in the active military. When conflicts began in Iraq and Afghanistan, Post 31 had beautiful metal signs made to display names of members of the military from Boulder City that are on active duty. These signs are on every light pole along Veterans Memorial Drive in Boulder City. Each month Post 31 collects used ink cartridges and old cell phones to raise money that goes toward the American Legion Legacy Fund, which helps educate children of members of the military who lost their lives during the present conflict in the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize American Legion Boulder City Post 31 on the floor of the House today. I congratulate them for 87 years of contributions to the veterans and citizens of southern Nevada and thank them for their continued service.

CONGRATULATING JUDGE MARK CIAVARELLA, JR. AS HE IS NAMED ''MAN OF THE YEAR'' BY THE WILKES-BARRE FRIENDLY SONS OF SAINT PATRICK

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 Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas Judge Mark A. Ciavarella, Jr., who is being honored by the Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick as their 2006 ''Man of the Year.''

A son of Mary Cunningham Ciavarella and the late Mark A. Ciavarella, Sr., Judge Ciavarella was born and raised in the East End section of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Following his graduation from St. Mary's High School, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in history/government and pre-law from King's College. While at King's he attained membership in the Aquinas Honor Society.

He was awarded his Juris Doctorate degree from Duquesne University School of Law in 1975. While at Duquesne, he was inducted into the Order of Barristers, which is an organization that recognizes individuals who have attained outstanding achievement in appellate advocacy.

From 1975 until 1995, Judge Ciavarella maintained a private law practice in the City of Wilkes-Barre. He was a partner in the law firm of Lowery, Ciavarella and Rogers.

From 1976 until 1978, he served as solicitor for the City of Wilkes-Barre and from 1978 until December 31, 1995 he served as solicitor for the Wilkes-Barre City Zoning Hearing Board.

In November of 1995, he was elected to the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas and in November 2005, he was retained by the voters of Luzerne County for another 10-year term.

Judge Ciavarella was formerly a member of Wilkes-Barre Police Civil Service Commission; the pastoral council and finance committee of St. Therese's Church in Wilkes-Barre; Scranton Catholic Diocesan School Board; United Rehabilitation Services, Inc.; Wilkes-Barre Area School District Long Range Planning Committee; Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center Girls Co-Swim Coach and a member of the board of directors of the Luzerne County Association for Retarded Citizens.

He also served as chairman of the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center's Board of Directors and he was an assistant little league coach.

Judge Ciavarella is currently a member of the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center's Board of Directors and the Wilkes-Barre Chapter of UNICO.

In addition to his duties handling criminal and civil judicial matters, he also serves as Luzerne County Juvenile Court Judge.

Judge Ciavarella is married to the former Cindy Baer. The couple has three children.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Judge Ciavarella on the occasion of this fine honor. Judge Ciavarella has served his community well both on the bench of the Luzerne County Court and in the many leadership roles he has undertaken with numerous civic organizations. The quality of life in the greater Wyoming Valley is made better due to the works of people like Judge Mark Ciavarella.

TRIBUTE TO SHANNON ALLEN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Shannon Allen for her heroic actions Wednesday, January 25, 2006 at Rayburn Elementary School in McAllen, Texas.

At approximately 2:00 pm on Wednesday, an intruder entered the Rayburn Elementary School where Mrs. Allen is the Principal. Maria Tovar, the academic coordinator, escorted the intruder to the administrative office for failure to have a school identification card. Mrs. Tovar discovered the intruder was carrying a handgun and instructed him to place the weapon in a nearby waste basket. Mrs. Allen was informed of the situation and initiated a lock down of the entire school via code over the intercom. When Mrs. Allen approached the intruder he became agitated and attempted to reach for the loaded and cocked handgun in the waste basket. Mrs. Allen, out of concern for the safety of her students and staff, tackled the intruder to prevent him from retrieving the gun.

Mrs. Allen was able to restrain the intruder with the assistance of Coach Jason Duon and custodian Joe Rico. Seconds later, Officer Ed Perez handcuffed and placed the intruder in custody.

Mr. Speaker, Shannon Allen endangered her life to protect her students and staff at Rayburn Elementary School. Given her heroic actions, I rise to honor Shannon Allen.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM ''JACK'' GENTRY ON EARNING THE BEN FRANKLIN AWARD

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jack Gentry, the winner of the Benjamin Franklin Community Newspaper and Postal Partnership Award of Excellence.

Nominated for this award because of his commitment to provide top-notch customer service, it is an honor to highlight the Florida postmaster's excellence on the floor today.

It is encouraging to learn of the many lengths Mr. Gentry would reach to ensure reliable delivery of the community's newspapers.

Rather than going through the everyday motions of his postal route, Jack helped improve the delivery system—even making it more efficient.

I am sure the members of the community who benefit from Mr. Gentry's dedication to quality service are as thrilled as I am he will be recognized for his great work.

Mr. Gentry will receive this award today at the Library of Congress. I commend him for his work ethic and commitment to community newspapers.

HONORING THE RANDOLPH-CLAY RED DEVILS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Cuthbert, Georgia is a small, rural community, six hundred and sixty-nine miles from the U.S. Capitol. It is home to a rich agrarian tradition, the oldest known pecan tree in the state of Georgia and a high school basketball team known as the Red Devils, who on March 1, 2006, did something that they hadn't done in over three years. They lost a game.

Yet I rise today, not in recognition of this inconsequential loss, but in honor of the remarkable team that won ninety straight games, breaking the Georgia High School Association's record for the most consecutive wins and inspiring a community to believe in the impossible.

For forty-four years, Coach Joe Williams has led the Randolph-Clay Red Devils to 964 wins and six state titles. His focus on aggressive, man-to-man defense has forced his players to test their limits and grow as competitors, at the same time that he has molded boys into a team of men that every young player in Cuthbert dreams of playing for.

For three years the Red Devils have dominated every court that they have taken, winning nearly all of their games by double figures, including a 100–30 victory over Central Talbotton. Yet they took every game seriously, stating simply, ''We play basketball.''

As long as high school basketball is played in the state of Georgia, teams will attempt to duplicate the Red Devils' history-making streak. But they won't succeed; because, while they will emulate their style of play, it is impossible to capture the passion and the ability that has defined these exceptional young men and the dream that they have made legend.

Therefore, here in this hallowed hall, I rise on behalf of the people of Cuthbert, the Second Congressional District and the state of Georgia to honor the extraordinary accomplishment of Coach Williams and the Randolph-Clay Red Devils. You have inspired us all.