

The habitat is a large, spacious area that gives the turtles plenty of room to maneuver and not be confined to one area.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Clearwater Aquarium for their new exhibit that provides needed protection and a better way of life for these endangered creatures. I ask that this body join me in thanking the Clearwater Aquarium for their efforts.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP CHAPTER OF THE SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Superior Township Chapter of the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy.

The Superior Township Chapter (STC) of the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy (SMLC) has protected and preserved the natural habitats of Superior Township for the last 25 years. Starting with humble origins as a committee of the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy, this group of active citizens formed to protect what was deemed the "last frontier" between Ann Arbor and Detroit in order to maintain the rural character and natural ecosystems of Superior Township. Since 1991, the STC has been steadfast in its dedication to protecting this land, fostering a healthy environment, and engaging and educating the public about the need for conservation.

Started after a class lecture at Henry Ford Community College, Bill Secrest and Jack Smiley began organizing interested citizens with the goal of advancing environmental preservation. From the start of this project with the generous donation of thirty acres to establish the Springhill Nature Preserve, the STC has continued to grow and has not looked back. The STC now protects over twenty four hundred acres in our community, safeguarding this precious natural habitat and resources for future generations. Today the STC operates twelve nature preserves which are all open to the public and the new Superior Greenway Nature Trail, which is a project that leads the way in environmental maintenance, preservation, and education. The STC has implemented a long term plan for the nature preserves which will ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy them. Our natural resources are invaluable and must continue to be cherished and protected. The Superior Township Chapter has worked tirelessly with local stakeholders to ensure environmental harmony and preservation in Superior Township and beyond, and for that we owe them a great deal of gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 25th anniversary of the Superior Township Chapter of the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy. We look forward to their next twenty five years of success and beyond.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANDREW JORDAN

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2016

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Andrew Jordan of Watkins Memorial High School for winning the Boys 3,200 Meter Run at the Division I Ohio High School Track and Field State Championship as well as the Boys 1,600 Meter Run during the Midwest Meet of Champions.

Since 1907, the Ohio High School Athletic Association has enabled talented teams and individuals to earn state titles. Throughout this time, the champions of OHSAA state level competitions have represented the highest achieving and most talented athletes in Ohio. The young student athletes who emerge victorious then have the privilege to compete against fellow champions from the states of Indiana and Michigan in the Midwest Meet of Champions.

Andrew's victories cap a tremendous season. This sort of achievement is earned only through many hours of practice, perspiration and hard work. He has set a new standard for future athletes to reach. Everyone at Watkins Memorial High School can be extremely proud of his performance.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I congratulate Andrew Jordan on his State and Midwestern regional championships. I wish him continued success in both his athletic and academic endeavors.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,327,746,021,669.98. We've added \$8,700,868,972,756.90 to our debt in 7 years. This is over \$8.7 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CALVIN FREDERICK "FRED" DAVIS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2016

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Calvin Fredrick "Fred" Davis of Tupelo, Mississippi. Mr. Davis was a committed husband and family man, a remarkable athlete and coach, and a pillar of the Tupelo community. For 52 years, he was married to Councilwoman Nettie Davis, and together they worked tirelessly to improve their beloved hometown of Tupelo.

When reflecting on Mr. Davis's life, his love of family, sports, and community immediately

come to mind. In high school and college, he was a sports hero excelling in football, basketball, baseball, and track. He received an athletic scholarship to attend Alcorn State University and later became the university's first African-American physical education teacher. As Mr. Davis continued his legacy in education and athletics, he became the first African-American coach in the Tupelo Public School District. He is affectionately referred to as "Coach Davis" among his former athletes, friends, and colleagues.

While Mr. Davis is remembered for his athletic legacy, community service, and leadership within the civil rights movement, he is equally known for the loving partnership he had with his wife, Mrs. Nettie Davis. A trailblazer herself, Mrs. Davis was the first African-American woman elected to serve on the Tupelo City Council. Together, the couple fought for a better, more unified city. As a resident of the Tupelo area, my family has directly benefited from their hard work and drive to improve our community. I am honored to have known Mr. Davis and call him a friend. As we remember his remarkable life, I want to extend my deepest condolences to Mr. Davis's family and friends.

IN HONOR OF EDDY RAE'LAURIN GATES

HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2016

Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise seeking to honor the life of Eddy Rae'Laurin Gates, who passed away on June 2, 2016 in Fort Hood, Texas at the age of 20.

Ms. Gates was a passionate defender of our nation, and died serving our citizens in the tragic flood at Fort Hood, Texas. A recent graduate of Triton High School in Dunn, North Carolina, Ms. Gates eagerly joined the Army in December 2015 and was excited for her assignment to Fort Hood in May. Her dedication to serving her community was apparent in her roles as Homecoming Queen, youth leader at Kingdom Impact Global Ministries, and as a frequent volunteer with the Junior ROTC drill team at Triton High. Members of the community including her family, Triton High School principal, and ROTC Major Steve Jones, serve as witnesses to the impact she made in the lives of others.

Rae'Laurin, a beloved neighbor and family friend, is survived by her parents, Marlene J. Strongs (Benjamin) and Deacon Eddie R. Gates; siblings Darryl L. Snipe, Anstrice Epps, Quinn Williams, Dominique Robinson, Traci Strongs, and Deja R. Shaw; grandparents, Eddie and Willie Faye Gates, Ernest and Jean Carter, and Joyce Strongs. A celebration of Ms. Gate's life was held in Dunn, North Carolina, at the Veterans Park on June 7, 2016, to commemorate our hometown hero.

Rae'Laurin, like so many of our military members, made the ultimate sacrifice for her country: giving her life for the safety of others. This tragic event at Fort Hood not only impacted the Gates family, but also many others across the nation, and serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by members of the military, both abroad and at home. Ms. Gates'