

Thank you, Norman Borlaug. This nation—and many nations—thank you.

TRIBUTE TO THE MASSEY
AGENCY—30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to acknowledge the Massey Agency as this Newark firm celebrates its 30th anniversary. With Emma and Ramelle Massey at the helm of this woman/minority-owned insurance and brokerage firm, they offer services that are important to residents and businesses in the area.

Fortunately, for the City of Newark, the Massey Agency has always been committed to the needs of the community. Beginning with the late Raymond J. Massey who opened the agency's doors and continuing with his wife, Emma and daughter, Ramelle, the Massey Agency has been providing job opportunities and internship programs for local residents. In addition to the employment opportunities the Massey Agency has offered, they have also contributed financially to local community organizations which have assisted many young people and programs to achieve success for themselves and others in the community. Along the way, the agency has earned a standing as one of the predominant Minority Business Enterprise/Women's Business Enterprise in the Northeast. The agency has also received proclamations from the Mayor of Newark and the Independent Insurance Agents of New Jersey, which recognized the agency's longevity, dedication to the City of Newark and the quality of its insurance products and services.

Educated in some of the finest schools and universities, the Massey women are true professionals and exemplary role models. They are both multiple licensed insurance brokers offering a wide array of services. One of their goals is to expand their reach beyond the local community. With the tenacity, energy, intelligence and willpower of Emma and Ramelle, there is no doubt they will meet this self imposed challenge.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues agree that the Massey Agency and the Newark community have every right to be proud of the lasting contributions the agency has made to the Greater Newark Community. I am pleased to congratulate Emma and Ramelle Massey along with their employees on their 30th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING SUE MAXWELL

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Sue Maxwell has been named as the 2005 Vinton County Southeastern Ohio Regional Council Person of the Year; and

Whereas, Sue Maxwell has been acknowledged for her success in operating Ravenwood Castle; and

Whereas, Sue Maxwell should be commended for her business savvy and her dedication to Hocking Hills and Vinton County.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in honoring and congratulating Sue Maxwell for her outstanding accomplishment.

THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
GRAND OLE OPRY, NASHVILLE, TN

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 80th anniversary of the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, TN. As one of the most renowned traditions in American music and broadcasting, the Grand Ole Opry continues to entertain and delight music lovers around the globe every week. Broadcast live from the Opry stage every Friday and Saturday night, the Grand Ole Opry is the Nation's longest-running radio show and the beloved home of our Nation's most celebrated music.

The show's original host, George D. Hay, introduced the first performance in 1925: 77-year-old Uncle Jimmy Thompson, who could "fiddle the taters off the vine," played "Tennessee Waggoner." Since then its audience has grown from a group of local Nashville listeners to the millions of music fans who tune in through satellite radio, television, and the internet.

The Ryman Auditorium's original well-worn oak wood Opry stage has moved with the show's changing venues through the years and has hosted some of America's most legendary country musicians—Patsy Cline, Roy Acuff, the Carter Family, Willie Nelson, Loretta Lynn, Johnny Cash, Dolly Parton, and Bill Monroe. For many generations of Americans, Minnie Pearl's cheerful shout of "How-dee! I'm just so proud to be here!" will forever signify the start of another memorable and captivating Grand Ole Opry show.

My own personal connection to the Grand Ole Opry began when I met the legendary Opry duo Earl Scruggs and Lester Flatt during my father's 1950s political campaigns throughout Tennessee. Like so many others, I tuned in every week to listen to the gifted musicianship of the performers. And in a visit I shared with Earl Scruggs not too long ago, he told me that growing up in Shelby, North Carolina, he would walk across the hollow to a neighbor's house just to listen to the show every week because his family didn't have a radio. Both accomplished musicians and fans alike continue to hold the Grand Ole Opry in the highest esteem among America's musical traditions.

While the Opry has always stayed true to the musical roots upon which it was founded, it continues to evolve with the latest country sounds. The Grand Ole Opry's elite membership now includes accomplished artists like Martina McBride, Garth Brooks, Alan Jackson, Vince Gill, Brad Paisley, Patty Loveless, and Dierks Bentley who continue to entertain fans on the same oak wood stage every week.

In its 80 years, the Grand Ole Opry has come to mean something more than a weekly country show. In addition to extending Nashville and America's musical traditions through-

out the country and world, it is a way to connect with and pay tribute to America's musical influences and heritage. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the importance of this beloved American musical institution and to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Grand Ole Opry.

CONGRATULATING IRON CITY PIPE
AND SUPPLY FOR WINNING THE
ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR
AWARD

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, owners Ray Brewer, Rick Smith and Eric Massie in true entrepreneurial spirit recognized a market opening in southern Ohio and capitalized on it; and

Whereas, Iron City Pipe and Supply has been able to adapt and grow and now serves the needs of businesses in a tri-state area; and

Whereas, Iron City Pipe and Supply is looking forward to continued growth and diversification to further benefit the Jackson area.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Iron City Pipe and Supply for winning this prestigious award.

BETTY LEE STRECKFUSS, DELEGATE
TO THE 2005 WHITE HOUSE
CONFERENCE ON AGING

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 19, 2005

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, during the second week of December, the 2005 White House Conference on Aging will take place in Washington, D.C. This is a once in a decade event where delegates from across the United States gather to make policy recommendations to the President and Congress on issues of importance to aging generations.

I had the privilege of nominating Betty Lee Streckfuss, RN, as a delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging, and I am proud to say that she will be in attendance as the delegate from the Second Congressional District of Texas.

Betty has a long and distinguished background in healthcare. A former Head Nurse of the Acute Care Pediatric Unit at Ben Taub Hospital in Houston, TX, Betty is currently serving as founder and associate partner of Streckfuss and Associates, a Texas based medical consulting endeavor specializing in clinical policies, procedures and regulatory issues. She is also secretary of the Houston/Harris County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council and a member of the Texas Silver Haired Legislature.

I commend Betty's commitment to healthcare. I have no doubt that her experience, insight, and sincere desire to advocate on behalf of our aging Americans will serve our community well at the 2005 White House Conference on Aging.