

civic organizations and educational institutions. Among his roles, he works on behalf of Urban League Chicago, Straight Talk America, the Economic Club of Chicago, and the Chicago Historical Society. Additionally, I am proud to call John a good friend.

John excels professionally as the chairman, president, and CEO of Chicago-based Exelon Corporation, one of the Nation's largest energy companies, with over 17,000 employees. Under Mr. Rowe's direction, Exelon was named the Nation's best utility company in Forbes Magazine's 2005 list of "The Best Managed Companies in America."

Mr. Theodore Schwartz is a lifelong Chicagoan, whose entrepreneurship and determination has led to the creation of hundreds of jobs in the Chicago-area. Mr. Schwartz's company, APAC Customer Services, founded in 1973, has grown into one of the largest, and most successful teleservice companies in the Nation.

Mr. Schwartz's vision and ingenuity led him to become one of the most respected figures in the teleservice industry, and he has been rewarded with several honors, including the Illinois High Tech Entrepreneur Award, induction into the American Teleservices Association Hall of Fame, the Call Center Solutions Hall of Fame, and the University of Illinois Entrepreneur Hall of Fame.

The Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center was founded by Holocaust survivors more than 25 years ago in order to preserve the history of the Holocaust, teach new generations about the dangers of hate, and honor the lives of the millions who perished. This award celebrates two men who have helped make the mission of the Center a reality.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Rowe and Mr. Schwartz upon receiving this award. Their efforts have helped the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center to thrive. Congratulations to John and Ted on receiving the Humanitarian Award, and I wish you both the best of luck in your future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM
F. BUCKLEY, JR.

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 3, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an American icon, William F. Buckley, Jr.

In many ways, William F. Buckley, Jr., defined the conservative movement in the latter part of the twentieth century. Founding the National Review in 1955, and hosting the political commentary show "Firing Line" from 1966 to 1999, William F. Buckley, Jr., brought conservative thought into the limelight and made it accessible to all of America.

His principles of smaller government, lower taxes, and balanced budgets were the foundation for the Contract with America, the Republican platform in the 1994 elections which brought Republicans into the majority in the House of Representatives for the first time in 40 years. I was a member of the House's freshman class in 1994, thanks in large part to Mr. Buckley's conservative vision.

William F. Buckley graduated from Yale University in 1950, having been editor-in-chief of the Yale Daily News. That year he married Patricia Alden Austin "Pat" Taylor. A year later, Buckley published his first book, "God and Man at Yale," criticizing his alma mater for abandoning its original educational mission. William F. Buckley was also a vociferous defender of Senator Joseph McCarthy, writing "McCarthy and his Enemies" in 1954 to debunk many of the false allegations aimed at Senator McCarthy's outspoken opposition to communism in America.

Many Americans' primary interaction with Mr. Buckley's views came from watching his television show, "Firing Line." Every week, William showed the kind of fair, open-minded, deliberate thinking embodied in conservative thought. He often engaged his guests—from both the right and left spectrums of political thought—in the kind of discourse that is too often missing in modern political discussions.

Buckley's magazine, the National Review, has been an equally successful standard-bearer for conservative thought. His biweekly column, "On the Right," was published in more than 320 newspapers around the country, bringing his ideas to even more households.

William F. Buckley died on February 28, 2008, in the study of his home in Stamford, Connecticut. He will be dearly missed, but his place in history will not soon be forgotten.

HONORING THE FRANKLIN HIGH
SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 3, 2008

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Franklin High School Varsity Cheerleaders, of Franklin, Tennessee, on their excellent teamwork and recent second place finish at the 2008 UCA National High School Cheerleading Championships in Orlando. Competing against over 80 teams in the Medium Varsity Division, the well-trained team quickly rose to the top tier and garnered a silver medal finish. Additionally, the FHS cheerleaders won the "Smooth Moves Award" for displaying the best partner stunt sequences in their division.

This national recognition has brought well-deserved attention and accolades to these girls, whose hard work and team spirit are evident to all. The Franklin High School cheerleaders can be seen on ESPN this Sunday afternoon, representing with energy and distinction the City of Franklin and the great state of Tennessee. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the Franklin High School Varsity Cheerleaders for their discipline, perseverance, and athletic excellence.

A TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA RUTH
HILL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 3, 2008

Mr. TOWNS, Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Patricia Ruth Hill. Patricia was

born in Kane, Pennsylvania, a small city about 60 miles south of Pittsburgh to Mr. Ernest Smith and Mrs. Ruth Collins Smith. She is one of four children with two sisters; Ernestine "Jo" Barham and Creeta "Petie" Owens; and one brother Dr. Ernest H. Smith, Jr.

Patricia is a graduate of Oil City High School's class of 1945 and the Harlem Hospital School of Nursing. Patricia is a retired registered nurse who has been recognized numerous times for her community involvement as the editor of a newsletter, block club captain, and a member of the Ilion Avenue Area Block Association.

Patricia is the devoted wife of Arthur Burit Hill, Sr., devoted mother to Arthur Burit Hill, Jr., Ernest Eldred Hill, Victoria Ruth Hill, and Joanne Elaine Hill; as well as devoted grandmother to Drew Timberlake Hill.

Patricia, a two-time cancer survivor enjoys knitting, traveling, and helping to raise her grandson.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize this wonderful woman for all that she has accomplished.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Patricia Ruth Hill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FLAKE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 3, 2008

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position on rollcall votes 43, 44, and 45. I was regrettably absent from the chamber on February 12 during rollcall votes 43, 44, and 45. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 43, "yea" on rollcall 44, and "yea" on rollcall 45.

RECOGNIZING CHELSEA BATEMAN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 3, 2008

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exemplary student Ledyard, Connecticut, Chelsea Bateman. On March 3 and 4, 2008, Chelsea will represent Connecticut in this year's Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW, Voice of Democracy national scholarship competition in Washington, DC.

For over six decades, the VFW has hosted the Voice of Democracy scholarship program for high school students from around the Nation. Every year, this program encourages students to reflect on ideas of patriotism and democracy in their essays. Thousands of students from Connecticut and across the Nation submitted responses to the 2007–2008 theme, "My Role in Honoring America's Veterans", which were evaluated at the local, regional, and State levels. Chelsea's audio essay was selected among thousands of submissions to represent the State of Connecticut at the VFW's Voice of Democracy national scholarship competition in Washington, DC.

Chelsea's response to this year's theme, "My Role in Honoring America's Veterans",