Mike was a devout Catholic and had a deep interest in Catholic history. He authored a profile of 58 historic catholic churches east of the Mississippi titled ''Our Catholic Roots.'' He also received many accolades throughout his long career in public service for his dedication to his local community and the environment.

Mike is survived by his wife of 46 years, Cecelia Fitzpatrick, and six children, Timothy F. Maloney, Eileen Maloney Flynn, Kathy Maloney Gawne, Patrick J. Maloney, John M. Maloney, and Ann Marie Maloney, and twelve grandchildren. One of his greatest prides was his loving family and all of their many achievements. Mike was known to boast about them all and was happiest when surrounded by his many children and grandchildren.

Mike Maloney will be sorely missed not only by those who knew him but also by the residents of Prince George's County whom certainly benefited from his dedication to his community and to the ''little guy.'' I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this dedicated public servant who leaves behind a loving family and many admirers who will miss him greatly.

COMMENDING THE WORK OF DEBORAH NOVAK AND JOHN WITEK FOR THEIR DOCUMENTARY ''BLENKO RETRO: THREE DESIGNERS OF AMERICAN GLASS''

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, as our country began the long process of recovering from the Great Depression and World War II, people sought comfort and change in a variety of places and mediums. Consumers turned their attention to products that were both energetic and new, and Blenko Glass in Milton, West Virginia was one of the American companies able to adjust to this new consumerism with their award-winning pieces and unique designs.

I would like to congratulate Huntington, West Virginia residents Deborah Novak and John Witek who have once again created an insightful and provocative documentary that chronicles three of Blenko's most famous and celebrated designers in the era of post-war modernism. Titled ''Blenko Retro: Three Designers of American Glass,'' it is the second of its kind by the Emmy-Award winners to highlight the significance of Blenko as the industry leader in modernity in American glass.

Often said to be reflective of events that were occurring at that time, Blenko Glass was able to offer a new attitude to Americans, bringing the sleek and bold creations into their homes that were parallel to the thirst for modernity and change that swept the nation at the end of the World War II. Novak and Witek highlight the role of this American institution, emphasizing the important and permanent position that Blenko Glass and its designers hold in creative history.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE, LEGACY, AND MUSIC OF RUFUS THOMAS

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of one of music's greatest icons, Rufus Thomas, who passed away in Memphis, TN, on December 15, 2001, at the age of 84. As his family and friends mourn his passing, it is appropriate that we pay tribute to him and his legacy.

Rufus Thomas was known as one of Memphis' most colorful, influential, and beloved entertainers during a career that spanned more than seventy years. As a pioneering disc jockey at WDIA, an accomplished recording artist, and a prolific performer throughout his long career, Mr. Thomas made invaluable contributions to Memphis' storied musical heritage.

Rufus Thomas became widely known for songs such as ''Walking the Dog,'' ''Do the Funky Chicken,'' ''Can Your Monkey Do the Dog?,'' ''Push and Pull,'' ''Breakdown'' and ''Do the Funky Penguin.'' But Mr. Thomas's musical contributions went far beyond commercial success. A true musical pioneer, he opened the door for many young musicians and helped catapult African American music into the limelight as a cornerstone of popular culture and entertainment. Mr. Thomas helped found two historic recording studios, Stax Records and Sun Records, that helped launch the careers of many musical legends, including B. B. King, Otis Redding, Isaac Hayes, and Elvis Presley.

In recognition of his great contributions, Rufus Thomas was honored by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1998, one of many accolades he received throughout his career. His songs have remained popular since their release and have been re-recorded by groups such as Aerosmith and the Rolling Stones. He was featured as a performer at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Yet, even with all of his successes, Rufus Thomas remained an integral part of the community—always accessible and willing to perform for his many devoted fans. Until he became ill in November of this year, he never spoke of retiring and referred to himself as the ''World's Oldest Teenager.'' He explained, ''I ain't old. You don't get old when you're doing what you love and enjoying every minute of it.''

Rufus Thomas made a life of doing what he loved and for that he was loved by all who knew him. A true symbol of undying youth and optimism, Mr. Thomas will be remembered for the kind heart and boundless energy that he displayed in all aspects of his life, and for the mark he left on musical history.

Mr. Speaker, it is with profound reverence that we honor Rufus Thomas. He will be missed and remembered fondly by his family and friends, an entire community, and musicians and music lovers everywhere.

TRIBUTE TO THE CARNEY-NADEAU WOLVES, MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS D GIRLS BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2001

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the girls' basketball team of Carney-Nadeau High School, a Class D school in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in my congressional district. With only 86 students, Carney-Nadeau is one of the smallest schools in its division, but the Carney-Nadeau Wolves proved once again on December 1 that it only takes a big heart, not a big school, to win a state division championship. I say ''once again,'' Mr. Speaker, because the Wolves won State titles under their same coach, Paul Polfus, in 1989 and 1990.

A team championship can be analyzed in numbers, and any sports fan will plenty of exciting statistics associated with this gusty team, such as their season record of 26–1 and their coach's 410–115 career record. In the 54–32 championship game against McBain Northern Michigan Christian, starter Tara Benson, a senior, led the Wolves with 16 points and snagged six rebounds and six steals, while her sister Carly, a freshman, went seven of eight in her shooting. Starter Brittany Pipkorn hit four 3-pointers.

Peel away those numbers, however, and you will find enough stories of real people to make a movie equal to any classic ''underdog'' story. You will learn that Coach Paul Polfus, who has worked at Carney-Nadeau for 26 years, was once a basketball player at this same school, coached by the current superintendent Ron Solberg. Inducted into the U.P. Sports Hall of Fame in 1996, Paul celebrates his third girls' championship with his wife Colleen and their sons Jacob, Michael and Matt.

In our own version of ''Rocky,'' look behind the numbers to find 5-foot, 1-inch starter Tracy Hernandez, who vowed after the team's loss in the finals last year that the team would win the title this year. Tracy kept her vow by reporting to the gym every morning at 5:30 to lift weights and work toward that goal.

The story of this championship season is also revealed in the story of the Benson sisters, daughters of Nancy (Janofski) Pugh, a member of the first All-U.P. girls team picked in 1975, and Ed Benson, All-U.P. in 1971 and 1972. Tara credits both parents for their help in shaping her game, but perhaps her greatest accomplishment is a personal one—Tara returned to top-form play this year after sitting out the 2000 season recovering from ACL surgery.

The sacrifice and the hurdles met and overcome by each player are part of the story, as well as the home community itself, Carney. This is a community that has faced great economic adversity, Mr. Speaker, but, like the rest of the Upper Peninsula, hope and optimism are characteristics of its people. And the school proving that education and sports go hand in hand, was honored this week in the Michigan Golden Apple Awards program as one of the state's most improved schools in performance on Michigan Educational Assessment Program tests.

In light of the great challenges facing this team, the championship run of the Carney-