

legislation making the property tax deduction an "above-the-line" deduction. This simple change makes the property tax deduction available to homeowners who do not file an itemized tax return.

The Property Tax Deduction for All Act will help millions of Americans who struggle with high property taxes, but because they do not itemize, are unable to take advantage of the Federal deduction for property taxes. Extending the property tax deduction to all homeowners will especially benefit senior citizens, whose homes often are the major part of their wealth, and young families struggling to cope with the costs of owning a new home. I respectfully urge my colleagues to help ensure all homeowners can take advantage of the tax deduction for property taxes by cosponsoring this legislation.

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IN RECOGNITION OF OPERATION  
COMMUNITY SHIELD

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly recognize the Dallas Field Office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the Detention and Removal Operations agents who participated in Operation Community Shield—an annual, national law enforcement initiative that brings together federal, state, and local law enforcement to fight gang violence, drug smuggling and organized crime linked to illegal immigration.

I applaud the remarkable accomplishments they produced in just seven days of Operation Community Shield: 120 gang members arrested, including members from 28 alien gangs, 63 criminal arrests, and 8 firearms and over 4,000 grams of marijuana and cocaine seized.

Thanks to Operation Community Shield, numerous murderers, rapists, and drug dealers have been taken off our streets. With the collaborative work of federal, state, and local law enforcement, Operation Community Shield enables officers to more effectively communicate between agencies, developing a "force multiplier" effect in fighting against violent gangs and criminal illegal immigrants. Consequently, I believe that this important initiative represents a critical step in addressing the illegal immigration problem facing our community and nation.

Madam Speaker, I would further like to give recognition to the leadership of John Chakwin, ICE Special Agent-in-Charge, and Mrs. Nuria T. Prendes, Director for Detention and Removal Operations. Both have remarkable staffs that support the mission in light of the challenging times in our nation, and their steadfast commitment is one we can all be proud of in Dallas, Texas.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
KRISTA SIEGFRIED FOR PLAC-  
ING SECOND IN THE MAN-  
CHESTER UMBRO INTER-  
NATIONAL CUP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Krista Siegfried competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and

Whereas, Krista Siegfried showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Krista Siegfried has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Krista Siegfried was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Krista Siegfried always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Krista Siegfried on placing second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

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TRIBUTE TO BILL HAMPTON

**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill Hampton for receiving the 2007 Missouri Community College Association News Media Award. Mr. Hampton's work has been essential to the successes of Three Rivers Community College, TRCC.

Academic institutions such as TRCC require consistent and aggressive advocacy to advance opportunities for students. By using innovative means to connect more than 20,000 households to TRCC, Mr. Hampton has effectively conveyed the importance of this institution to our regional communities. Mr. Hampton's optimistic, community-minded message continues to foster necessary support for the college's growth and continued improvement.

With career experience in education, business, and government, Mr. Hampton understands the importance of higher education; he remains a generous supporter of the college as a private citizen. Mr. Hampton's contributions, both professionally and personally, have helped foster TRCC as the source for educational and career opportunities for the entire southern Missouri region.

Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor Bill Hampton on winning this prestigious award. I ask that you join me along with the people of southern Missouri to congratulate him on this wonderful achievement and to wish him a happy and productive future.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIAHEALTH OF WAYNE COUNTY

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of ViaHealth of Wayne located in Newark, New York.

Newark Wayne Community Hospital opened its doors on April 1, 1957, and for 50 years it has provided the people of Wayne County and surrounding areas with quality medical care. The highly trained, dedicated staff is committed to providing superior health care to everyone who comes through the hospital doors.

The health care professionals at Newark Wayne Community Hospital offer a wide range of expertise, from heart and cancer care to providing living assistance for seniors. The incredible staff is able to offer care to everyone, using leading edge medical technology that ensures patients receive the best health care services possible.

I thank all of the individuals, families, and foundations whose hard work and dedication have been instrumental in making Newark Wayne Community Hospital a success. I congratulate all of you on reaching this important milestone and know that you will continue to serve the community proudly for another 50 years.

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HONORING JACKIE AND MOLLIE  
SINGER

**HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jackie and Mollie Singer, remarkable twin sisters from my district in Las Vegas, Nevada. At the age of four, Mollie was diagnosed with diabetes. Since that time, both sisters, now eighteen, have worked tirelessly to raise money and promote awareness of the disease which afflicts more than 20 million Americans.

The Singer sisters first came to my attention nearly ten years ago on their first visit to my office for the important advocacy work they began at such a young age. As part of their spirited efforts, Mollie and Jackie organize annual walks and numerous other events to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Altogether their efforts have raised more than \$500,000 for the cause. The sisters have also formed the Diabetic Angels, an international support group for those suffering from juvenile diabetes.

The Singer sisters have put a memorable face to this alarming medical crisis through speaking engagements, meetings with policy makers, and numerous print and television interviews. They have compiled many of their experiences into a booklet entitled "The Road to a Cure," which gives pointers to parents and kids on fundraising, health fairs, and public speaking. Members of my staff and I have had the pleasure of meeting with Mollie and Jackie and their family on many occasions through the years.