

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BRANDON JAMES
HELLYER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brandon James Hellyer of Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Brandon 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 6123, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brandon has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Brandon has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

TRIBUTE RECOGNIZING THE 40TH
ANNIVERSARY OF TELACU AND
THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF
TELACU'S EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize TELACU, an organization based in East Los Angeles in my 34th Congressional District, on the occasion of its 40th anniversary and to recognize TELACU's Education Foundation on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

TELACU, which stands for The East Los Angeles Community Union, is a pioneer in empowering and revitalizing communities in our great State of California and throughout our Nation. In 1968, TELACU was born as a Community Development Corporation (CDC) through seed money appropriated by Congress. Since then, TELACU has grown to become the largest CDC in the Nation with more than \$500 million in assets.

For 40 years, under the innovative and dynamic leadership of David C. Lizárraga who serves as Chairman, President and CEO of TELACU, this corporation has provided our young people and families with the tools they need to achieve the American dream. Through its core businesses, TELACU has created thousands of jobs, affordable homes, loans to small businesses and families, and most importantly, numerous educational opportunities for our Latino community.

In response to crisis-level dropout rates for Latino students in college, TELACU created

the TELACU Education Foundation 25 years ago. Working in partnership with a vast network of colleges, universities, corporations and individuals, the TELACU Education Foundation has awarded millions of dollars in scholarships to thousands of deserving students.

As the centerpiece of the foundation, the TELACU Scholarship Program annually provides scholarships to 600 college and graduate students who are the first in their families to access higher education. Realizing that financial resources alone cannot fully meet these students' needs, the program also provides the scholars with comprehensive academic and career guidance to ensure that all of them graduate.

The foundation also serves an additional 2,000 elementary, middle and high school students, nursing students, and veterans. Through comprehensive educational programs, these scholars are not only inspired to pursue higher education, but are also equipped to meet the rigorous expectations of college. As a result, 100 percent of TELACU's high school students earn their high school diploma and continue on to pursue post-secondary education.

Madam Speaker, on the occasions of TELACU's 40th anniversary and its Education Foundation's 25th anniversary, I join today with fellow leaders throughout my State in commending David Lizárraga and these dynamic institutions for their extraordinary efforts to empower our young people and our communities, and I wish them many years of continued success ahead.

CONGRATULATING THE CHESTNUT
LOG MIDDLE SCHOOL READING
TEAM

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor another great accomplishment by students in my Congressional district. Congratulations to members of the Chestnut Log Middle School Reading Team of Douglasville, GA, for their back to back wins at the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl. This competition was held at the University of Georgia in Athens on March 1, 2008.

For the competition, students read twenty books recognized as Georgia Book Award Nominees and earned the most points by correctly answering questions from each of these novels. Chestnut Log's team qualified for the state competition by first competing at the Douglas County Reading Bowl in January, followed by the regional competition at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton in February. Last week, they became consecutive state champions.

I want to recognize the members and coaches of the Chestnut Log Middle School Reading Team. Many of last year's winners

participated again including Seth Blair, Isaac Carter, and Zachary Fowler, as well as new participants Hannah Drosky, Jordan Raley, Rashard Leonard, Gavin Finch and Andrew Hater. I also wish to recognize coaches Jan Easterwood, Margaret Robbins and Susan Bissell for their continued guidance of this team and their strong devotion to fostering good reading habits among youth in the 13th Congressional District.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I am thrilled to once again recognize Chestnut Log Middle School's Reading Bowl team for their continued success. I want to commend these students for this achievement and I wish them much success in their future academic pursuits.

15TH ANNUAL PATRIOTIC DAY
CELEBRATION

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Annual Patriotic Day Celebration at Kyrene Akimel A-al Middle School, taking place this Friday, April 4, 2009. The Parent Teacher Student Organization has organized this wonderful event for Kyrene Akimel A-al for the past 15 years.

Since its inception in 1992, Kyrene Akimel A-al has been committed to educating their students about the responsibilities of citizenship and about the sacrifices and bravery of those who make our freedom possible. In 1994, Kyrene Akimel A-al was named a World War II Commemorative School. It is the only middle school in Arizona to achieve this honor. This was also the first year that Patriotic Day was designated by Kyrene Akimel A-al to honor the contributions and sacrifices of all of America's Veterans.

I am hopeful that this event will teach the students of Kyrene Akimel A-al Middle School, and its surrounding community, to honor the actions of our nation's veterans for years to come. I commend the school and its excellent Parent Teacher Student Organization for taking on this amazing project.

SUPPORTING THE RECOGNITION
OF NATIONAL FOOT HEALTH
MONTH

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Foot Health Awareness Month and the critical role that podiatric physicians play in our national health care system. Combined, two feet contain one

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

quarter of all the bones in the human body, and an average day of walking puts the equivalent of several hundred tons of pressure on the feet. Given this degree of stress, it is perhaps no surprise that over half of all Americans experience foot pain at some point in their lives.

Podiatrists are at the forefront of expert foot health care. Podiatrists are physicians who specialize in foot and ankle care and who have been trained to diagnose and treat foot and ankle ailments. Their scope of practice includes performing foot and ankle surgery.

Throughout April, podiatrists will be engaged in a national awareness campaign titled "Podiatrists Keep America Walking," timed to coincide with National Foot Health Awareness Month. This year's "Podiatrists Keep America Walking" campaign will focus on children's foot health. Consistent with this theme, podiatrists will educate expectant mothers about foot ailments experienced by pregnant women, and parents about steps they can take to protect their children from foot abnormalities.

Foot pain is no mere inconvenience, and it should not be treated lightly or ignored. In many cases, persistent foot pain or recurring injuries can be the first sign of a serious condition, such as diabetes, anemia, arthritis, and certain circulatory disorders. Paying close attention to foot health, and taking regular advantage of the care provided by a podiatrist, can often aid in the early diagnosis of these and other conditions.

Americans living with diabetes must be particularly mindful of foot health. Diabetes is a chronic and potentially life-threatening illness impacting approximately 21 million Americans. Foot care is especially important for those living with diabetes because the risk is great for developing a foot ulcer that could become infected, and might ultimately result in amputation.

In fact, diabetes is the leading cause of non-traumatic lower extremity amputation, and experts estimate that 86,000 lower limbs are amputated every year as a consequence of diabetes-related complications. Among those living with diabetes, Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanics and older men are most vulnerable to foot ailments. However, regular and expert foot care can significantly reduce the likelihood of amputation by helping to ensure early diagnosis and successful treatment.

The growing epidemics of diabetes and obesity and their concurrent complications are among many reasons why podiatric physicians are an important part of America's health care team. Madam Speaker, I applaud doctors of podiatric medicine for their vital contributions to the health of all Americans, and urge all Americans to be vigilant not only during National Foot Health Awareness Month, but throughout the year.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROBERT L.
FORBUSS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Robert Forbuss, who is being honored by the Clark County School District in the naming of the Robert L. Forbuss Elementary School.

Robert is a native Nevadan who has served this community for nearly four decades as an educator, elected official, businessman, and community advocate. After earning his degrees in Political Science and Public Administration from Long Beach State University, Robert returned to Las Vegas and began his professional career as a teacher at Bishop Gorman High School from 1972–1979. He then served on the Clark County School Board of Trustees for eight years and was an influential advocate for education initiatives in Southern Nevada.

While working as a teacher, Robert became an Emergency Medical Technician and worked during his summer breaks for Mercy Medical Services, a company he would later own. Under Robert's leadership, Mercy became a model operation for paramedic services. In the business community, Mr. Forbuss has served as both a board member of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce and as its Chairman. He is also the founder of Commercial Bank of Nevada now called Colonial Bank. Today, Robert is the President of Strategic Alliances, a consulting company working in the area of government relations, business development, strategic planning, and issues management.

Additionally, Mr. Forbuss was a Board Member of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority for six years, a member of the Clark County Master Transportation Plan Funding Committee, the Mayor's Committee for a Better Community, Chairman of the Las Vegas Housing Authority and the Governor's 2007 Transition Team.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor my friend Mr. Robert L. Forbuss and I congratulate him on this well deserved distinction by the Clark County School District.

IN HONOR OF THE 2008 CONGRESSIONAL CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARDEES FOR MINNESOTA'S SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to 14 exemplary high school students from every corner of Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District. Last week, I had the privilege of meeting several of them when I presented them with the Congressional Certificate of Merit. This program is a time-honored tradition that so many Members of Congress have used throughout the years to recognize the academic achievements and outstanding citizenship of America's high school students.

Far too often, the evening news and daily papers are littered with stories of young America gone awry. It is easy to forget that these are just stories of the few bad apples. But just being in the presence of these tremendous students is enough to renew anyone's faith in our future. These young adults are shining stars, with strong academic records, extraordinary talents, great ambitions, and limitless energy.

It was a true honor to be able to present these students with this recognition: Geoffrey Bible, Apollo High School; Matthew Brown, Elk

River High School; Erika Bullert, Holdingford High School; Melissa Cedarholm, Woodbury High School; Jessie Hansen, New Life Academy; Laura Kant, Delano High School; Kayla Kastanek, Kimball Area High School; Jennifer Klippen, Becker High School; Meggie O'Keefe, Andover High School; Kyle Oliverius, Monticello High School; Elizabeth Swanson, Stillwater Area High School; Dana Van Bruggen, Buffalo High School; Rebekah Wolden, Rivers Christian Academic; and Jacob Young, Howard Lake Waverly Winstead High School.

Each of these students was nominated by his or her school principal. Each of them has earned our accolades and admiration.

HONORING AARON JOSEPH FOY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aaron Joseph Foy of Liberty, Missouri. Aaron 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 1374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aaron has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Aaron has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

CONGRATULATING ISRAEL ON ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Israel on its 60th anniversary of independence on May 14, 2008.

Since Israel's birth it has been a beacon of inspiration and hope for oppressed people all across the globe, and Israel has continued to flourish by striving for peace and prosperity even in the face of the violence that has tormented it since its declaration of independence.

Israel and the United States have been close friends and allies for the past 60 years.

Our relations have evolved from an initial American policy of sympathy and support for the creation of a Jewish homeland in 1948 to a key partnership based on common economic interests, common security interests, and most of all, common values. We must continue to cultivate this relationship.

For the last 60 years, Israel has also been a leader in technology and innovation as they have helped lead the way in science, technology, medical, and agricultural breakthroughs. I applaud Israel for these efforts.

I have been fortunate enough to have had the privilege to visit Israel on several occasions, and have seen the struggles Israelis face daily. However, I have also seen their perseverance and determination to create a peaceful and prosperous state and this gives me hope for future peace in the region.

I would again like to congratulate Israel on 60 years of freedom and independence and I look forward to many more years of working together.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I have discovered that on February 13, 2008, my vote on rollcall vote No. 48 did not register in the voting system.

On this vote, I voted in favor of ordering the previous question on H. Res. 976, rollcall vote No. 48.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, due to the recent death of a family friend and my attendance at his funeral service, I was unable to vote on three measures on the House floor on March 31, 2008.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 3352, Hydrographic Services Improvement Act Amendments of 2007. I would have also voted "yes" on H.R. 2675, Help to Access Land for the Education of Scouts Act, and "yes" on H. Con. Res. 302, Supporting the Observance of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

IN RECOGNITION OF SERVICE OF FRANK FARMER AND DON WESSEL AS CHARTER MEMBERS TO THE OZARKS TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor two men who have spent many years serving their community in Springfield, Missouri, as charter members of the Board of Trustees of the Ozarks Technical Community College. Frank Farmer and Don Wessel both enjoyed long and distinguished careers in private business before being selected by their neighbors to serve on the newly created Board of Trustees, following the creation of the school in April 1990. They have each been reelected to consecutive terms since then; at the end of this month, both men will be ending their tenure of service.

Farmer and Wessel helped shape the growth and direction of a school that serves

the students of 13 public school districts in southwest Missouri—and far beyond that. The growth of the school has been nothing short of a phenomenon, with enrollment this year topping more than 10,000 students. OTC, as it is known to many local students and residents, is also moving forward on plans to expand its operation to a second campus in Ozark, Missouri, with an eye on affording greater accessibility to its growing student body.

From its modest beginnings in central Springfield at the old vocational-technical school, OTC has blossomed into a modern campus that has helped revitalized center Springfield and help train its local youth.

From the beginning, Farmer and Wessel led the way in developing the infrastructure and educational leadership OTC would depend upon for its spectacular growth. First they hired an effective president in Norman Myers. The board of trustees, led by president Wessel from 1992 to 1994 and Farmer from 1994 to 1996, embarked on a plan to build new classroom buildings and greatly expand the number and diversity of available courses available to students.

Farmer's background in education includes service on the Willard Board of Education, on which he also served as president. Journalist, author and dairyman, Farmer has lent his experience and expertise to several public boards and charities, while attending to his duties as the editorial page editor of the Springfield News-Leader before his retirement there.

Wessel is a well-known car dealer and philanthropist, who has been active in the Springfield Chamber of Commerce, American Red Cross, Cox Medical Centers, and has served on virtually every public and civic board in the Springfield area.

To Mr. Farmer and Mr. Wessel, I wish to extend a heartfelt "thank you and well done" for their untiring work over the last two decades. Their unflagging efforts have made the Springfield area a better place in which to live, and the Ozarks Technical Community College a beacon of educational excellence for the entire region.

HONORING PATRICK WAYNE GUTHRIE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Patrick Wayne Guthrie of Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Patrick 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 1309, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Patrick has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Patrick has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 312) revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2008, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2010 through 2013:

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to support the Fiscal Year 2009 Democratic Budget Resolutions.

Once again this year, the President's budget proposal made a number of cynical choices and cut or eliminated programs that make a real difference in people's lives. The President's budget calls for more than \$1 trillion in tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans over 10 years at the expense of vital domestic programs that benefit millions of people. The President's cuts include \$479 billion of Medicare cuts, and \$94 billion in cuts to Medicaid over 10 years; more than \$18 billion over 5 years in new fees for veterans and military retirees; cuts to EPA grants that help protect public health and maintain environmental quality; and the elimination of several state and local law enforcement programs, including Byrne Grants and COPS funding.

The President has already taken a projected 10-year surplus of \$5.6 trillion and turned it into a \$3.2 trillion deficit. Now the President wants to slash funding for crucial domestic programs while he continues to spend \$10.3 billion a month for the war in Iraq—a war that has already cost more than \$495 billion and which may cost more than \$3 trillion by the end of our involvement. This war has cost Americans far too much—most importantly, in terms of lives.

The President's budget also misses the boat by choosing not to fund programs which would stimulate economic growth and benefit all Americans. For example, the President's budget does not include much-needed increases for things such as rehabilitating our Nation's crumbling schools and highways, securing our ports, investing in renewable energy, and helping lower the cost of healthcare for millions of children and seniors. And I was also dismayed to see the number of cuts in the President's budget that come at the expense of our Nation's poorest citizens. To cite just one example, the budget eliminates the Community Services Block Grants which reduce poverty and provide assistance for individuals dealing with housing, health, nutrition, energy, and substance abuse problems.

I am proud that the Democratic budget resolutions restore sanity to our Nation's fiscal policy. Our budget increases veterans funding for 2009 by \$3.6 billion (8 percent) above current services; provides additional resources to address long-standing domestic priorities within a fiscally responsible framework, including increased funding for scientific innovation and energy initiatives, and education, training, and social services; and it rejects the President's

proposed cuts, including cuts to environmental protection, first responders, and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. It also makes room for the expansion of children's health insurance coverage, and includes reforms to improve Medicare for beneficiaries and reforms of the Higher Education Act to make college more affordable.

H. Con. Res. 312 is not perfect. I wish it included less spending on unnecessary, outdated weapons programs, and more spending on domestic priorities for relief for the millions of Americans who are struggling to make ends meet amidst higher energy, healthcare, and food costs; and for the people in our society who need the most help. However, I am grateful to Chairman SPRATT for crafting a budget that rejects the President's cuts.

I am also proud to support the Congressional Progressive Caucus substitute, which provides over \$550 billion for domestic non-military discretionary spending in FY09—over \$130 billion above President's request—to restore the President's harmful cuts. This budget contains a second economic stimulus package that would include an extension of unemployment insurance, an increase in assistance for food stamps, Medicare payments to states, and foreclosure relief, as well as over \$300 billion to rebuild our Nation's crumbling schools and roads. It also provides \$1.22 trillion to cut the poverty rate in half over the next decade, starting with redress and reconstruction for Gulf Coast victims of Hurricane Katrina. It does this by cutting down on waste, fraud in the Pentagon and by eliminating certain cold war weapons systems; as well by closing egregious corporate tax loopholes and rolling back the President's tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans.

Mr. Chairman, the President's last budget is no more than a sad continuation of his failed fiscal policies. I'd like to thank Chairman SPRATT once again for all of his hard work on the budget, and am proud to stand with my Democratic colleagues to support a budget that rejects the President's cuts and reinvests in our domestic priorities.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE T. DETITTA FOR 37 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO HAUPTMAN-WOODWARD MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. George T. DeTitta on 37 years of devoted service to Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute in Buffalo, NY. Dr. DeTitta's commitment to the study of human health is a brilliant example of dedication to community and fellowman. I commend Dr. DeTitta for his work and congratulate him on his return to the lab after 7 years serving as executive director and chief executive officer of Hauptman-Woodward.

Following his undergraduate work at Villanova University and completion of his Ph.D. in biochemistry and crystallography from the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. DeTitta started out at Hauptman-Woodward as a postdoctoral research fellow in 1973. He then served as a

research scientist until 1999 when he became executive vice president. In 2000 he became executive director and chief executive officer.

During his time in leadership, Dr. DeTitta instated a new state-of-the-art structural biology center as well as the Center for High-Throughput Crystallization Laboratory, one of the Nation's 10 Protein Structure Initiative Centers. He also initiated and developed the University at Buffalo's School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences' Structural Biology Department. During Dr. DeTitta's tenure as CEO, he cultivated a new, young faculty at Hauptman-Woodward. His contribution to medical research and the study of disease is invaluable, and I commend him for his commitment to the success of Hauptman-Woodward.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Dr. George DeTitta for these great accomplishments and wish him and his family the best. His work should inspire us all to serve our communities and fellowman with dedicated hearts and committed lives.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING CESAR CHAVEZ

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, on this, the 81st anniversary of his birth, I would like to join my colleagues in honoring Cesar Chavez, an individual that the late Senator Robert Kennedy called, "one of the heroic figures of our time." I also join the call to pass H. Res. 76, establishing a national holiday in his honor. San Jose, the city I represent in this great House, became the hometown to Cesar and his family beginning in 1939, and since then our community has always had a special place in its heart for Chavez.

A man of extraordinary accomplishments, Chavez continually called attention to the plight of those who, like him, had to struggle to attain their piece of the American dream. In remembering him today, we keep in mind those Americans working every day on farms in California, and around the country, to secure a better future for their family.

An American who heeded his Nation's call to service in World War II, Chavez remained committed to making his country stronger by empowering the least powerful of its citizens. A tireless organizer, he inspired countless individuals to participate in the democratic processes that make this country great.

As Americans, we do well to remember Cesar Chavez today. His calls for economic justice resonate in 2008 just as they did 50 years ago, and his early leadership on environmental issues serves as a reminder that we are all stewards of this land.

Cesar Chavez was, without a doubt, a true American hero. As we honor his life and remember his many achievements, we in this great body must not forget the hard-working Americans he fought for. Though no longer with us, Cesar Chavez's work continues.

SUPPORTING THE OBSERVANCE OF
COLORECTAL CANCER AWARE-
NESS MONTH

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, yesterday the House passed with unanimity a resolution recognizing March as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. I was regrettably detained in Minnesota due to the snowstorm which blanketed the Midwest. But had I been here, I would have joined my colleagues in supporting the resolution to raise awareness of this terrible disease.

While colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the United States, it is not as well known or frequently discussed as many other forms of cancer. Whatever the reason for this relative obscurity, we must recognize the fact that both men and women are at risk for colorectal cancer and that while most cases occur after age 50, it can strike at any age. Most important of all, however, when detected in its earliest, most treatable stages, colorectal cancer has a 90 percent survival rate.

That being said, in 2000, the Prevent Cancer Foundation partnered with champions in Congress to designate and commemorate the very first National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. Consequently, over the past 8 years, awareness of the disease has grown. Moreover, the American Cancer Society now currently funds 113 colon cancer research grants nationwide totaling more than \$62.1 million.

Nonetheless, while strides have been made against colorectal cancer, statistics show there is more work to be done. In fact, it is estimated that this year in Minnesota, 2,500 people will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and 900 will die from the disease. However, screening tests can detect precancerous polyps, which, when removed, can stop colon cancer before it starts.

It is important that Congress support the observance of National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in order to continue the progress that has already been made. Through increased awareness and education about this disease, a cornerstone of National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, we can dramatically decrease deaths and limit the suffering this disease inflicts on the United States. As Dr. David Perdue, of the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health stated, "Bottom line, colorectal screening saves lives."

PRAISING HOUSING PARTNERSHIP
TO PROMOTE HOMEOWNERSHIP
IN UNDERSERVED BROOKLYN
COMMUNITIES

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. CLARKE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give praise to the State of New York Mortgage Agency (SONYMA) and NeighborWorks America for their commitment to form a partnership to promote homeownership in underserved neighborhoods in the great state of

New York. This partnership will increase awareness of SONYMA products in low-income and minority neighborhoods, which have been the most effected by predatory lending and the sub-prime mortgage crisis.

Through the Neighborhood Housing Services of New York City, many communities including Flatbush, Brooklyn, will receive the much needed outreach and access to affordable mortgage products from reliable institutions. Today, I enter into the RECORD an article published by the Brooklyn Daily Eagle highlighting the efforts of the partnership in the advancement of homeownership in underserved communities.

[From the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, March 30, 2008]

GROUPS TEAM UP TO PROMOTE HOMEOWNERSHIP IN UNDERSERVED BROOKLYN COMMUNITIES

NEW YORK.—The State of New York Mortgage Agency (SONYMA), which offers low cost mortgages to first-time homebuyers, and NeighborWorks® America, a national nonprofit dedicated to promoting homeownership, have formed a partnership to promote homeownership in underserved neighborhoods in the state, including several in Brooklyn.

Under the one-year \$450,000 agreement, NeighborWorks America's Northeast District and six local New York NeighborWorks® organizations will work with SONYMA to increase awareness of SONYMA's products in low-income and minority neighborhoods. In the city, NHS of New York City is one of the NeighborWorks network organizations participating in the program and it covers all five boroughs, including Brooklyn. NHS will be reaching out to help people buy homes with SONYMA mortgages in Brooklyn's target areas—Sunset Park, Williamsburg, Bushwick, Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brownsville and Flatbush.

"This unique partnership with NeighborWorks® offers a tremendous opportunity to boost the visibility of SONYMA's programs in communities where they could do the most good," said Priscilla Almodovar, SONYMA president and CEO. "Homeownership, when done responsibly, creates strong neighborhoods and stable families."

Said Deborah Boatright, Northeast District director of NeighborWorks, "Now more than ever, low-income and minority communities need access to affordable mortgage products from a trusted source like SONYMA. It is these very communities that have been the most impacted by predatory lending and the sub-prime mortgage crisis."

HONORING CASEY LEE FIDDELKE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Casey Lee Fiddelke of Kansas City, Missouri. Casey 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 1247, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Casey has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Casey has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

CONGRATULATING THE MASSENA RED RAIDERS UPON WINNING THE 2008 NEW YORK STATE DIVISION I BOYS HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Massena Red Raiders upon winning the New York State Division I Boys Hockey Championship. I am proud to represent Massena and note that this is the fifth hockey championship the Red Raiders have won since 1980.

On March 9, 2008, the Massena Red Raiders won the New York State Division I Boys Hockey State Championship when they defeated the West Genesee Wildcats by a score of 3 to 2 in triple overtime. Joe Laffin gave the Red Raiders the lead at 4:44 into the first period and Massena maintained that lead until 3:13 into the third period, when West Genesee tied the game. Massena regained the lead with 4:54 left in regulation when Nathan Pichette scored a goal, which was assisted by Antonio O'Geen and Laffin. However, with 1:07 to play in the third period, West Genesee tied the score again and the game went into overtime. After nearly three periods of overtime and 22 saves by Massena goalie Kyle Anderson, Captain Mike Mailhot scored to give the Red Raiders the game and the state championship.

The Massena Red Raiders finished the season with a 23–4–1 record. In addition, Coach Joe Phillips was named the New York State Division I Boys Hockey Coach of the Year. The Red Raiders were also coached by assistant coach Tim Hayes; Bob Belille, Tim Belille and Louie Trevino were team managers and Anthony Viskovich was the statistician.

Other team members include Clay Allen, Remy Boprey, Allen Bourdon, Tim Doud, Pat George, Captain and First Team All State selection Matt Hatch, David Henrie, Brian Holcomb, Josh Holmes, Alex Kormanyos, Mike Lashomb, William Lint, John-Paul Mailhot, Kevin Morris, Evan Raymo, Conor Riley, Matt Supernault, Dan Tyo, Dustin Vice, Matt Viskovich, Captain and Honorable Mention All State selection Jacob Witkop, and Taylor Zappia. Accordingly, Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me to recognize the Massena Red Raiders for their significant accomplishment.

TAIWAN ELECTIONS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Taiwan for having successfully completed its 4th direct presidential election

on March 22, 2008. Dr. Ma Ying-jeou, a Harvard-educated attorney and former mayor of Taipei, won with a convincing margin. I wish President-elect Ma and the people of Taiwan good luck in the next 4 years, along with continuing economic success and meaningful political reforms.

Since President-elect Ma's victory on March 22, he has made many gestures of good will, which include encouraging Beijing to start meaningful dialogue between Taiwan and Chinese mainland on the issues separating them. It is my sincere hope that both Taipei and Beijing will soon resume dialogue on the issues of mutual interest, leading to the peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. Also, President-elect Ma has indicated his willingness to strengthen Taiwan's good relations with the United States. I hope that he will be able to visit Washington before his inauguration on May 20. Even though our two countries do not have official ties, our ties are strong and growing. The issues between us and Taiwan include our defense commitments to Taiwan, trade with Taiwan, our support of Taiwan's participation in international affairs, and lifting of outdated restrictions imposed on high-ranking officials from Taiwan to visit the United States. As our friend, Taiwan wants to see us fully committed to the letter and spirit of the Taiwan Relations Act, enacted on April 10, 1979.

Again, my best wishes to President-elect Ma and the people of Taiwan. And that's just the way it is.

175TH ANNIVERSARY OF KALAMAZOO COLLEGE

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Kalamazoo College on the occasion of its 175th anniversary. Established in Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1833, Kalamazoo College—affectionately known as K College—has distinguished itself as one of the Nation's oldest and most respected institutions of higher education devoted to the study of the liberal arts.

In addition to being nationally recognized for its high standards of academic excellence, K College has been a pioneer in the field of overseas studies, offering global learning opportunities to its students for the past 50 years. Over 80 percent of all K College students spend a portion of their undergraduate education abroad, partnering with over 50 foreign universities on 6 continents.

As a global champion of lifelong learning, Kalamazoo College also produces, per capita, more students who go on to earn a doctorate than any other American college or university. K College graduates also rank nationally amongst those who are accepted in the Peace Corps, Teach For America, and the Fulbright Scholar Program.

With new challenges emerging at home and around the world, it is comforting to know that Kalamazoo College continues to maintain its longstanding tradition of producing globally-minded leaders.

Again, it is my honor to stand today in recognition of Kalamazoo College for its 175 year

history as well as its 50 years of international fellowship. The college and its graduates have not only made a positive impact within the greater Kalamazoo community and the State of Michigan, but throughout the entire Nation and the world at large.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM L. DICKINSON

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. EVERETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of former Alabama Republican Congressman Bill Dickinson who passed away last night at the age of 82 after an extended illness. As many of my colleagues will remember, Bill Dickinson represented Alabama's Second Congressional District for 28 years. Barbara and I send our heartfelt condolences to Bill's wife, Barbara, their children, Christopher, Michael, Tara and Bill, Jr. and the entire Dickinson family at this time of personal loss.

A native of Opelika, Alabama, and a former city, county and state judge before coming to Congress, Bill Dickinson was a Republican in the Deep South when being a Republican was not popular. Bill Dickinson came to Washington in 1964 as part of the Goldwater sweep of the Deep South and gained a reputation as a formidable legislator and a strong conservative voice for southeast Alabama. He served during a time of momentous change in this House, from civil rights movements and political upheavals of the 1960s, through Vietnam, Watergate, and the Reagan Revolution.

A Navy veteran, Bill Dickinson was a stalwart in national defense and was Ronald Reagan's point man on the House Armed Services Committee where he was ranking member for over a decade. As the committee's leading Republican he gave his support to President Reagan's defense build-up of the 1980s which made America more secure. Upon his retirement after 14 terms on the Hill, Congressman Dickinson listed his greatest accomplishments. After nearly three decades in office you can be sure the list is long, but here are some of the things he was proudest of. He saw aviation become a permanent full-fledged branch of the Army and Fort Rucker become the permanent home of Army Aviation. Furthermore, he secured Federal funding to help construct the U.S. Army Aviation Museum at Fort Rucker which bears his name. He was credited with getting Pentagon approval for the use of the Apache attack helicopter in the first gulf war. The Apache fired the first shot in the war. He oversaw the transformation of Gunter Air Force Station in Montgomery to an Air Force base before merging it with Maxwell to strengthen it. He also saw Maxwell restored to a major 3 star command and the establishment of the Air Force School of Law and the Senior NCO Academy for the entire Air Force at Maxwell-Gunter.

Bill Dickinson also took pride in securing the initial funding for the ongoing Outer Loop Interstate Connector south of Montgomery linking I-65 to I-85. This project is still underway. With the collapse of the Berlin Wall, the Warsaw Pact and the entire Soviet Union, he witnessed the validation of the concept of

"Peace Through Strength" for which he always worked. Bill Dickinson's legacy is still felt on many fronts, but today he is often credited with having laid the political foundation that kept the Second Congressional District in Republican hands for so long. I add my voice to those who mourn his passing and remember the dedication of this exemplary congressman.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 147, 148 and 149, I missed votes because my flight was delayed.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on 147; "yea" on 148; and "yea" on 149.

HONORING JOSHUA DANIEL PIATT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joshua Daniel Piatt of Lee's Summit, Missouri. Joshua 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 1220, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joshua has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joshua has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

HONORING COACHES DON AND BLAZE THOMPSON OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Coaches Don and Blaze Thompson, father and son, who are true living legends in the city of Pahokee, Florida and throughout Palm Beach County.

Don Thompson has been a part of the Pahokee Middle/Senior High School Blue Devils football team since 1984. As head coach, he led the team to its first state championship in 1989. In all the years since, he has been a mentor, friend and very important role model for the young men of Pahokee. Still an assistant coach of the team, Don Thompson is recognized and respected around the state of Florida as an expert at the sport of football. He is also a loving husband, father and grand-

father. As Don Thompson's son, Blaze Thompson has inherited his Dad's talent and skill for winning. In his first year as head coach of the Blue Devils, the team played the toughest opponents in its division and went undefeated, winning its 5th state championship. Blaze has already earned the love and respect of his players, fellow coaches, Pahokee's citizens and everyone who enjoys high school football.

Many of the boys Don and Blaze have coached have gone on to successful careers in professional football. As the first father and son to win Florida state championships with the same football team, it is fitting that Don was inducted into the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame and Blaze named Coach of the Year on the same night. I have no doubt that Blaze will one day follow his Dad into the Hall. I am pleased that both of these fine gentlemen and the team they coach call the 23rd District of Florida their home. I am very proud of them. On behalf of the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, I applaud coaches Thompson and Thompson for their service and commitment to the people of my district and throughout South Florida. We are all very proud of them.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MARY TAVERNA ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with great pleasure today to honor a leader in my district who has done so much to help the terminally ill and their families face end-of-life issues. Mary Taverna is retiring after more than 30 years with the organization now known as Hospice By the Bay. She leaves behind an enduring legacy of hope and compassion to the people of Marin County, the San Francisco Bay area, and across the United States.

When she first began working as a nurse, Mary was concerned about the terminally ill and the lack of adequate care, so it was a natural step in 1976 for her to join what was then Hospice of Marin, which had been founded the previous year. At that time Hospice of Marin was only the second hospice in the United States, the first on the West Coast, and most Americans were unaware of what the hospice mission was. In fact, even the health care industry resisted it.

Mary was instrumental in changing all that, teaching that hospice was a specially designed program to address the comprehensive needs of the whole family system at the end of life, and that it was part of—not instead of—the health care support team. Two years after coming to Hospice of Mann, Mary became president of the organization. Under her leadership, Hospice nurtured community relationships as well as they did the families they served, including building a partnership with management of both county hospitals. Hospice of Marin is such a model that health care providers come here for training from all parts of the United States.

"I feel a great sense of pride in our organization's leadership and participation in hospice

history," Mary once said. "Twenty-five years ago, we never imagined the number of Americans who would be touched by our efforts."

A recognized expert and leader of the hospice movement, Mary helped pioneer the advocacy efforts for legislation that led to the introduction in Congress of the Medicare Hospice Benefit in 1982. This bill provided public health care insurance coverage for hospice services, allowing clients to receive compassionate care and hospices to sustain themselves financially. In 1986, the Medicare Hospice Benefit became permanent, eventually leading to private insurance coverage, as well.

To further ensure the sustainability of hospice care in Marin County, in 1997, Mary helped create—and became the president of—the Hospice of Marin Foundation. The foundation's mission is to provide philanthropic support to Hospice operations.

Both the foundation and the hospice programs continued to grow, and over the past few years expanded into San Francisco and Sonoma counties, as well. Consequently, Hospice of Marin no longer described the organization and 2 years ago, the name was changed to Hospice By the Bay.

"In recent years, we were invited into our neighboring communities to share our experience and resources with other hospice communities," Mary said of the change, adding that it evolved from a desire to be more inclusive of the bay area, rather than imply a geographic exclusivity.

And truly, there has not been a geographic exclusivity to the effects of Mary's work. The National Hospice Organization in 1995 named her "the individual who has done the most for hospice in the national and international level." Since then, she has been selected to help guide that organization as chair of its board of directors.

Madam Speaker, Mary Taverna's dedication to hospice services, her leadership of Hospice By the Bay and her continued work as chair of the board of the National Hospice Organization have left an indelible mark not only on the Sixth District and the San Francisco Bay area, but on areas throughout the United States. And that is why, Madam Speaker, I honor Mary Taverna on her retirement after more than 30 years of service to a cause forever in her debt.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF DI LAURO BAKERY OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Di Lauro Bakery in Syracuse, New York.

Founded by John Di Lauro in 1908, Di Lauro Bakery has become an integral part of the Syracuse community. Although the times have changed since the bakery's opening, the recipe and baking procedure have not. The same oven installed by Di Lauro in the 1950s is used today, and customers go out of their way to buy bread from this fine bakery. By delivering consistency and quality, this Syracuse institution pleases its loyal customers, while attracting new ones. With its great baked

goods, Di Lauro Bakery is a place the community will be able to enjoy for many more years to come. Di Lauro's has become a long-time neighborhood fixture and a community anchor.

Di Lauro Bakery has always strived to provide the Syracuse community with the finest baked goods, and I am proud to recognize them here today. I congratulate current owners Paul and Valerie Wavercak, and their dedicated staff, both past and present, on reaching this milestone. On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I thank them for 100 years of service that has been and will continue to be such a positive asset to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. BRALEY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall 147, H.R. 3352, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yes." On rollcall 148, H.R. 2675, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yes." On rollcall 149, H. Con. Res. 302, I was not present. If I had been there, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF RONALD "RED" PLATZ

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ronald Platz, or "Red" as he is known best by friends and colleagues. Red retired from the UAW International Union on Monday, March 31, 2008 after more than 30 years of leadership and loyal service to the community. Over the course of a tenacious career, Red made a profound and lasting impact on Wisconsin state and local politics.

Red began working in the Engine Division of the Kohler Company in 1969. He soon transferred to the Enamel Shop 3 years later. In 1977, Red was elected to serve as Divisional Steward for UAW Local 833. Red served Local 833 for the next 24 years, holding the positions of Chief Steward, Vice President, and President. He also served as a full-time Benefit and Safety Representative from 1990 until 2001. In total, Red was instrumental in negotiating six labor agreements between the Kohler Company and Local 833. As a health and safety trainer for the UAW International Union, Red led workshops throughout the United States on issues such as workplace safety, hazardous chemical handling, and harassment.

Red's unwavering political spirit led him to the Wisconsin State CAP-PAC Board where he remained active for more than 20 years and served 6 years as Chairperson. In August 2001, he was appointed to the UAW Region 4 International Staff as the CAP-PAC Coordinator for a six-state area that included Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming. Red has served on numerous executive boards including the Wisconsin AFL-CIO, Citizen Action of Wis-

consin, Competitive Wisconsin, Inc., the State of Wisconsin Unemployment Compensation Insurance Advisory Council, and the School for Workers Labor Faculty Advisory Board. Red will retire to country living in Wisconsin to spend time with his wife Mutzie, two children Rick and Judy, and 3 grandchildren Shawn, Samantha, and Collin. UAW Local 833 will honor Red this weekend to commemorate a career marked by commitment and dedication. The celebration will feature a friendly roast by those who have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Red.

For his hard work, leadership, and service to the State of Wisconsin, I join all of UAW Local 833 in saluting and thanking Red Platz. I wish Red health and happiness in retirement.

HONORING STANTON WILL RAGLAND

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Stanton Will Ragland of Liberty, Missouri. Stanton 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 1374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Stanton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Stanton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

CONGRATULATING THE JEWISH HERALD-VOICE ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Jewish Herald-Voice on their 100th anniversary on April 20, 2008. The Jewish Herald-Voice is the longest continuously running Jewish newspaper in the Southwest and one of the oldest in the country. Founded in 1908 as The Jewish Herald by local printer Edgar Goldberg, the Jewish Herald-Voice has continued through the dedication of 3 owners. Through its pages, the Jewish Herald-Voice connects the community to important causes, large and small, calling its readers to action, and especially by connecting its readers to issues affecting Jewish communities around the world.

Over the past several decades, the Jewish Herald-Voice has been recognized for excellence in journalism and in design by the Texas Press, the Texas Gulf Coast Press, the Houston Press Club, and American Jewish Press associations. For its community service, the

Jewish Herald-Voice and its owners, Joe and Jeanne Samuels, have been honored by a plethora of Jewish organizations, both local and international.

One 100 years ago, Edgar Goldberg envisioned a newspaper that would reach everyone in Houston's diverse Jewish community, crossing denominations, transcending organizational boundaries and providing a platform for every Jewish citizen, regardless of affiliation. For 35 years, Joe and Jeanne Samuels, with their dedicated and talented writers and staff, have successfully continued the founder's dream and kept the promise of being "the voice" of the Jewish community of Greater Houston and the Texas Gulf Coast. Joe and Jeanne Samuels are great Americans, personal friends, and serve our community well.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Jewish Herald-Voice for their 100-year tradition of service to the Jewish community and the city of Houston.

HONORING MARIO CANZONERI

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. FOSSELLA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Mario Canzoneri, who died on Saturday, January 19, 2008, following heart surgery. Mario and his wife Karen have been true and constant supporters of the community of 9/11 victims and their families. They have shared their therapy dogs—the Smile Retrievers—Jake, Jessie, Mattie, and Macie, with the entire community.

Immediately after the tragic attacks, Mario brought his therapy dogs to New York to help the families of the victims. Selflessly, and always at their own expense, Mario and Karen ministered to 9/11 families. They also traveled to Oklahoma City, to the TAPS program in Washington, to the campus of Virginia Tech, and to many other places where people were in pain from brutal losses.

Mario was extremely active in the community, attending every forum sponsored by Voices of September 11th and has accompanied the Pentagon families during their remembrance walks. I have heard many stories of young children cuddling up to the dogs and finding a way to deal with their grief on the anniversary of the attacks.

Mario proved that each of us holds the power to change the lives of many for the better. Although Mario's own life was cut short, his was a life lived to the fullest—a life that impacted others in a way few of us ever achieve. With purpose and resolve, Mario Canzoneri used his time on God's earth wisely and for the betterment of those around him.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my personal condolences to the Canzoneri family. Mario was a great man with a kind heart, and we are all in his debt.

IN HONOR OF JOHNSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S RECOGNITION AS A MINNESOTA SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the teachers, parents, and students at Johnsville Elementary School in Blaine, Minnesota. Last week, before a crowd of proud neighbors, this school community was honored as a 2007–2008 Minnesota School of Excellence.

Minnesotans place a high value on education. It's engrained in our state psyche. And, this makes this already great honor still more phenomenal. Only 7 schools in the state achieved this level of excellence for this school year. And, since the program's inception more than 20 years ago, in 1986, only 125 schools have been recognized as Minnesota Schools of Excellence.

This high honor is a testament to the hard work of Johnsville's faculty, under the leadership of Principal Patrick Murray. It is also a testament to the commitment of the parents of Johnsville Elementary. Individually and through an active parent-teacher organization, these parents form a foundation of support for these teachers and students. Together they form a solid and interlocking network that excels in all areas of academics and community involvement.

The Johnsville Elementary community is a model for schools throughout Minnesota and, indeed, throughout the nation. I was proud to join them in celebrating this tremendous achievement last week, and I look forward to this school reaching still greater heights in years to come.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST JOSE RUBIO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Specialist Jose Rubio, of 464th Armored Battalion of the United States Army, who was killed in the line of duty by an IED roadside bomb in Baghdad.

Specialist Jose Rubio was born on March 19, 1983, in Reynosa, Mexico. He attended school in Mission, Texas, and graduated from South Texas College in 2005 with an associate's degree in Computer Science. He married his high school sweetheart, Jennifer, in May of 2006, and had a son, Nicolai, who is now 11 months old. He is survived by his mother, his six siblings in Reynosa, Matamoros, and Rio Bravo. Specialist Jose Rubio will be forever remembered for his service in protecting the freedoms and ideals of our country and I extend my condolences to his family, and to his wife, Jennifer.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the service of Specialist Jose Rubio in the United States Army.

TRIBUTE TO NEWS TALK 970 WKHM-AM

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, it is my special privilege to recognize News Talk 970 WKHM-AM on receiving the 2007 Michigan Association of Broadcasters Station of the Year award. It is with great admiration and pride that I congratulate WKHM of Jackson on behalf of all of those who have benefited from the station's commitment to south-central Michigan and dedication to outstanding achievement in broadcasting.

News Talk 970 WKHM proudly serves Jackson, Michigan, with faithful broadcasting of local, regional, and national news. Committed to exceptional community service, the station focuses specifically on the issues most important to the people of Jackson. Additionally, WKHM provides the most comprehensive weather coverage in the area and also broadcasts Detroit Red Wings and the University of Michigan Wolverines sporting events.

Each year the Michigan Association of Broadcasters sponsors a competition to recognize outstanding achievement in broadcasting by Michigan radio and television stations. The contest was established to promote the utmost quality of reporting, community service, and production creativity. The winners are recipients of the highest honor—peer recognition.

This year's award for Market 3 went to News Talk 970 WKHM-AM for its continued excellence in broadcasting. The station was the recipient of the same award in 2005. In addition to Station of the Year, WKHM won in nine other categories including Investigative News, Special Broadcast Personality, and Newscast.

Madam Speaker, today I honor News Talk 970 WKHM for its continued service to the Jackson community. May others know of my high regard for this radio station's diligent reporting and enthusiastic service, as well as my best wishes for WKHM in the future.

HONORING TREVOR ANDREW GAUERT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Trevor Andrew Gauert of Kansas City, Missouri. Stanton 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 1447, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Trevor has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Trevor has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF
CAPTAIN TORRE REMOINE MAL-
LARD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to recognize the life of a heroic American citizen, Capt. Torre Mallard.

Captain Mallard, a native of Anniston, Alabama, died in Iraq on March 10, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Bonita and two children, Torre, Jr. and Joshua.

Like all those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in this conflict, words cannot express the sense of sadness we have for his family, and the gratitude our country feels for his service. Captain Mallard died serving the United States and the entire cause of liberty, on a mission to bring stability to a troubled region and liberty to a formerly oppressed people. He was a true patriot indeed.

We will forever hold him closely in our hearts, and remember his sacrifice and that of his family as a remembrance of his bravery and willingness to serve. Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the House's remembrance on this mournful day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, on March 31, 2008, due to flight delays, I missed rollcall votes No. 147, 148, and 149. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Rollcall No. 147, "yea;" rollcall No. 148, "yea;" rollcall No. 149, "yea."

ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE OF
CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS—Continued

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank many of the people who participated in the work of the Task Force, either by coming to speak with us and share their views or by contributing on a staff level.

A number of individuals attended meetings at the Task Force's request to share their past experiences and offer their opinions on the idea of an independent ethics office. We very much appreciate the time they gave us. They are Senator BEN CARDIN, former Representative Louis Stokes, former Representative Robert Livingston, Thomas Mann of the Brookings Institution, Norman Ornstein of the American Enterprise Institute, Donald Wolfensberger of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, former Federal Election Commission Chairman Bradley Smith, Kentucky Legislative

Ethics Commission Executive Director Judge Anthony Wilhoit, President of the Ethics Resource Center Dr. Patricia Harned, Sarah Dufendach of Common Cause, Gary Kalman of U.S. PIRG, Fred Wertheimer of Democracy 21, Meredith McGehee of Campaign Legal Center, Melanie Sloan of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, Thomas Fitton of Judicial Watch, Lloyd Leonard of the League of Women Voters, Senate Ethics Committee Staff Director Robert Walker, and Senior Counsel to the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct Ken Kellner.

I would like to extend my particular thanks to Tom Mann, Norm Ornstein, Sarah Dufendach, and Gary Kalman, all of whom were very committed to seeing a responsible and practical proposal from the Task Force and therefore spent many hours in consultation toward achievement of that goal.

The staff who assisted members of the Task Force also deserve our thanks and recognition: Bernard Raimo, Counsel to the Speaker; Paul Taylor, Chief Republican Counsel to the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties; Ed Cassidy, Senior Advisor & Floor Assistant to the Republican Leader; Robert F. Weinhausen, Jr., Senior Counsel in the Office of Legislative Counsel; Jean Louise Beard, Chief of Staff, and Kate Roetzer, Legislative Assistant to Rep. PRICE; Allison Havourd and Rob Guido, Legislative Assistants to Rep. CAMP; Christopher Hickling, Legislative Director to Rep. MEEHAN; Ben Taylor, Legislative Assistant to Rep. HOBSON; Carla Murrell-Hargrove, Staff Assistant, and Rashage Green, Legislative Assistant to Rep. SCOTT; Jeff Kahrs, Chief of Staff to Rep. TIAHRT; and Emily Lawrence, Legislative Director to Rep. MCCOLLUM.

Mr. Speaker, much of the debate on the Office of Congressional Ethics and the process followed by the Task Force in formulating these recommendations has centered on the issue of bipartisanship. Although my Republican colleagues declined to endorse the final proposal outlined in our report dated December 19, 2007, the process up to that point had, in fact, been incredibly bipartisan. This is to the credit of all of my colleagues on the Task Force. We had lively, open, and civil discussions in a series of meetings held over the course of a year, and we all value the cordial and professional way in which we were able to work together.

A number of draft proposals were circulated to all members of the Task Force throughout the process, starting with an initial proposal that was floated in June. As we worked to craft a specific set of recommendations, all Members had the opportunity to offer suggestions and feedback—and all did. As we worked from a general outline of an independent office into a more specific legislative draft, we incorporated most of the ideas put forth by Task Force members.

I would like to point out that the final proposal—as introduced in December and as amended for consideration on the House floor—contains a litany of concepts put forth by our Republican colleagues. They include:

- Term limits for OCE board members;
- Joint appointment of OCE board members;
- Requirement that reviews be initiated with bipartisan agreement;

Only prospective consideration by the OCE—no retroactive reviews of allegations pertaining to acts that occurred before the date of adoption;

Code of conduct for OCE board members and staff that includes avoidance of conflicts of interest;

Financial disclosure form for OCE board members;

Wording on OCE ability to "solicit such testimony and receive such relevant evidence as may be necessary to carry out its duties";

60-day blackout on referrals from OCE to Ethics Committee before an election was made mandatory, as opposed to being at the Committee's discretion;

Provision requiring leaks to be investigated; and

Provision on ex parte communications.

One other issue to which I would like to respond is the internal memo from staff of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct that was publicized via a Dear Colleague letter on March 11th and submitted for the RECORD that same day. This memo came in the form of an email exchange between Ken Kellner, Senior Counsel to the Committee, and Bill O'Reilly, Chief Counsel and Staff Director.

I would like to be absolutely clear that while the written memo was never shared with my office prior to their release in the Dear Colleague letter, its contents and the concerns of the Ethics Committee were shared in November 2007—prior to the introduction of H. Res. 895 on December 19, 2007. While some of the concerns raised by the Committee essentially rose from a basic objection to the creation of an independent ethics office within the House and could therefore not be addressed without compromising the fundamental concept, others were valid and reasonable issues that we took into consideration and modified based on Committee staff's suggestion.

I call Members' attention to five key changes that were made to the Task Force proposal in direct response:

We built in a process for the Ethics Committee to unilaterally take a case from the OCE at any time if the Committee feels it necessary or appropriate.

We removed a provision that would direct the OCE to provide a copy of its findings to the Member, officer, or employee who is the subject of a review. We agreed that it was not ideal to provide what could essentially be a "roadmap" for an investigation to the subject of a review. Therefore, the subject of the review would only see the OCE findings when they become available to the public—only after the Ethics Committee has a chance to deal with the matter.

We altered the content of the findings so that cooperative witnesses could not be named publicly—precisely because we agreed that the OCE would not want to punish legitimate whistleblowers by publicly disclosing their names. The change specified that only uncooperative witnesses may be named in the findings.

With respect to Committee concerns about publishing the board's findings even if the Committee has decided to handle a matter nonpublicly, we made sure to clarify that Ethics Committee rules would allow the Committee to dismiss a matter while also issuing a private letter to the subject or respondent. If the Committee felt the need to handle a smaller infraction privately, they could do so in this manner and no publication of the action is required.

We expanded the ex parte communications prohibition to include "any interested party" as was suggested.

These modifications were made to the proposal prior to the release of the final Task Force recommendations and introduction of H. Res. 895. Members deserve to know that the concerns of the Ethics Committee were taken into account by the Task Force and that, while this commentary caught many Members by surprise on March 11, we had already been briefed on its substance and had responded appropriately.

The Task Force worked diligently over our 11 months of meetings to cooperate on a bipartisan basis and craft a set of recommendations that would improve the ethics process in the House of Representatives. While I regret that we could not come to a final agreement, I thank my colleagues on the Task Force for their efforts and for their commitment to this institution.

SUPPORTING THE OBSERVANCE OF
COLORECTAL CANCER AWARE-
NESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 302, supporting the observance of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and for other purposes, introduced by my distinguished colleague from Texas, Representative KAY GRANGER. This important legislation recognizes the devastating effects of Colorectal Cancer, which kills 49,960 Americans each year, and raises awareness regarding the realities and severities of this disease.

Colorectal cancer includes both colon and rectal cancer and is the second most common cause of cancer deaths for both men and women within the United States. This form of cancer does not discriminate between men and women, race and ethnicity; however, the rates of diagnoses are slightly higher among the African America Community. Despite the fact that every 3.5 minutes someone is diagnosed with colorectal cancer, every 5 seconds, someone who should be screened for this cancer is not.

That is why this legislation is so important; we know the devastating effects of this type of cancer, yet we have failed to apply the necessary steps to address the epidemic. The survival rate of those who have colorectal cancer is 90 percent when detected in its early stages, but that rate dramatically drops to only 10 percent when colorectal cancer is detected after it has spread to distant organs. The death rate of colorectal cancer could be reduced by up to 80 percent if the majority of Americans age 50 or older were screened regularly for colorectal cancer. It is not surprising to note that uninsured Americans are more likely to be diagnosed with late stage colon cancer than patients with private insurance, and that as such only 39 percent of colorectal cancer patients have their cancer detected at an early stage. Only 18.8 percent of Americans without health coverage in the United States have currently been properly screened for colorectal cancer.

Regular colorectal cancer screening makes economic sense because it has been ranked

as one of the most cost effective screening interventions available, with the potential to save more than 30,000 lives a year. Treatment costs for colorectal cancer are extremely high and are estimated at \$8,400,000,000 for 2004; however, the risks associated with non-treatment are even higher.

The necessity of raising awareness about colorectal cancer cannot be overemphasized, and I applaud this legislation for supporting the observance of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. The potential deadly effects of colorectal cancer should encourage Americans from all walks of life to be tested and treated by their doctors. Colorectal cancer is the third most common form of cancer and the second leading cause of cancer-related death in the Western world. As such, colorectal cancer causes 655,000 deaths worldwide per year. Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month must also raise public awareness for the need of colorectal cancer testing for those Americans who are traditionally unable to afford such screening and seek ways to alleviate this disparity. It is imperative that Congress find a way to ensure every American at risk is tested and treated in the early stages to prevent an even higher death rate. Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month should be recognized by all Americans to focus on the special opportunity to offer education on the importance of early detection and screening.

I am proud to cosponsor this important legislation to support the observance of March as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. I strongly support H. Con. Res. 302 and urge all Members to do the same.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. WELLER. Madam Speaker, I was absent on Thursday, March 13th, Friday, March 14th, and Monday, March 31st due to personal reasons, and I missed rollcall votes 139 through 146.

If I were present I would have voted, "yea" on rollcall vote No. 140, "nay" on rollcall vote No. 141, "yea" on rollcall vote No. 142, "nay" on rollcall vote No. 143, "nay" on rollcall vote No. 144, "nay" on rollcall vote No. 145, "nay" on rollcall vote 146, "yea" on rollcall vote No. 147, "yea" on rollcall vote No. 148, and "yea" on rollcall vote No. 149.

HONORING STEPHEN LEE DODSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Stephen Lee Dodson of Kearney, Missouri. Stephen 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 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Stephen has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the

many years Stephen has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

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

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIS
AVERY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor 86 year old Willis Avery, a veteran of World War II, for his exemplary service in defense of freedom while serving in the United States Navy.

Willis served in the United States Navy in World War II as a Chief Pharmacist's Mate aboard the USS *Solace*, a hospital ship moored to the battleship USS *Arizona*. Willis was aboard the *Arizona* during the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. He courageously ignored the flames and assisted the wounded and helped transfer them to the USS *Solace* and other ships nearby. The Officer of the Deck ordered Willis and his partner off the *Arizona*. He witnessed the explosions of the USS *Arizona*. The day after the attack, Willis was among the Naval personnel who retrieved the bodies of the dead and readied them for burial.

While in the service, he played the saxophone and clarinet in a dance band and put on comedy skits along with USO entertainer Joe E. Brown to entertain fellow troops. He was an escort to the First Lady, Eleanor Roosevelt when she visited New Zealand.

Today, Willis is one of the few remaining survivors of the attack at Pearl Harbor and he is truly part of the "Greatest Generation."

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Willis Avery for his heroic service in the United States Navy. His dedication to this country in the theater of war and his devotion to his fellow troops' morale are truly commendable. I laud the sacrifices he has made to protect our freedoms and I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize his service.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USS *NAUTILUS*
REACHING 90 NORTH

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution to honor an important anniversary not only to my district, but to our Navy and our nation.

In June 1958, the USS *Nautilus* (SSN 571), the world's first nuclear powered submarine, departed Seattle as part of a top secret operation called "Operation Sunshine." Unknown to many at the time, the *Nautilus* was embarking on a historic mission that took them on a course north to the Arctic Ice cap. At 1:15

p.m. (EDST) on August 3, 1958, the boat became the first vessel to cross the geographic north pole when Commander William Anderson, *Nautilus*' commanding officer, announced to his crew: "For the world, our country, and the Navy—the North Pole."

This historic crossing of "90 North" took place at a critical time in our nation's history: the Cold War was heating up, the Soviet Union had seemingly laid claim to space with the launch of Sputnik, and many Americans—and many around the world—were looking for something to rally around, a sign that we were not ceding big ideas and notable achievements to others. Having reached the North Pole, the *Nautilus* clearly demonstrated our undersea superiority and opened the region to decades of scientific research and exploration.

The crossing of the North Pole was praised by numerous world leaders of the time, being described by President Eisenhower as a "magnificent achievement" from which "the entire free world would benefit." A ticker tape parade was held in honor of the crew in New York City, the *Nautilus* became the first naval vessel in peacetime to receive the Presidential Unit Citation for its meritorious efforts in crossing the North Pole and Commander William R. Anderson was awarded the Legion of Merit.

In the fifty years since, the United States Navy and Coast Guard have repeatedly followed in the footsteps of this historic voyage. Dozens of U.S. submarines, in addition to specially fitted vessels and general aircraft of the United States Coast Guard, have journeyed to the top of the world in service of their country and to reinforce our Arctic presence. These submarines and their intrepid crews have broken through to the surface, charted new courses and expanded our knowledge of the Arctic.

Built and launched at Electric Boat in Groton, Connecticut, on January 21, 1954, the *Nautilus* was the first vessel in the world to be powered by nuclear power. After claiming their historic milestone at 90 North and returning home to Naval Submarine Base New London, the *Nautilus* continued to establish a series of naval records in her distinguished 25 year career, including being the first submarine to journey "20,000 leagues under the sea."

The history and the legacy of the *Nautilus* is not only meaningful to my Congressional district, but to the entire submarine force and our nation. Today, the *Nautilus* proudly serves as a museum where visitors from around the world come to learn about both her history-making service to our nation and the role of the submarine force in securing our nation. The *Nautilus* truly helped set the tone as the standard bearer for the submarine force, and achievements like the crossing of 90 North both proved the capabilities of our nation at a critical time in our history and raised the bar for all those who came after her.

Too often the critical achievements of our submarine force, our "Silent Service," go unnoticed. I am proud to introduce this resolution today to honor the *Nautilus*, her crew and the countless individuals who provided support for her journey across 90 North, and urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this important milestone in our Nation's history.

TRIBUTE TO CATHERINE OLSSON,
SEUNGSOO KIM, MARGUERITE
TAIMI AND NEWPORT HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements and congratulate Catherine Olsson, Seungsoo Kim, Marguerite Taimi, and Newport High School in Bellevue, Washington, for their outstanding excellence in Advanced Placement, AP, math and science as awarded by the Siemens Foundation.

Catherine, who attends Lakeside School in Seattle, Washington, and Seungsoo, a student who attends Mountain View High School in Vancouver, Washington, were two students from my home State who received a \$2,000 scholarship from the Siemens Foundation and the recognition that comes along with such a prestigious award. Ms. Taimi, an 18-year teaching veteran at Kentridge High School in Kent, Washington—located within my congressional district—was recognized by the foundation for her dedication to students in her AP calculus class. Additionally in my district, the entire AP math and science department at Newport High School was recognized for their significant strides and continued excellence in AP courses.

The Siemens Foundation, in partnership with the College Board, a non-profit association committed to connecting students with overall college success, is celebrating its tenth year of presenting awards and significant scholarships to students, teachers, and institutions in all 50 States. This year alone, Siemens and the College Board awarded 97 students, dozens of teachers, and many high schools monetary gifts, bringing their total commitment since 1998 to more than \$4.5 million.

One of my constituents, Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates, appeared before the Committee on Science and Technology on March 12, 2008, and spoke at length of the need for improved math and science education in order to maintain our leadership in technological innovation.

With that message in mind, please join me in congratulating Catherine, Seungsoo, Ms. Taimi, Newport High School, and all the other students, teachers, and high schools who strive for excellence in AP math and science. Moreover, I want to thank the Siemens Foundation and the College Board for their extraordinary commitment to encouraging America's future mathematicians, scientists, and engineers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, on Monday, March 31, I was unavoidably absent and so was unable to join in three recorded votes.

If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

On H.R. 3352—To reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act,

and for other purposes—I would have voted "yea."

On H.R. 2675—To provide for the conveyance of approximately 140 acres of land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes—I would have voted "yea."

On H. Con. Res. 302—Recognizing the Month of March as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month—I would have voted "yea."

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND BIRTHDAY OF CESAR CHAVEZ

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, Today, we gather to pay tribute to a remarkable man, and one of the most revered workers rights pioneers, Cesar Estrada Chavez. Cesar Chavez became one of our Nation's and the world's notable advocates for nonviolent social change.

Born on a small Arizona farm on March 31, 1927, Cesar Chavez began his life as a farm worker in the fields at age 10. He later served in the United States Navy during World War II.

Cesar Chavez didn't just learn about the struggle of migrant workers. He and his family lived it. He grew up moving from town to town and from school to school while his family worked in the fields.

He became a farm worker as soon as he finished the eighth grade. Born out of his sweat and toil was a fierce determination to give a voice to families like his who labored so hard and received so little in return.

Cesar Chavez became that voice of the farm workers. He established the United Farmworkers Union to establish this movement. The priorities he fought for are America's priorities: Better pay and benefits for workers. Better education for children. Health and safety protections for workers where there were none. He helped in expanding civil rights for minorities and advocated on behalf of every person living within the United States.

He was committed to the idea that no matter their education or their job, anyone can demand fair treatment at work. Before Cesar Chavez, farmworkers were exposed to horrifying conditions, working long hours and being poisoned by pesticides. Chavez drew national attention to the plight of the farmworkers. Because of Chavez, farmworkers can no longer legally be treated in the inhumane manner they were before.

Cesar E. Chavez was loved and respected by many, and he continued to fight for the rights of farm workers until his death in 1993. Chavez lived his life fighting for workers' rights, civil rights, environmental justice, equality for all, peace, non-violence, children and women's rights. Over 50,000 mourners came to pay their respects to the humble man, whose simple, modest manner was driven by his commitment to social justice.

In 1994, Cesar Chavez was posthumously awarded the nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Robert F. Kennedy once described Cesar Chavez as "One of the heroic figures of our time." He encouraged millions of people across the country

to join the fight for social and economic justice for farm workers and to empower the poor and disenfranchised.

It is important that we do our part to make America a place where everyone receives respect and opportunity. We must ensure Cesar

Chavez' dream by promising every man, woman, and child in America a secure future with promising opportunities. We must work hard to raise the minimum wage, ensure that all Americans can earn a decent living and secure access to affordable health care. Selfless

Service to others is why Cesar Chavez will always be an inspiration to all of us. Let's continue Cesar Chavez's legacy, by truly honoring his memory and continuing his commitment to achieving basic rights and dignity for all American workers.