

namesake that this institution has fostered the personal progress of countless students and, moreover, the growth of a more vibrant place to live, work, and play.

Lyndon Baines Johnson School is a community public school with a dedicated staff that continues to nurture the intellectual development of hundreds of students. Its partnerships with the private and public sectors have strengthened this institution's programs thereby enabling comprehensive support services, encouraging parent participation, and connecting families. Additionally, through the exceptional leadership of Principal Jeanette Sosa and Assistant Principal Stuart Spector, this award-winning school has effectively advanced a culture of civic, socially-minded students devoted to the interests of Bushwick—and our Nation.

This unwavering commitment to advocacy and respect for individuals has been the cornerstone of this remarkable learning institution throughout its 100-year existence. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the students, faculty, and parents of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Public School 151K on this momentous occasion.

RECOGNIZING ALABAMA STATE
SENATOR GARY TANNER FOR
HIS DEDICATED, FAITHFUL PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to recognize Alabama State Senator Gary Tanner for his dedicated, faithful public service to the citizens of Mobile County.

Senator Tanner is a distinguished member of the Mobile, Alabama, community and a tremendous advocate for all of south Alabama. He began his public service career as a Mobile County Commissioner in 1992 and was elected to the Alabama State Senate in 2002.

During his career in the Alabama State Legislature, Senator Tanner worked tirelessly on behalf of south Alabama and served as chairperson of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Of particular significance, Gary was awarded the Tillman's Corner Citizen of the Year award in 1980 by the Tillman's Corner Area Chamber of Commerce. In 1989, he was selected as Business Associate of the Year by the Mobile Bay Chapter of the American Business Women's Association. He has also received the Able Helmsman Award in 2000 by the Mobile Labor Council, the State Employee's Rusty Hook Award in 2002, and the Mobile Democratic Executive Committee's Award of Distinction in 2004.

Mr. Speaker, the faithful service of outstanding Americans like Gary Tanner has aided in an immeasurable way to the well being of our community. I would like to offer my congratulations for his many personal and professional achievements. I know his daughters, Bonita Tanner and Dawn Tanner-Smith; his grandchildren, Benjamin, Sarah, Will, and Drew; and his other family and many friends join with me in honoring his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts on

behalf of the people of Mobile and the entire State of Alabama.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE MICHAEL G. OXLEY UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2006

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I have the honor to recognize a fellow colleague from the Great State of Ohio, Chairman MICHAEL OXLEY. Chairman OXLEY has served with distinction in this House for 25 years and is retiring at the end of the 109th Congress.

Many people know Chairman OXLEY either from his work on the Financial Services Committee, his tireless work for the constituents of the Fourth District of Ohio, or his years of participation as a player and manager of the Republican Baseball Team. Chairman OXLEY is also a tireless advocate of the military and especially the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center—Lima, formerly known as the Lima Army Tank Plant.

The Joint Systems Manufacturing Center—Lima traces its history back to WWII when it prepared and processed more than 100,000 combat vehicles. The plant today is the sole producer of the M-1 Abrams tank.

Chairman OXLEY worked with the Department of Defense over the years to encourage the utilization of the workforce and available space at the facility. Through his efforts, the plant has grown beyond its original mission, providing a wide variety of cutting-edge military vehicles for the Army, Navy and Marine Corps.

Most recently, Rep. OXLEY was successful in working with Task Force LIMA during the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure to ensure the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center remained a strong and continued asset for the Nation, the State of Ohio and the greater Lima community. Chairman OXLEY was also able to restore funding for the modernization of the M-1 tank, further ensuring our men and women in uniform remain the best equipped fighting force in the world.

Chairman OXLEY is a distinguished member of the Ohio Delegation and of this House. He has made his mark on this Nation not only through his ardent support of the financial service industry, but also his unwavering support of the military. His tireless support of the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center—Lima has placed it in a strong position for the future. As Chairman OXLEY sometimes quotes former President Reagan's farewell address, "My friends, we did it. We weren't just marking time. We made a difference." For 25 years, Chairman OXLEY has made a difference not only for Ohioans but for all Americans. The House of Representatives has benefited from his ideas and leadership.

TRIBUTE TO DETECTIVE GREG BRASHEAR

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and all of my colleagues to pause for a moment to listen to a story about an everyday American who died before we could thank him for his selfless service to others.

Police homicide detective Greg Brashear, is like so many who walk among us each day. They quietly protect and defend us and are rarely noticed or thanked before they are gone.

Detective Greg Brashear was such a man. Just months ago, he lost his life. But his legacy lives. His story continues to touch others as it is spread by those who only learned of it while he lay in a hospital fighting for his life.

Baltimore, Maryland Police Department Homicide Detective Greg Brashear had a full life of his own. Last January, off-duty and en route to a celebration with a loved one, he stopped on the side of a highway to help a woman with a flat tire.

He was struck by another car while aiding a woman he'd never met. Detective Brashear spent the next 7 months hospitalized in intensive care trying to recover and return to those he loved.

He never left the hospital. But while he was there . . . his name, and the kind of selfless man he was, became known to hundreds and thousands more, as his struggle began to touch more lives each day, moving beyond the hospital walls—even beyond state lines.

Greg had not followed his father and brother into their family's law practice in Texas. He chose the less compensated and lower profile path of fighting for those who could not defend themselves when he became a detective in the Violent Crime Child Abuse Section of Houston's Police Department.

He moved to the Baltimore Police force saying he wanted to continue to "do something that mattered; to help people by keeping the world safer", which is what he did for the last 26 years until the day he noticed one more person in need of his help—someone stopped on the side of the highway hoping someone would notice her despair.

And that's why we stop what we're doing right now and reflect on Detective Greg Brashear. Because he and thousands of other Americans like him, notice every day the people around them who are wounded or helpless. They do not turn their backs on them. And they do not ask for pats on their own backs.

Today, may we give back to Detective Brashear what he did not ask for or get in life: his country's recognition of his service, of his humility, and his invaluable role in our society. We give him our deepest thanks.

I ask you to join me in offering that same recognition to all the "Greg Brashears" who daily walk unheralded among us. We do not know your names, but we know you are there.

If no one has thanked you, if no one has noticed the depth of your personal commitment or sacrifice—consider it noticed today. And consider that our thanks to you, and to Greg, will never be enough for all you have done.