

CONGRATULATING TONY STEWART

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 15, 2005*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize fellow Columbus, Indiana native Tony Stewart, not only for winning the 2005 NASCAR Nextel Cup Championship this year, but also for consistency and determination to finish each race.

Before winning the 2002 Nextel Cup, Stewart declared, "If we're going to win the championship, then we need to have consistency . . . winning helps too, but consistency—front-running consistency is what it's all about."

Tony's racing legacy began at age seven, Tony started his career like many young aspiring auto racing drivers: behind the wheel of a go-kart. In 1983, when Tony was 12, he won his first championship.

In 1989, Stewart moved from go-karts to open wheelers, winning his first championship in the National Midget category in 1994; followed by the U.S. Auto Club's Triple Crown the very next year.

It was in 1997 that Stewart began his NASCAR career racing in both the Indy Racing League and a full Busch schedule with team owner Joe Gibbs.

By 1999, Stewart had taken the Winston Cup Racing Series by storm. That year the Indiana native debuted on the front-row of his first Daytona 500 and went on to score three more victories, more than any rookie driver in Winston Cup history. He also obtained two poles, 12 top-five finishes, and 21 top-10 finishes, snagging 1999 Rookie of the Year.

The hometown crowd was there this past August when Stewart, already a winner on short tracks, super-speedway and road course, capped an emotional day by clinching the Indianapolis Brickyard. And now, Stewart has out-dued his rivals to take a second Nextel Cup title.

Congratulations, Tony. Just like 2002, you got the job done with consistency and determination that makes Hoosiers proud.

HONORING RETIRING BOSTON  
TOWN COUNCILMAN KARL J.  
SIMMETH

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 15, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a public official whose service as a member of the Boston Town Board has been honorable and whose dedication to his community has been steadfast. Today, I want to honor the service of Councilman Karl Simmeth.

Karl Simmeth served as a member of the Boston Town Board while his town continued to see growth and expansion, as more Western New Yorkers choose to live in towns beyond the first ring of Erie County's suburbs. The town of Boston is well-known as a great place to live and raise a family, and it is so, in no small measure, because of the dedicated service of public officials like Karl.

Karl took his work on the town board very seriously. Karl's areas of expertise included

committees and other town board functions involving street lighting, the town's Conservation Advisory Council, drainage and solid waste, and the oversight of South Boston Park. In short, Karl worked to deal with issues important to local residents.

Karl wears another hat in town, and that hat is political—he is Chairman of the town's Republican committee. Accordingly, when it comes to matters political, Karl and I were rarely on the same side of the fence. However, when it comes to his love for the town of Boston and for his work on its behalf, Karl always checked his politics at the door. His work was always professional and I am grateful to him for his advocacy on the town's behalf.

Mr. Speaker, when all is said and done, a public servant wants to leave government in better shape than when he or she came in; that is certainly the case here. The town of Boston is a better place for Karl Simmeth's service, and I am pleased and appreciative to have had the opportunity to recognize him here today.

CONGRATULATING MS. ANNA  
BELLE NEWMAN ON THE OCCA-  
SION OF HER RETIREMENT

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 15, 2005*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor Ms. Anna Belle Newman on the occasion of her retirement after serving Mobile County for 17 years.

Ms. Newman was elected to the position of general administrator of Mobile County in 1988, and she is currently the longest serving local Republican elected official in Mobile County. A ninth generation Mobilian, Ms. Newman is a graduate of Murphy High School. She attended both the University of Alabama and Spring Hill College.

In the midst of her professional schedule, Ms. Newman also finds time to serve the community. She is an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Colonial Dames of the 17th Century, and the Friends of Mobile. She is a former founding member of the Mobile Art Patrons League and a former member of the Mobile County Republican Executive Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. I know Ms. Newman's colleagues, her family, and her many friends join with me in praising her accomplishments and extending thanks for her many efforts over the years on behalf of Mobile County and the First Congressional District.

FURTHER CONFERENCE REPORT  
ON H.R. 3010, DEPARTMENTS OF  
LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN  
SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND  
RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS  
ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2005*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this conference report and thank Mr. OBEY, Ranking Member of Approps Committee, for the time.

This morning I greeted hundreds of faith leaders on the steps of the Cannon building. They gathered from across the country to march together and pray together and to deliver a message to Congress. Their message was simple: the budget is a moral document and we have a moral obligation to ensure its priorities reflect our values.

Mr. Speaker, I have to ask why aren't we listening to them?

Who better than faith leaders, who serve on the front lines, who feed the hungry, who clothe the naked, who house the homeless, to tell Congress about the impact of this immoral budget on our families and our communities?

They recognize that the priorities reflected in our budget are not a partisan issue, but an issue of who we are as a Nation, and what our values are.

We know that the Republican budget cuts and this conference report, which is a critical part of their budget, is nothing more than an assault on the least among us—and it does not reflect our values.

That is why I encourage my colleagues to vote with their values and let's defeat this bill just like we did a month ago.

Don't tell me we can't do better.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 15, 2005*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, illegal immigration touches us all, whether you live in a border state, such as Texas, or not. Millions of Americans pass through airports daily. Before they travel city to city or state to state, they have to show a valid i.d., remove their shoes, have their belongings examined, and walk through metal detectors. Meanwhile, thousands of illegal immigrants waltz across our borders, undetected, every day. America's failure to control its borders has cost us billions of dollars, and heightened the possibility of criminal and terrorist activity on our home soil.

It is time to prevent illegal immigration. The first step is taking control at the borders and holding people accountable. We can achieve this by passing legislation such as The Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act.

Mr. Speaker, this country has been enriched by foreigners who respect our laws and become citizens the proper way. We do not wish to deny others this opportunity. However, illegal immigration and disrespect for our laws