charter member to the Black Athletes Hall of Fame. The Hendersons also endeavored to improve the rights of African Americans in their community. In 1915, their hometown of Falls Church, Virginia, proposed to segregate all African American citizens into a designated living area. The couple vehemently challenged the law by uniting people under the Colored Citizens’ Protective League (CCPL). The CCPL succeeded not only in defeating the segregation ordinance, but also in advancing numerous civil rights endeavors. The organization later became the first rural branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in which the couple was highly active. The Henderson’s contributions were extensive and continued to be felt throughout Northern Virginia. Although they coveted no recognition for themselves, these extraordinary individuals not only affected their community, but also helped shape the Nation. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor these great Americans today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was in my congressional district yesterday participating in events in support of the 179th Airlift Wing of the Ohio Air National Guard, which has been slated for closure by the Department of Defense. As a result, I was absent from the floor during yesterday’s rolcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted against the Watt amendment to H.J. Res. 10, in favor of tabling each of the two appeals of the ruling of the Chair; for rollcall vote No. 293, on agreeing to Representative JO ANN DAVIS’s amendment to H.R. 2985; for rollcall vote No. 300, on agreeing to Representative J. C. Watts’s amendment to H.R. 2985; and for rollcall vote No. 301, on agreeing to the Hefley amendment to H.R. 2985; for rollcall vote No. 302, on agreeing to the motion to recommit H.R. 2985; and for rollcall vote No. 303, on final passage of H.R. 2985.

HONORING THE WORK OF THE SENTINELS OF FREEDOM

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Sentinels of Freedom for the work they do in support of our troops.

This group of business and community leaders in the San Ramon Valley have worked together to help a wounded soldier returning from Iraq. This group, led by Mike Conklin of San Ramon, California has created a scholarship that will provide housing, a handicapped-equipped van, education, and job training and placement for a soldier who lost both his legs in Iraq. For the next four years, a team of mentors will help the soldier transition from the military back into civilian life.

I am deeply supportive of the tireless work Mr. Conklin has done in support of the brave men and women of our Armed Services. Along with the Blue Star Moms, SBC Communications, Shapell Industries of Northern California, the community of San Ramon, California, the United States Army and Walter Reed Army Hospital, the Sentinels of Freedom have developed a great program to support our troops. This group offers tremendous inspiration and an example of the best spirit and values the American people have to offer.

Please join me in thanking the Sentinels of Freedom and encouraging communities and businesses around the country to follow their lead. The brave men and women returning from Iraq and Afghanistan give so much for our Nation and deserve nothing less then our complete support as they transition back to civilian life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT W. NEY
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on June 22, 2005, due to a death in the family, I was unable to be present for rolcall vote No. 293, on agreeing to the Watt amendment to H.J. Res. 10; for rolcall vote No. 294, on moving to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair; for rolcall vote No. 295, on moving to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair; for rolcall vote No. 296, on final passage of H.J. Res. 10; for rolcall vote No. 297, on ordering the previous question to H. Res. 334; for rolcall vote No. 298, on agreeing to H. Res. 334; for rolcall vote No. 299, on agreeing to the Baird amendment to H.R. 2985; for rolcall vote No. 300, on agreeing to Representative JO ANN DAVIS’s amendment to H.R. 2985; for rolcall vote No. 301, on agreeing to the Hefley amendment to H.R. 2985; for rolcall vote No. 302, on agreeing to the motion to recommit H.R. 2985; and for rolcall vote No. 303, on final passage of H.R. 2985.

Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on rolcall vote No. 293, “yes” on rolcall vote No. 294, “no” on rolcall vote No. 295, “yes” on rolcall vote No. 296, “yes” on rolcall vote No. 297, “yes” on rolcall vote No. 298, “no” on rolcall vote No. 299, “yes” on rolcall vote No. 300, “no” on rolcall vote No. 301, “no” on rolcall vote No. 302, and “yes” on rolcall vote No. 303.

COMMEMORATING THE FEDERAL TRIO PROGRAMS

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON
OF IDAHO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an important group of Federal Education Programs known as the TRIO programs. In short, TRIO programs help to support and prepare low income students for post high school education.

TRIO is funded through the Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill that this body passed earlier today. I was proud to vote for this bill that included full funding for all TRIO programs. Two of the TRIO programs,