Mr. Speaker, please join our community in honoring Dr. Sheila Tomlin-Reid for her dedication and outstanding service to our community.

CONGRATULATING THE JIMTOWN JIMMIES ON WINNING THE INDIANA CLASS 2A FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Jimtown Jimmies on winning the Indiana Class 2A Football Championship.

The Jimmies scored 31.1 points per game, allowing their opponents only 6.7. They averaged 12.7 first downs per game, and 293.7 yards. Their strong showing on both sides of the ball led them to a 14-1 season record.

It was truly a remarkable season for Jimtown. Their 14-win season included six shutouts, and in 11 of those victories, they held their opponent to 10 points or less.

Their season culminated in the Class 2A state championship game on November 26, 2005, at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Deadlocked at seven points with the North Posey Vikings at halftime, the Jimtown Jimmies went on to score 28 second-half points, while holding their opponents to zero, and won the game 35-7.

I'd like to congratulate everyone involved in making this season successful: Their school Superintendent Jerry Cook, Principal Nathan Dean; Assistant Principal Mitch Mawhorter; Athletic Director Bill Sharpe; Head Coach Bill Sharpe; Assistant Coaches: Ned Cook, Gene Johnson, Mark Ward, Mark Kerrn, Scott Bovenkerk, David Sharpe, Matt LaFree, Mike Hosinski, David Pontius, Travis Daniels, Athletic Trainer Rick Yurko; Student Managers: Julia Politowics, Nicole Hayes, and Ricky Hayes.

The Indiana Class 2A Football Champs are: Caleb Pettis, Matthew Yurko, Zachary Fisher, Zachary DuBois, Colton Vincent, Adam Sharpe, Mark Svetanoff, John Soli, Tyler Nine, Mike Meyer, Joshua Ruben, Tony Byers, Brandon Kozelka, Brian DeShone, Joshua Deak, Tyler Forgey, Garrett Kavas, Mark Clere, Tyler Spurgeon, Ryan Konrath, David Schenk, Nate Klosinski, Lantz Kulp, Zach Spurgeon, Ross Bauman, Allen Konrath, Nick Maygar, Braxton Metcalf, Jason Sharp, Owen Peterkin, Jared Ward, Chris Vogel, Logan Frye, Josh Polston, Brett Horien, Scott Kindig, Travis Barber, J.J. Short, Seth Anglemeyer, Brad McClellan, Robert Morris, Josh Slocum, Anthony Lowe, Steve Thayer, Brandtley Miller, Kyle Clodfelter, Adam Zimmer, Nick Pooler, Jordan Pirtle, Ty Thomsen, Shazzar Mack, Chris Gregory, Rob George, Jesse Bowen, Andrew Allman, Leon Myrick, James Byers, Chris Reid, Eric Vance, Adrian Worsham, Seth Kindig, Ryan Johnson, Graig Armstrong, Tristin Funnell, Justin Nowak, Ron Shekell, Brandon Riffle, Robert Reid, Rich Hahn, Brandon Bridwell, Ethan Legg, Matt Peters, Zach Stone, Kevin Kelley, Jon Shafer, John Dickson, Derek Willard, Anthony Edwards, Dalton Swann, Austin Pirtle, Elijah Tucker, Matt Pepple, Trevor Herrli, David Johnson, Kyle Moyer, and Derek Watts.

Mr. Speaker, as a parent myself, I would be remiss if I did not congratulate the parents of these young men as well. Their support was vital to the victory of this team and they deserve our gratitude as well.

Again, on behalf of their parents, fans, and classmates as well as the very proud citizens of the Second Congressional District of Indiana, I would like to congratulate the Jimtown Jimmies on winning the Indiana Class 2A Football Championship.

TRIBUTE TO ORANGEBURG COUNTY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Orangeburg County, South Carolina upon their receipt of the All-America County Award. This award, the oldest and most prestigious civic award in existence, recognizes communities for their outstanding problem solving efforts through local collaboration. It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge their tremendous achievement.

I would also like to applaud the efforts of the local leaders that have worked so hard and accomplished so much. They include the Orangeburg County Council: John H. Rickenbacker, Harry F. Wimberly, Clyde B. Livingston, Heyward H. Livingston, Johnny Ravenell, and Johnnie Wright, Sr.; the Orangeburg County Administrator: Bill Clark; and the Orangeburg County Development Commission: B. Jeannine Kees, George R. Dean, Joey A. Williamson, Jr., E. J. Ayers, Willie R. Cantey, Barron Driskell, James C. Hunter, Jr., Ken Middleton, Marion F. Moore, Harry Nesmith, Alva Whetsell, Jr., and C. Gregory Robinson.

Community pride has spurred many of the creative ideas leading to Orangeburg County's All-America County Award. This honor is a testament to business, government, and education communities working together for the good of the whole. These partnerships can be seen throughout the county. With this cooperative approach by the entire ''county community,'' improvements have been made to the quality of life for all citizens in the County of Orangeburg. Inventive initiatives have been implemented in the following areas: community development and revitalization, creative funding for public infrastructure, and improvement of the lives of ''at-risk'' children.

Revitalization and community development have also been achieved in all 17 municipalities. This economic development achievement reflects 100 percent participation of local areas, including the following: Orangeburg, Livingston, North, Neeses, Woodford, Norway, Branchville, Santee, Rowesville, Springfield, Holly Hill, Eutawville, Bowman, Cordova, Cope, Vance, and Elloree.

Funding through the Penny Sales Tax Capital Project has provided critical infrastructure investment in road construction, water and wastewater facilities, and other important areas such as parks and recreational projects. The original penny tax in 1998 funded 116 projects across the county, totaling $53 million in investment. The renewal in 2004 provides investment funds for 108 projects totaling $71 million.

Creative youth and outreach projects such as Healing Species, a 3rd grade curriculum, which uses neglected and abused dogs in crime prevention seminars, have improved the lives of ''at-risk'' children county-wide. Created by Orangeburg County, the program is now being replicated nationally. The Youth Enhancement Summit is another successful community collaboration. Partnering with the County, South Carolina State University, and the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice, the initiative brings children's service agencies across the entire county together to improve their overall effectiveness.

Additionally, Orangeburg County's Community of Character effort is a collaborative initiative to partner with all segments of the community such as education, business, industry, family, faith, government, media, and civic. It establishes a community culture that encourages, recognizes, and rewards good character. Orangeburg County is one of only two counties in South Carolina, and 28 counties nationwide who have passed character resolutions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in commending Orangeburg County for its well-deserved distinction as All-America County. Orangeburg County continues to make great strides in education, economic growth, and community development. Its dedicated citizens work everyday to create new promise. I am proud to represent them in this body and of their hard work and vision.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS KARAM AS HE IS HONORED BY THE FRIENDS OF SCOUTING OF THE NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Thomas F. Karam, of Waverly, Pennsylvania, who is being honored by the Friends of Scouting of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Karam was chosen for this accolade due to his business accomplishments and his community service.

Mr. Karam is recently retired from Southern Union Company, where he served from 2001 to 2005 as president and chief operating officer.

He previously served as executive vice president of corporate development for the company and president and CEO of its PG Energy Division.

Mr. Karam had also been president and CEO of Pennsylvania Enterprises, Inc., from 1996 until 1999, when it was acquired by Southern Union. From September, 1995, to August, 1996, he served as executive vice president of Pennsylvania Enterprises.

Before joining Pennsylvania Enterprises and then Southern Union, from 1986 to 1995, Mr. Karam developed a strong background in finance and investment banking as vice president of investment banking at Legg Mason, Inc., Baltimore. From 1984 to 1986, he served