

We need to adopt measurements that accurately count the number of unemployed and policies that help create good jobs in the private and public sectors. I hope that we will make this a priority in the 110th Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, November 29, my uncle, Giles Smith, died at the age of 64.

My Uncle Giles was a man who cared about his community and actively made it a better place. He meant a lot to me, and was an inspiration to many. We will miss him.

Due to family matters, I was delayed in returning to Washington DC until today, causing me to, regretfully, miss several votes.

For the record, I would have voted "no" on rollcall 1123, "yes" on rollcall 1124, "yes" on rollcall 1125, "yes" on rollcall 1126, "yes" on rollcall 1127, "yes" on rollcall 1128, "yes" on rollcall 1129, "no" on rollcall 1130, "yes" on rollcall 1131, "yes" on rollcall 1132, and "yes" on rollcall 1133.

FINANCIAL CONSUMER HOTLINE
ACT OF 2007

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, this bill, the "Financial Consumer Hotline Act of 2007," would establish a single, toll-free telephone number consumers can call if they have a question for or problem with their bank and want to speak to the bank's federal or state regulator. A number of different governing bodies currently regulate banks, which can make it difficult for consumers to figure out who they should contact with concerns and complaints. The bill would also establish a corresponding informational website.

3,000 LAWYERS GO TO JAIL

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, on November 3, Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf suspended the national constitution, fired appellate judges, detained 8 members of the Supreme Court, and arrested hundreds of lawyers. In the weeks that followed, nearly 3,000 lawyers were arrested. Musharraf's explanation was that martial law was necessary because of terrorism threats. This is a poor excuse.

Musharraf fired or arrested members of the legal community for protesting Musharraf's abuse of power and for defending the rule of law. These men and women are courageous. They've faced beatings, threats, tear gas, and arrests for promoting democracy.

A nation cannot succeed without impartial application of law. A nation cannot succeed when a President suspends a cornerstone of government for his own political convenience.

Although Musharraf eventually released many, he also cracked down on the Pakistani press. On November 20, approximately 100 journalists were arrested at a protest.

A nation without courts promotes tyranny. A nation without a free press promotes uninformed citizens and unaccountable politicians. The rule of law and democracy are indebted to lawyers and judges, who ensure that rights are protected and laws are obeyed.

And that's just the way it is.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
CHELSEA STEEN FOR PLACING
SECOND IN THE MANCHESTER
UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Chelsea Steen competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and Whereas, Chelsea Steen showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and Whereas, Chelsea Steen has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Chelsea Steen was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Chelsea Steen 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 Chelsea Steen on placing second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

TRIBUTE TO GRAYSON LEE
SHREVE

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Grayson Lee Shreve of Buckhannon, WV, who recently attained the rank of Eagle Scout on October 23, 2007.

Grayson is a member of Boy Scout Troop 106 and is sponsored by Sand Run Baptist Church in Buckhannon, WV. During his years in scouting, he has received 43 Merit Badges and achieved the rank of Life Scout. He was awarded the prestigious Order of the Arrow and the Arrow of Light. For his service project to obtain Eagle Scout, Grayson restored and constructed a screened picnic shelter for a local church.

His many accomplishments demonstrate the high standards held by those who achieve Eagle Scout. Grayson has been a consistent Honor Roll student and has been a member of the Gifted Program since elementary school. He currently attends Buckhannon-Upshur High School where he is involved in BUMS, the school news channel.

Grayson is truly representative of the Scout Oath, "to do duty to God and country." I extend my congratulations to Grayson and his parents, Leslie Shreve II and Norma Hinkle. Upshur County is fortunate to have such an accomplished young leader.

HONORING RON KIRKLAND AS
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN
MEDICAL GROUP ASSOCIATION

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recent professional honor bestowed on my former high school classmate and good friend, Dr. Ronald H. Kirkland.

A practicing otolaryngologist for nearly a quarter of a century, Ron was elected as the 2008 Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Medical Group Association, AMGA, located in Alexandria, Virginia.

AMGA represents more than 300 medical groups, including some of the Nation's largest, most prestigious integrated healthcare delivery systems. AMGA members deliver health care to more than 50 million patients in 42 States, including 15 million lives.

Dr. Kirkland is the past Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Jackson Clinic Professional Association in Jackson, Tennessee, a multi-specialty group practice of more than 130 physicians in 25 specialties and sub-specialties in 14 West Tennessee locations.

In addition to his medical career, in which he was twice selected by his peers as among the "Best Doctors in America" and once as one of "America's Top Physicians," Ron has held leadership responsibilities in a variety of educational, medical, religious, business and political organizations.

Ron received his medical degree from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and completed residencies both there and at the Carraway Methodist Medical Center in Birmingham, Alabama. He is a member of the American Medical Association and the Tennessee Medical Association, and is certified by the American Board of Otolaryngology. Ron also served his country in the U.S. Army as a counter-intelligence officer in Vietnam.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Kirkland and his colleagues bring a unique perspective on coordinated care for chronically ill patients, health information technology, and quality care to our continuing debate on health policy. I look forward to working with my friend Ron Kirkland during his tenure as Chairman of the Board of Directors at AMGA.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. LAMAR
DENKINS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished public servant of Alabama's Third Congressional District and our Nation, Mr. Lamar Denkins.