

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Lizzy Ratner as she celebrates her 30th Birthday.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PAIGE COLLIER HEMPHILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 10, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the many accomplishments of Paige Collier, Hemphill Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

Paige Collier did not always know she would be a schoolteacher. She took a personality test at the age of seventeen that told her that her ideal career would be as a motivational speaker. She doubted this was right for her, but, at the assurance of her friends, she realized she did possess an ability to inspire others.

Paige has since used this ability to be an outstanding elementary school teacher. She cites several elements that contribute to her teaching ability: a passion to love and serve people, a devotion to putting children first, and the desire to continuously learn and grow.

Paige contributes to her school community in many ways. She organizes an annual Storybook Festival and mentors her fellow teachers, caring for their students as if they were her own. Yet her greatest accomplishment remains the connections she establishes within her own classroom.

I am honored to recognize Paige Collier as the Hemphill Elementary School Teacher of the Year. Her dedication to her students and her passion to serve her community are a shining example to all teachers.

Mr. Speaker, the General Counsel to SERB has many responsibilities. One must provide legal support for the Board, draft and issue unfair labor practice complaints, oversee the Investigations Section, supervise the Hearings and Representation Sections, and assist Board members in the preparation of opinions and orders. Under his leadership, decisions were seldom appealed and rarely reversed. In addition to serving as General Counsel, on two occasions J. Russell Keith also lent his formidable management skills as Acting Executive Director of SERB. While his responsibilities have been substantial, Russ has performed superbly and served the people of the State of Ohio admirably.

Throughout Russ's accomplished career, he has enjoyed a broad range of legal experiences. After graduating from Capital University Law School, Russ served as an Attorney/Law Clerk for Ohio's Fourth District Court of Appeals. Later, Russ quickly became Chief Legal Counsel to the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services where he directed a legal program affecting nearly 230,000 Ohio employers.

The consummate professionalism with which J. Russell Keith has served the people of the State of Ohio by crafting evolving state labor decisions, primarily on issues of bargaining, deserves the highest commendation. His proficiency as General Counsel, leadership as Acting Executive Director, and compassion as a friend of all Ohioans will be sorely missed upon his departure from the State Employment Relations Board.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to J. Russell Keith in recognition of his superlative administrative service to Ohio's State Employment Relations Board. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Ohio, I am proud to recognize his many accomplishments. We wish Russ and his family all the best as we salute one of Ohio's finest citizens.

REMARKS ON WILLIAM CLAY FORD, SR'S RETIREMENT FROM FORD MOTOR COMPANY'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 10, 2005*

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William Clay Ford, Sr. for 57 years of dedicated service as a member of Ford Motor Company's Board of Directors. He has served on the Board with distinction for over half of Ford Motor Company's history of almost 102 years. As the only surviving grandson of the late Henry Ford and father of the current chairman, he uniquely links Ford's past and future.

Mr. Ford has had a long and distinguished career of service to Ford Motor Company. He was elected to the Board in 1948, a year before his graduation from Yale University. When the Design Committee of Ford's Policy and Strategy Committee was formed in 1957, Mr. Ford became its first chairman, a post he held until 1989.

In 1978, Mr. Ford was elected chairman of the Executive Committee and appointed a member of the Office of the Chief Executive. From 1980 until 1989, he served as vice chair-

man of the Board. From 1987 until 1995, he served as chairman of the Finance Committee, one of the most vital positions on the Board.

Mr. Ford served the Company as an employee from 1949 until 1989. He held a variety of executive positions including vice president and general manager of the Continental Division. In 1956, Mr. Ford assumed responsibility for corporate product planning and design. Throughout his career, he oversaw the design and development of a number of classic vehicles, including the Continental Mark II, a worthy successor to the Continentals designed by his father, Edsel Ford. The Mark II is considered by many to be one of the most beautiful personal luxury cars ever built.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. William Clay Ford, Sr. as he retires from the Ford Motor Company Board of Directors and in wishing him the best of luck as he becomes Director Emeritus.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SHERRY FRANCE, BARTON MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 10, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of Sherry France, Barton Middle School Teacher of the Year.

Sherry France was inspired to teach by her grandmother, who taught grades one through twelve in a one-room school house in rural Virginia. A high school art teacher sparked her interest in teaching art, and after attending Radford College, she began her career.

Some of Sherry's fondest memories come from former students who have since become architects, designers, and artists. Sherry has set up a website that is updated regularly with samples of her class projects. The site offers students a chance to have their work available for their families and friends to see.

Sherry France strives to teach her students how to see what is beyond the surface. She believes that if you expect the highest quality, your students will surprise you.

It is my privilege to acknowledge Sherry France, Barton Middle School Teacher of the Year. Her passion and love of teaching have been a blessing to her community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HARRIS COUNTY PRECINCT 4 CONSTABLE DEPUTY FRANK "SCOTT" CLABORN

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 10, 2005*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Harris County Precinct 4 Constable Deputy Frank "Scott" Claborn who was killed by a drunk driver while escorting a road construction truck in Harris County, Texas on February 19, 2004. Claborn and his family reside in Magnolia, Texas in the Eighth Congressional District.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO J. RUSSELL KEITH IN RECOGNITION OF HIS SERVICE TO OHIO'S STATE EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BOARD

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 10, 2005*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to a friend and ally of the public employers and employees of the State of Ohio. Since 1994, J. Russell Keith has served as General Counsel for the State Employment Relations Board. As he prepares to depart the Board after nearly eleven years of dedicated service, the many state employers and employees of Ohio's Fifth Congressional District offer our thanks.

As General Counsel, J. Russell Keith has provided legal direction to SERB as its members work to protect the rights of the public sector, which includes nearly 365,000 public employees under Ohio Revised Code 4117. For more than a decade, Russ has worked tirelessly to craft thoughtful and fair labor law for Ohio's public sector. As an accomplished attorney, Russ has been a determined advocate for the people of Ohio.