

When the people of Ireland immigrated to Baltimore, many of them found employment with the B & O Railroad. Judge Ward was so inspired by the gritty hard work of these immigrants that he wanted to find an appropriate way to honor them. In the late 90s, he helped begin the Railroad Historical District Corporation after he was approached to help repair 5 alley homes along Lemmon Street, commonly referred to as the "Lemmon Street Five." Ward rallied historic preservationists, raised money, recruited volunteers, and faced the difficult task of restoring dilapidated 160-year-old buildings. With his steadfast determination and desire to better his community, Judge Ward saw the completion of the "Lemmon Street Five" in 2002. Of the five Lemmon Street houses, two developed into the Irish Shrine and Railroad Workers Museum, which pays tribute to the Irish immigrants who started new lives in Baltimore during the Great Famine of 1845–50.

As a member of the Hibernian Society of Baltimore, Judge Ward continues to provide charitable assistance and advice to immigrants from Ireland. Judge Thomas Ward greatly deserves the title of Hibernian of the Year for his exceptional work within their organization.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Judge Ward, an exemplary citizen of the State of Maryland and commendable member of the Hibernian Society.

MARCH IS RED CROSS MONTH

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge that March is Red Cross Month. This is a time for us to officially recognize the essential role that the American Red Cross plays in our communities helping to ensure our communities are more ready and resilient in the face of future disasters. March has been celebrated as "Red Cross Month" since 1943 when President Franklin D. Roosevelt called the wartime fundraising campaign the "greatest single crusade of mercy in all of history." As we celebrate this American Red Cross Month, I encourage all individuals to commit themselves to strengthen their own communities through service and volunteer opportunities with the Red Cross. Volunteers help make our country stronger, and no where is this more evident than in communities coming together to support each other in times of need.

From rebuilding former adversaries after World War II, to saving lives after the tragic earthquake in Haiti, the American people have an unmatched tradition of responding to challenges at home and abroad with compassion and generosity. In just over one month since the earthquake, the Red Cross has provided assistance to more than 1.3 million people and will continue to aid hundreds of thousands more in the months ahead. In Chile, the American Red Cross is prepared to mobilize support, including relief supplies and trained personnel. The American Red Cross is also assisting the Chilean Red Cross, through the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent appeal, to assist 75,000 people for six months in the areas of shelter, water

and sanitation, health and telecommunications.

At home and abroad, one in five Americans is touched by the Red Cross every single year. The American Red Cross in Greater New York responds to an average of 7 emergencies a day—fires, floods, building collapses—and provides immediate humanitarian aid to as many as 100,000 people affected by these emergencies each year. In my district alone in 2009, the Greater New York Chapter responded to 264 disasters and registered 1,337 people for Red Cross assistance.

Whether it is an earthquake or a single family home fire; a call for blood or a call for help, the American Red Cross is there. I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in applauding the hard work of the American Red Cross volunteers and celebrating March as American Red Cross Month.

MEGAN HELT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2010*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Megan Helt. Megan is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of the USA and earning the high honor of the Gold Award.

Megan's outstanding achievement reflects her hard work and dedication. Megan has exhibited unique and creative examples of service that have made a difference in her community. I am confident that she will continue to hold herself to the highest standards in the future. This is an accomplishment for which Megan can take pride in for the rest of her life.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Megan Helt for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of the USA and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

CENSUS AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 3, 2010*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the beginning of March marks the one-month process of one of the most important collective actions that our country partakes in, the national Census. Thus I want to express my support to House Resolution 1096, deeming this month designated as Census Awareness Month. The Census provides an opportunity to not only count how many people live in our great nation, but to also collect valuable data that will help to provide services to millions of Americans. According to information collected from the Census, over \$400 billion per year in federal funding is distributed to State and local governments. As a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, I want to ensure that all African Americans are counted as the Census has significant importance in the black community. The implementation and evaluation of

programs like the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, the Civil Rights Act and the Fair Housing Act are based on Census data. In 2007 the Black community grew to 40.7 million from 33.5 million in the year 2000. Underrepresentation of minorities is the leading cause of underfunding programs that these communities utilize the most, such as education, health care, housing and transportation programs.

The myths that further discourage people from participating in the Census must be dispelled. The Census is not a long process; there are merely 10 questions to answer, making it the shortest Census form in history. By law the Census Bureau cannot share individual responses with anyone; that includes immigration authorities, IRS, FBI, CIA or any other government agency. The U.S. Census preferred method of participation is through forms sent through mail and returned through mail and Census workers will only visit households that do not return their forms. This snapshot of our nation also effects Congress itself; the distribution of U.S. House of Representative seats are based on the Census. In order to have proportional representation as well as programs and funding that directly serve the American people, everyone must participate in the 2010 United States Census. Underrepresentation of our population must be avoided; thus from March to April, I urge everyone to go to [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) to find out more on how you can be involved in the 2010 U.S. Census.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES D. MACPHEE

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 10, 2010*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James D. MacPhee of Schoolcraft, Michigan, who will become Chairman of the Independent Community Bankers of America, ICBA, on Thursday, March 18, 2010.

Mr. MacPhee's long association and dedication to the ICBA has unquestionably qualified him for this position. He has served as chairman of the ICBA Membership/Marketing Committee and is this year's ICBPAC auction chairman. He has served as vice-chairman and an at-large member of the ICBA Executive Committee and represented the State of Michigan on the ICBA Board of Directors.

Southwest Michigan has greatly benefited from Mr. MacPhee's career in the community banking industry. He has been with Kalamazoo County State Bank for 35 years, serving as CEO for the past 17, and is a member of the board of directors of First State Bank in Decatur, Michigan. Mr. MacPhee has held the esteemed positions of both director and president in the Michigan Association of Community Bankers and currently serves as chairman and a member of the board of directors of the Michigan Association of Community Bankers Service Company.

Throughout his impressive career, James MacPhee has continually given back to the community. He was a charter member and chairman of the Village of Schoolcraft Downtown Development Authority, and a charter member of the Schoolcraft Community Association, and has served on the board of directors of the Bronson Health Foundation. Mr.