close to the center of a nation's purpose—and is a test to the quality of a nation's civilization."