

HONORING KYLE EDWARD
BOWMAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Edward Bowman, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Edward Bowman for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on February 26, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my votes for rollcall Nos. 72–77. Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 72—“yes”—On Approving the Journal; rollcall No. 73—“yes”—Providing for consideration of the bill, H.R. 3521, to improve the Operating Fund for public housing of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; rollcall No. 74—“yes”—Providing for consideration of the bill, H.R. 3521, to improve the Operating Fund for public housing of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; rollcall No. 75—“yes”—Sires of New Jersey Amendment; rollcall No. 76—“yes”—Meek of Florida Amendment; rollcall No. 77—“yes”—Public Housing Asset Management Improvement Act.

HONORING NATIONAL PEACE
CORPS WEEK AND THE 47TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE PEACE
CORPS

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate National Peace Corps Week and the 47th anniversary of the Peace Corps.

While much has changed in the world since the Peace Corps was created in 1961, its goals and ideals of promoting goodwill remain. Volunteers continue to provide invaluable services in 74 countries, serving as educators, technology consultants, environmental specialists, and business advisors.

At a time when extremism is sweeping through much of the globe, more than ever, we need these dedicated individuals.

As the former chairman of the House Subcommittee on Africa, I have had the opportunity to meet with several Peace Corps volunteers around the continent. The commitment these men and women have shown is extremely impressive and is to be commended.

During his trip to Africa last week, the President announced the return of Peace Corps volunteers to Rwanda, and he met with volunteers in Ghana, recognizing their work.

Madam Speaker, I have seen the valuable work the Peace Corps is doing in Africa, and throughout the world. It deserves our recognition and support.

TRIBUTE TO BILL CROW

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the dedicated public service of a long time friend and member of my staff, Bill Crow. Bill and his wife Jan have been two of my closest and most trusted advisers since I first ran for State representative back in 1986. While Jan served as my district director during my seven terms in the State legislature and my first two terms in Congress, Bill served as my chief of staff for 3 years and my special projects director for the last 2 years.

Bill and Jan have always been much more than just members of my staff; they are part of my family. Having served as a legislator for over 20 years, I rely heavily on my own instincts to guide many of the most difficult decisions, but I have come to rely just as heavily on the sound advice and good judgment of Bill Crow. Although Bill readily admits, as does any good husband, that his best ideas actually come from Jan.

Bill began his career as a geologist who dabbled in politics, but he is ending his career as a skilled political adviser with a degree in geology. My work schedule keeps me in Washington much more than I would like, but with Bill and Jan serving as my eyes and ears in Houston, I felt like I never missed a beat. Bill is locally renowned as an expert on transportation policy, having spearheaded my work on the Katy Freeway reconstruction and improving access to the Texas Medical Center. He also led the effort to promote and fund the groundbreaking collaborative research being done by the Alliance for Nanohealth, and he assembled a first-rate team of doctors and scientists to serve as my Science Advisory Board, which is vital to my work on the House Appropriations Committee.

Any veteran legislator will tell you that the most valued members of their staff are not the ones who tell them they did a good job, but the ones who tell them how they can do a better job. Bill and Jan were those members of my staff, which is why I still seek them out after any public appearance or speech I have in Houston. Although retirement will allow them to spend more time with their family, I take solace knowing that Bill and Jan will stay active and engaged in local politics and that they will remain a permanent fixture in my family.

TRIBUTE TO ELLIOTT BROIDY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, my colleague, HENRY WAXMAN, and I rise to pay tribute to Elliott Broidy, recipient of the prestigious Raoul Wallenberg Award. This Award is given to individuals who exhibit courage, selflessness and success against great odds. Elliott Broidy's civic duty and philanthropy have earned him this great honor. On February 27, 2008, the Raoul Wallenberg Committee and the Gateways Organization will host a special dinner recognizing his outstanding achievements.

Elliott Broidy has helped strengthen the beloved country of his birth, the United States, and his spiritual home, the State of Israel. In 2001, when the Second Intifada threatened Israel's security, Mr. Broidy formed Markstone Capital Partners with the intent of providing a superior return to its investors while strengthening Israel's economic viability. Markstone is Israel's largest private equity fund. To date, the fund has invested nearly half a billion dollars in Israeli companies, creating hundreds of new jobs and helping to build a strong economy for Israel.

In our community, Elliot Broidy has dedicated himself to countless humanitarian causes and foundations, including the Jewish Federation of Los Angeles, Aviva Family and Children's Service, Hebrew Union College and the University of Southern California. He serves as a member of the United States Homeland Security Advisory Council, the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, the Los Angeles Police Foundation and the Board of Governors of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. For the last 5 years, he has served as a Commissioner of the Los Angeles Fire and Police Pension Fund. He is also a member of the Young Presidents Organization and the Board of Advisors for the USC Marshall School Center for Investment Studies.

Prior to founding Broidy Capital Management, Elliott Broidy had a successful career in money management. He is a Certified Public Accountant and received a B.S. in accounting and finance from the University of Southern California. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Robin, and their three children. Throughout the years, Robin has worked alongside her husband in many worthy organizations and causes that have greatly benefited thousands of children and families in Los Angeles.

We ask our colleagues to join us in saluting Elliott Broidy for his longtime service to the State of Israel and to our community.

HONORING KYLE JOSEPH KRUG

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Joseph Krug, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of

America, Troop 314, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Joseph Krug for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on February 25, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my votes for rollcall Nos. 69–71.

Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 69—"yes"—Expressing support for the designation of the week of March 3–7, 2008, as "School Social Work Week" to promote awareness of the vital role of school social workers in schools, and in the community as a whole, in helping students prepare for their future as productive citizens.

Rollcall No. 70—"yes"—Supporting the goals and ideals of "Career and Technical Education Month."

Rollcall No. 71—"yes"—Honoring the service and accomplishments of Lieutenant General Russel L. Honore, United States Army, for his 37 years of service on behalf of the United States.

IN HONOR OF JOHN STEINBECK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of our most famous writers and native sons, John Steinbeck. On what would have been his 106th birthday, my community celebrates Steinbeck's world-renowned body of work and respected place in American literary history.

Born in Salinas in 1902 and raised in and around Monterey Bay, John Steinbeck established himself as one of America's most widely read writers through works including *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Of Mice and Men*, and *East of Eden*. As an author and journalist, Steinbeck became known for exploring the plight of Americans during the Great Depression and the Dust Bowl of the 1930s, garnering international recognition and admiration for his socially astute and engaging writing over several decades.

Graduating from Salinas High School before attending Stanford University, John Steinbeck began writing from an early age. From his first major success with *Tortilla Flat* in 1935, Steinbeck's writing over the coming years was deeply entwined with the Monterey Bay region. Set against the backdrops of Soledad, Monterey, and the Salinas Valley, the experi-

ences and struggles of Steinbeck's characters reflected the social and economic challenges of the times. Much of his earliest writing offered a vibrant and realistic insight into the lives of agricultural and migrant workers during some of the most formative periods of the 20th century. During World War Two, Steinbeck worked in Europe as a foreign correspondent for the *Herald Tribune* of New York.

Steinbeck's profound talent for socially perceptive and captivating writing was continually acknowledged throughout his lifetime. He was honored with numerous awards and prizes, including the Pulitzer Prize for *The Grapes of Wrath* and the 1962 Nobel Prize for Literature. In 1963 he was also named an Honorary Consultant in American Literature to the Library of Congress.

Madam Speaker, in view of this impressive record of recognition for John Steinbeck as an American literary great, today I too would like to honor him for his lasting contribution to literature and culture in this country.

HONORING THE POLK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2008 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Danny Whittenton, a history teacher at Lakeland's Kathleen High School in Florida's 12th Congressional District, for being recognized as the Polk County Public Schools 2008 "Teacher of the Year".

Danny Whittenton has devoted his career to teaching American history to three generations of Kathleen High School students. Ensuring that students have the opportunity to learn and experience the importance of history and civic responsibility, he continues to develop innovative teaching methods and is committed to making knowledge accessible to all students.

Polk County Public Schools employ over 12,300 employees, making them the largest employer in Polk County. Over 6,770 are fellow teachers. From those teachers, more than 300 applications were submitted for consideration. Danny was one of eight finalists whose nominee application was reviewed. His leadership, community and school involvement and teaching style earned him the honor of "Teacher of the Year" by a committee of community members, former teachers of the year and school-related employees of the year.

In 2006, Danny retired but it was short-lived as his will to teach was too strong and he returned to the classroom after only 1 month of retirement. Clearly his dedication is unwavering.

Thirty-eight years as an educator taught Danny Whittenton how to truly engage students. Dressing up as historical figures including Davy Crockett and George Washington helps spark his students' interest, and he utilizes game show concepts like *History Jeopardy* and *History Trivial Pursuit* as a contemporary way to teach history. His students also take part in the political process; organizing a *Get-Out-The-Vote* project, corresponding with candidates and even providing transportation to the polls for elderly citizens.

Danny is a leading example of how teachers raise student achievement through an exceptional approach. Principal Cecil McClellan of Kathleen High School shared that, "Danny is an excellent communicator with peers, parents and students. He possesses the ability to have students on the edge of their seats while engaging them in the learning process."

I would like to extend my congratulations to Danny Whittenton for exemplifying the core qualities of a teacher. His hard work and dedication have persevered through many years of teaching, decades of change, and thousands of students. I commend Danny for his service to three generations of Polk County students and wish him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING KYLE WILLIAM DOWNS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle William Downs, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle William Downs for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I would like to state for the record my position on the following votes I missed due to personal reasons.

On Tuesday, February 26, 2008 I missed rollcall votes 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, and 77. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 72, 73, 74, 76 and 77, and "aye" on 75.

TRIBUTE TO ISAAC W. WILLIAMS, SR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend, a dedicated staff member and a tremendous South Carolinian, Isaac W. "Ike" Williams, Sr. Ike passed away February 15, 2008, and this significant loss has been felt deeply by his family, his friends, his community and his State.