for the needy and the elderly. Due to the encouragement and financial support they receive from local churches, members of the community and the United Way, Christian Volunteer Services has been able to sustain their mission of strengthening and nurturing the community with a spirit of love and concern for its neighbors.

In 2006 Bishop Randal Burge became the Director of Christian Volunteer Service. Currently, they host teams of volunteers from all over the United States and Canada that are willing to come and service the area.

Christian Volunteer Services is the recipient of a number of Community Service Awards, including one from the State of Mississippi Governor's Office and an Excellence Award from the United Way Organization.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Christian Volunteer Service for its philanthropic work throughout Claiborne County, Mississippi, and surrounding areas.

TRIBUTE TO MAYA WESBY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Maya Wesby, the 2012 Congressional Black Caucus, CBC, Spouses Essay Contest winner. Maya, a native Washingtonian, is a dedicated student and burgeoning scholar at one of the District's top performing public schools, the Duke Ellington School for the Performing Arts. Her outstanding essay, ''Defeating the Barriers of Physical Activity,'' won first place at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference this year.

Each year, high school and college students from the districts of CBC members write essays on issues that affect the lives of African Americans for the CBC Spouses Essay Contest. This year's topic was ''How America's youth are moving us into a healthier tomorrow.'' Maya's essay documents childhood and adolescent obesity in our country and offers a solution for the staggering statistics. As an advocate for healthy living, Maya's thought-provoking work shows a young scholar who is getting the most from her education, is on top of the issues of the day, and has great promise as she prepares for college and for success in life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Maya Wesby for winning the 2012 Congressional Black Caucus Spouses Essay Contest.

RECOGNIZING THE GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTHEAST TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA and in special recognition of the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas. This Council comprised of more than 35,000 girls and 16,000 adult volunteers spans across 32 counties in Northeast Texas. It is with great pride that I honor their long history of public service and leadership.

Established by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912, the Girl Scout movement started with just 18 girls in Savannah, Georgia, and the belief that bringing girls into the open air and the community would allow them to develop the confidence, self-reliance, and resourcefulness needed for personal and professional success. A century later, Low's extraordinary vision has impacted the lives of over 50 million girls and helped to produce some of the most accomplished women in the fields of business, science, education, and public service.

Today, Girl Scouts of the USA has nearly 4 million members and more than 100 different councils across the nation. In the greater Northeast Texas community, it is the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas who carry on this incredible legacy by offering a variety of community outreach and educational programs that help all its members become strong leaders. Thanks to this Council, thousands of girls in my district are being given the tools to become successful women and accomplished professionals.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA and recognizing the Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas. I look forward to the members of this Council becoming the next generation of successful American women.

HONORING JANE RAMSEY

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2012

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Jane Ramsey. She is a long-time Chicago area resident who has worked for three decades as a community leader for social and economic justice.

Jane Ramsey is retiring this year from her current position as the President of the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, JCUA. She had been the Council's Assistant Executive Director from April 1979 and was named its Executive Director in 1982. JCUA combats poverty, racism and anti-Semitism in partnership with Chicago's diverse communities. Guided by prophetic Jewish principles, JCUA pursues social and economic justice for Chicago's most vulnerable neighborhoods by promoting a vision of empowering communities from within. Her leadership of over 30 years has helped enable the JCUA to become one of Chicago's most active and important organizations speaking on behalf of human and civil rights issues.

Jane Ramsey led the JCUA in an effort to combat racism facing mayoral candidate Harold Washington. Further, when Chicago Housing Authority residents were fighting to ensure that their rights were honored when the City of Chicago tore down its highrise public housing buildings, the JCUA organized a coalition of religious and civil rights groups to work for the tenants. When Chicago's Muslim community became the target of hate crimes after September 11, 2001, the JCUA formed the Jewish-Muslim Community Building Initiative.

Jane Ramsey has also served on numerous boards including the Justice Coalition of Greater Chicago, Chicago Coalition to Protect Public Housing, Ethics Coalition, KAM Isaiah Israel Congregation, Women in Charge; and as commissioner for Private Industry Council (PIC), the Women's Commission of the City of Chicago, and the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism. She is currently a board member of CAN–TV, the Leadership Greater Chicago Fellows Association, and the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jane Ramsey. She is truly worthy of recognition by this august body, the U.S. House of Representatives.

REPEALING SECTION 907 OF THE FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT

HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2012

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of repealing Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act. Since 1992 the people of Azerbaijan have been under unfair restrictions for American assistance.

Twenty years ago tomorrow, President George H.W. Bush signed into law the FREEDOM Support Act.

While a well intentioned effort at lifting out of poverty and tyranny the afflicted peoples of the former Soviet Union, the law also contained a provision under Section 907 of the bill, which restricted Azerbaijan from receiving assistance.

Azerbaijan was the only former Soviet state restricted in this manner, and bound by outdated criteria.

Every year since 2001, the restrictions under Section 907 have been waived. The US-Azerbaijan alliance has grown immensely over the previous 20 years across all sectors of cooperation, from military intelligence, to trade and business, to academic and cultural ties.

It is time to do away with this unnecessary and unfair law. Azerbaijan is a key ally in the War on Terror, and is a strategic geographic partner given its close proximity to Iran and Israel.

Instead of dwelling on conflicts of the past, we should be embracing economic growth of the future while continuing to foster and encourage democratic values in Azerbaijan.

Congress should repeal Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act and allow Azerbaijan access to the support it deserves.

RECOGNIZING DA' HOUSE OF KHAFRE FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Indianola, Mississippi minority owned business, da' House of Khafre. Owned and operated by, Ms. C. Sade Turnipseed and Mr. Robert Terrell, Jr.