

showed drastically through his contributions to the department.

Clyde had two major goals for the department and was extremely fundamental in obtaining both for the Collinsville community. First was to receive a Federal grant to purchase a combination brush and rescue truck. After three years of perseverance, including letters and phone calls, the grant was received. The second goal was to build a new fire station. Clyde inspired the community to give financial donations, time, and materials. A building estimated to cost from \$60,000 to \$80,000 was built, and when the volunteers moved in, they owed only \$4,000. The new station was complete with 4 bays, a kitchen and meeting area, and a room for sleeping quarters and storage space. Clyde accomplished two major feats that would drastically improve the operations of the fire department.

The amount of love and respect that the Collinsville community has for Clyde showed immensely in one of the most trying times, his death. The family asked that donations be made to the department to help pay off the final debt. So far, more than \$7,000 has been donated. Not only is this enough to pay off the final note, but also they plan to have a dedication service for the new fire department.

Clyde served his community as an active member of Collinsville First Baptist Church. There he served as a deacon, Sunday school director, as well as on various committees. He was a charter member of the Collinsville Lions Club and a member of the Collinsville Community Development Club. Clyde also served as the director of the Lauderdale County Welfare Department until he retired in the 90s.

He was married to Ellen Walker for 49 years, and they have three children. Their son Randy is married to Jo Ann, and they have two daughters. Their other son, Ricky, is married to Chris, and they have two sons. Their daughter Renee is married to Max, and they have a son and daughter. Randy, Ricky, and Ricky's oldest son, Davey, are all volunteers with the fire department.

Madam Speaker, I hope the Congress joins me in remembering Clyde Walker for a lifetime of service. His contributions will be remembered by all who knew him. Clyde will be greatly missed, but his legacy will live on through his family, friends, and especially the Collinsville Volunteer Fire Department.

HONORING THE EASTRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL LANCERS VARSITY CHEERLEADING TEAM

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 5, 2008*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Eastridge High School Varsity Cheerleaders, 2008 Reach the Beach National Cheerleading Competition Grand Champions. The Eastridge High School Lancers Cheerleaders won first place in their division, and were named Grand Champions for earning the highest total score in a very competitive field of 400 teams.

On behalf of the people of New York's 25th Congressional District, I congratulate these young women on their outstanding athletic achievement and praise head coach Ashlee

Arberger on her team's success. I look forward to another successful and exciting year when the Lancers defend their title in 2009.

Team members are: Catherine Andolina, Taylor Baker, Makaila Danizio, Niner Davis, Areli Diaz, Nicole Fanelli, Rebecca Junco, Cristina Magliocchetti, Christina Maniaci, Shelby Millen, Marissa Pixley, Abigail Prodrick, Latoya Sanders, Ali Scrimenti, Leah Scrimenti, Taniqua Spencer, and Marshay Williams.

HONORING INDIANA STATE SENATOR DAVID C. FORD

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 5, 2008*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Indiana State Senator David C. Ford.

I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Senator David Ford. Senator Ford's passing is a loss to the entire State.

David Ford was a tireless advocate for the families and communities of Senate District 19. During our last visit, just weeks before his passing, Senator Ford still took time to advocate his optimistic vision for technology benefiting all Hoosiers.

The four-term Republican senator was not only a leader for the people of his district, he was a recognized leader across the State of Indiana. His stature was recognized last year when Senator Ford was named Government Leader of the Year by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. Senator Ford also served as Assistant Majority Floor Leader and chaired the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology.

David Ford was a role model to me. His humble example of honest and visionary public service was an inspiration to all of us who had the privilege to know him. I will miss his example, his counsel and his friendship very much.

May God comfort Joyce and his entire family with the assurance of his grace and with the assurance of the gratitude of the people of the State he served and loved.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SACRED HEART SCHOOL

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 5, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the parents, students, community and staff of the Sacred Heart School celebrate the 100th anniversary with great joy; and

Whereas, occasions such as these illustrate to us that we have many blessings; and

Whereas, the Sacred Heart School has been preparing students to be outstanding citizens for 100 years; and

Whereas, it is the fond wish of this body that you will continue to positively impact the community and develop students of strong character: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congres-

sional District, I commend the Sacred Heart School, recognizing that all great achievements come from great dedication.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. W. TODD AKIN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 5, 2008*

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: March 4, 2008: rollcall vote No. 90, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 816—To provide for the release of certain land from the Sunrise Mountain Instant Study Area in the State of Nevada and to grant a right-of-way across the released land for the construction and maintenance of a flood control project—I would have voted "aye"; rollcall vote No. 89, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 1311—To direct of the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Alta-Hualapai Site to the city of Las Vegas, Nevada, for the development of a cancer treatment facility—I would have voted "aye"; rollcall vote No. 88, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 1143—To Authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park, and for other purposes—I would have voted "aye."

HONORING OLD FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 5, 2008*

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the anniversary of the Old First Presbyterian church in Huntington Village, NY. This year the church celebrates its 350th anniversary. Old First Presbyterian has not only survived wars, economic downfalls, racial and religious tensions, but has become a beacon of hope and light for its parishioners. It is a symbol of perseverance to the entire community.

After being overtaken and dismantled by the British during the Revolutionary War, the constituents of Huntington Village joined together to rebuild the church as it stands today. The large bell encased in the front hall of this building was at one time taken captive by the British. Now it is proudly displayed in a glass case with the slogan "A Town Endures" engraved upon it.

As society has evolved, so has the Old First Presbyterian Church. It now offers a vast range of services for children and adults. Many parishioners have been members since birth and have taken advantage of all that this church offers to this community. Old First Presbyterian remains the largest Presbyterian church on Long Island with a following of 680 members.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I would like to express my admiration of a community that has worked so diligently ensuring that a true piece of history remains functioning to this day. Old First Presbyterian serves as a reminder of our Nation's rich history and a source of inspiration to its members.