responder award. He currently resides with his wife Edith and family in New Jersey.

Mr. Wright was elevated and raised in African Lodge 459 #63 in 1979. Became a member of the Long Island Consistory No. 61 A.A.S.R. and is also a member of the Medina Temple No.19 A.E.A.O.M.S.

May our country continue to benefit from the civic actions of committed and laudable citizens such as Mr. Wright.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Bro. Gary A. Wright for his tremendous contributions to the community.

HONORING KEVIN O'HANLON

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past six years while I have been in office. A Member of Congress' most important responsibility is to provide exceptional constituent services and my team is second to none in providing the best assistance to all in our District. My Washington, D.C. office is also tasked with researching, processing, analyzing, and making recommendations on an infinite number of reports, policies, and legislation. I could not ask for a more talented or dedicated team, and I take great pride in the work that each staff member has done not only on my behalf, but also on behalf of the 11th Congressional District of North Carolina and the United States.

My team has shown a strong sense of dedication to meeting the needs of our constituency. I owe a debt of gratitude to each one of them for the support and friendship which they have shown me while I have served in Congress.

Kevin O'Hanlon served in various positions both in my Washington, D.C. office and on my campaign, and has excelled in each capacity during his nearly four-year tenure. Kevin has earned a reputation for being dependable, meticulous and for always being willing to chip in however needed. While outside of his job description, Kevin was also appreciated for his technical expertise, which became invaluable to the office as he solved technical issue after technical issue, keeping our team up and running time and again. Above all, I could always count on Kevin to assist with a helping hand, regardless of the issue or the time of day or night that he was needed. I extend my thanks to his wife, Liz, for her patience for the many times Kevin worked long or irregular hours to keep our congressional office humming along smoothly.

Kevin should be proud of the service he has provided to our District and country. It has been an honor to serve with him and as I retire from office I wish him the very best in the future. Western North Carolina is a better place because of his efforts and I will cherish the memories of serving with Kevin and the team by my side.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Kevin O'Hanlon for his hard work on behalf of all of Western North Carolina and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 604 regarding the "Streamlining Claims Processing for Federal Contractor Employees Act" (H.R. 6371). Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING TONY'S GROCERY FOR REMAINING A STAPLE IN THE MAYERSVILLE COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a thriving business in the Mayersville, Mississippi for more than fifty years, Tony's Grocery.

Founded by husband and wife duo, Saul "Tony" and Edie B. Williams, Tony's Grocery has served as the oldest and only store in the town of Mayersville. With more than five decades in business, Tony's Grocery has employed many citizens of the Mayersville community.

Presently, owned and operated by Mayor Linda Short, daughter of Saul and Edie B, and her husband Larry Short, Tony's Grocery is the classic example of a small business weathering the test of time and still managing to provide so much for the residents of its community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Tony's Grocery for its longevity and dedication to serving Mayersville, Mississippi.

HONORING BOYCE DEITZ

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the members of my Congressional Staff who have served with me over the past six years while I have been in office. A Member of Congress' most important responsibility is to provide exceptional constituent services and my Staff is second to none in providing the best assistance to everyone in our District. I take great pride in the work that each one has done on my behalf and on behalf of everyone in the 11th Congressional District of North Carolina.

Each District Staff member has shown a strong sense of dedication in meeting the needs of each and every one of our constituents. They often go well beyond the call to make sure each constituent is treated fairly and respectfully by our government agencies and that they receive appropriate resolution. I owe a debt of gratitude to each one of them for the support and friendship which they have shown me while I have served in Congress.

Boyce Deitz has served as a member my District staff since I first took office. Boyce's presence in my life has been a blessing for years, beginning first as my high school football coach and mentor and now, more importantly, as a friend and confidant. As the roles reversed and Coach Deitz spent the past six years as a Field Representative in my Congressional District office, I was reminded daily of Coach's dedication and drive to do everything possible to always meet the need and fix the problem of everyone who walked into his office. We have spent many days traveling the rural areas of Western North Carolina knocking on doors, visiting farms, watching football practices, and just enjoying talking with the fine people who call Western North Carolina home. Without the support of people like Boyce the past six years would have never been possible.

Boyce should be proud of the service he has provided to our District and country. It has been an honor to serve with him and as I retire from office I wish him the very best in the future. Western North Carolina is a better place because of his efforts and I will cherish the memories of serving with Boyce and the team by my side.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Boyce Deitz for his hard work on behalf of all of Western North Carolina and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

HONORING TOM PLIMPTON

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent and friend, Tom Plimpton. I have known Tom for a number of years as a friend and former colleague, and I want to congratulate him on his induction into the St. Lawrence University Hall of Fame.

A distinguished lawyer in Upstate New York, I want to take this opportunity to not just acknowledge his academic, legal, and personal successes, but recognize his athletic achievements as a part of the 1987 Men's Track and Field Team at St. Lawrence University.

As a member of the St. Lawrence University 1987 Men's Track and Field team he contributed to their win in the second-ever New York State Collegiate Indoor Championship and the first New York State Outdoor title. He then went on to help his team finish second in the NCAA Division III Indoor Championship. For his efforts in the 400 meter team relay, Tom earned All American honors.

Again, I congratulate Tom on this prestigious distinction and wish him all the best.

TRIBUTE TO ENRIQUE "TITO" OSBORNE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Enrique Osborne.

Enrique, known affectionately as "Tito," migrated to Brooklyn, New York from Panama at the age of 13 in 1950. After Enrique graduated

from High School he joined the United States Air Force and after his service he worked as a supervisor for the Advertising Distributors of America. He later worked for the New York City Transit Authority until his retirement.

In 1975, Tito was made a master mason in the Jessie Milton Lodge #70, King Solomon affiliation. Twelve years later, he joined African Lodge 459 #63, where he has served continuously and is currently a trustee.

A father of six, Gloria Louisa, Carlos, Antonio, Joseph, April and Gloria, and grandfather of ten, Tito still finds the time to be the President of the Bug Pack, a Philadelphia Volkswagen Club, and a member of the Ebony Rod and Gun Club.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Enrique ''Tito'' Osborne for his contribution to our community of Brooklyn.

HONORING ANDREW TULLY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Tully. Andrew 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 414, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Andrew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Andrew has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and the God and Country Award. Andrew has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Andrew completed many renovations at the First Baptist Church of Bogard, Missouri, including a utility room, handrails, enclosed an exterior staircase, and other small projects to help congregants enter and use the church facility.

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

HONORING DR. FRANK NICKELL

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Frank Nickell, professor of history at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. For four decades, he has served as an educator, a passionate chronicler of regional history, and an ambassador for the university in the surrounding community.

First hired by the university in 1969, Professor Nickell has won praise for his work in the classroom. After decades of inspiring students, he received statewide recognition in 1992, as one of 47 educators from Missouri higher education institutions awarded a Governor's Award for Excellence in teaching. In 2009, Southeast Missouri State honored him with the Provost's Research Instruction and Development for Excellence (PRIDE) Award. The latter award recognizes excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service.

In these last two categories, scholarship and service, Nickell has gone above and beyond his responsibilities in the classroom. An avid promoter of regional history, he helped initiate the university's Historic Preservation program, through which undergraduate and graduate students work to preserve the area's historic sites, artifacts, and cultures. In 2007, he helped launch and became host of Southeast Public Radio's ''Almost Yesterday'' series, which takes listeners back in time to specific moments in regional history. After just one year on air, the program won the station its first-ever Missouri Broadcaster Association Award.

For his many achievements and his unwavering commitment to the people and history of Southeast Missouri, I thank Frank and wish him well as he enjoys his retirement.

RECOGNIZING HONDA ON THIRTY YEARS OF AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURING IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I congratulate Honda on its thirtieth anniversary as an automobile manufacturer in the United States.

Honda became the first Japanese automaker to manufacture cars in the U.S. on November 1, 1982, when the first U.S.-made Honda Accord rolled off the assembly line in Marysville, Ohio. In the three decades since, the company has become one of our Nation's most important job creators, investing more than $12.5 billion in the U.S.—$1.2 billion in just the last two years. This investment has supported not only Honda's 26,000 U.S. employees—more than 13,500 in Ohio alone—but also hundreds of thousands of jobs at suppliers and servicers nationwide.

Honda marked its anniversary by announcing more than $200 million in new investments at its transmission manufacturing facility in Russells Point, Ohio, and its engine plant in Anna, Ohio. Two hundred new manufacturing jobs will be created at those plants as a result.

Mr. Speaker, Honda's commitment to Ohio dates back to 1979, when small-scale dirt bike production began in Marysville. The company has been a dedicated partner to communities throughout our State and Nation ever since, creating highly skilled jobs and revolutionizing domestic auto manufacturing.

I offer my congratulations to everyone at Honda as they celebrate this milestone. They have my very best wishes for continued excellence in automobile manufacturing and job creation.

HONORING THE SERENE LODGE #567 IMPROVED BENEVOLENT PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS OF THE WORLD

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Serene Lodge #567 Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World (I.B.P.O.E. of the W.). The Serene Lodge #567, Greenville, Mississippi was organized on March 10, 1924 by Carlos C. Valle Grand Organizer.

The Elks is the oldest African American, fraternal organization, which reaches from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. The first Elks Home was at the Miller Home, corner of Nelson and Broadway Street. In later years the group moved to a number of places including 329 North Broadway, 346 Catley Street, 613 Nelson Street, 328 Theobald Street, 420 Muscadine Street, 727 Nelson Street, 349 Catley Street and thence to home at 1822 East Alexander Street. The mortgage was burned in 1974. During the years of hard work, some of the accomplishments were: Membership of 300, the largest in history; and annual donations of $100 for Christmas baskets for the aged and indent; and yearly donations of $1,000 to sick and distress Brothers; and donations to the Community Fund Drive; and donations to park and playground projects; and sponsored a Little League Baseball Team; and presented a flag pole and plaques to Coleman High School; and donated towards the purchase of curtains and piano for Lucy Webb School.

Levye Chapple, at the age of 23 was the youngest Exalted Ruler in the United States. He was the first to place strong emphasis upon attracting young people into the Elkdom and soared the membership far over 150 during his administration. It was during this period that the Daughter Elks Temple came into being with Daughter (Dtr.) Julia Thornton as the first Daughter Ruler whose emphasis upon young people was as equally strong.

Today, the Lodge continues to do work in the community and surrounding areas. Along with the Daughters, they have adopted a park and started a back to school supply give-away to over 300 children, this project was initiated approximately four years ago. Several of the Brothers have received their Past Grand Degree, which is the highest honor in Elkdom. The Lodge continues to initiate young men into the organization.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Serene Lodge #567 I.B.P.O. of the W. for their leadership and dedication to serving their community and surrounding areas.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF CITYHOOD FOR BEAUMONT, CA

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the city of Beaumont,