

RECOGNIZING MAYOR ANNE HINES FARISH FOR HER SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CITY OF MONROEVILLE AND THE STATE OF ALABAMA

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to honor Mayor Anne Hines Farish for her extraordinary contributions to both the city of Monroeville and the state of Alabama. Mayor Farish is the epitome of a "Steel Magnolia," a real southern lady, strong and persevering and someone who is truly an institution among the residents of Monroeville.

A native of Monroeville, Anne grew up the oldest of four daughters of the late Dr. Jack and Mrs. Irma Hines.

She graduated from Monroe County High School in the same class as Nelle Harper Lee, another beloved fixture of Monroeville and Pulitzer Prize winning author of "To Kill A Mockingbird." Upon graduation from high school, she attended Auburn University. Anne's father, Dr. Hines, a local veterinarian, also served as mayor of Monroeville. Her late husband, Dick, served as Monroeville's postmaster for many years.

During her tenure as mayor, Monroeville has built an industrial park, added to its parks and recreation, and built a new City Hall and police station. Situated deep in the piney woods of Alabama's First Congressional District, Monroeville is a hidden treasure, and there is no better salesperson for this wonderful city than Mayor Farish.

Prior to serving as mayor, Anne served on the Monroeville City Council for two four-year terms. Anne is also a real estate agent, who began the successful brokerage firm, The Farish Agency, which is now managed by her daughter-in-law, Christie.

Madam Speaker, Anne Hines Farish has dedicated her entire life to making Monroeville, Alabama, a better place to live and work, all the while being a devoted wife and mother. I ask my colleagues to join with me in thanking Mayor Farish for her many years of devotion to her hometown and the people she has faithfully served.

I know Anne's colleagues, her family, and her many friends join with me in praising her accomplishments and extending thanks for her many efforts over the years on behalf of Monroeville and the First Congressional District.

COMMEMORATING THE TWIN OAKS ESTATE

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, this year will mark the 120 year anniversary of the Twin Oaks estate in Washington, D.C. Built in 1888 by Mr. Gardiner Greene Hubbard, founder of the National Geographic Society, this 18-acre property was sold to the Republic of China in 1947 after having been rented to the government of Taiwan for the previous 10 years.

From 1937 through 1978, the Twin Oaks estate was the official residence of nine ROC ambassadors, who used it to host all types of functions in the interests of their government. Many agreements were discussed with the United States at this estate. However, during the winter of 1978, President Carter decided to switch diplomatic recognition from the Republic of China to the People's Republic of China.

During this critical period, ROC senior diplomat Mr. H.Y. Yang stayed at Twin Oaks and negotiated with the administration and Congress to hammer out a foundation for the future of U.S.-Taiwan relations.

Minister Yang's efforts gave birth to the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act on April 10, 1979. The Act became the legal basis governing all types of relations between Taiwan and the U.S. It has enabled Taiwan to develop and prosper during the last 29 years. It also enabled the ROC government to retain the ownership of the Twin Oaks estate, which has continued to be a place for social gatherings and functions benefiting many in our nation's capital.

Madam Speaker, the Twin Oaks estate on Woodley Road is not only a historic building in downtown Washington; it is also a symbol of the long standing friendship between the people of the United States and the people of Taiwan.

HONORING THE WEBSTER THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2008

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Webster Thomas High School boys varsity ice hockey team, 2008 Division II New York State Public School Ice Hockey Champions. The Webster Thomas Titans defeated the Thousand Islands' Vikings by a score of 5 to 2, earning Webster Thomas' first State ice hockey championship title.

On behalf of the people of New York's 25th Congressional District, I congratulate these young men on their outstanding athletic achievement and praise Head Coach David Evans, and Assistant Coaches Allan Mutrie and Sean O'Neill on their team's success. I look forward to another exciting year when the Titans take the ice to defend their title in 2009.

Joseph Amico, Brett Bannon, Matthew Casilio, James Chandler, John DiRose, Joseph DiRose, Mischa Dombovy-Johnson, Daniel Fetes, Kevin Glenwright, Mark Goodman, Alan Grabowski, Mason Hill, Michael Iuliano, Mikhail Jerzak, Zachary Lamb, Christopher Malec, Patrick Moore, Sean Moore, Matthew Prinzing, Justin Scharfe, Robert Sciarone, Tyler Smedley, Matthew Solimano, Mark Vaccarelli, Michael Winderl.

HONORING RAY LACKEY

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ray Lackey, a re-

markable soldier and public servant from my congressional district. Ray is retiring this month as Postmaster to Bowling Green, KY, ending a 38 year career in federal service.

A native of Middletown, OH, Ray first came to Bowling Green in 1979 following nine years of active duty in the U.S. Army. Beginning as a letter carrier, Ray quickly advanced through numerous managerial positions with the U.S. Postal Service prior to being named Bowling Green Postmaster in 2003.

During his tenure, Ray has overseen various infrastructure improvements at the facility. Colleagues and customers alike have long been impressed with his leadership abilities and rigid commitment to maintaining an efficient and consistent postal operation.

Throughout his career at the U.S. Postal Service, Ray remained active in the U.S. Army Reserve, serving in various noncommissioned officer leadership positions, culminating in a three year tour at the Pentagon as Command Sergeant Major. Ray was at the Pentagon during the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack and spent the ensuing hours assisting survivors. He has received numerous awards and commendations for the valor he demonstrated under pressure and at great personal risk that day.

It is my great privilege to recognize Ray Lackey today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives for his service to our country, support of our soldiers, and lifelong example of leadership and service. His unique achievements make him an outstanding American worthy of our honor and respect.

On behalf of the countless men and women who have benefited from his years of dutiful service to our country and community, I would like to express my profound appreciation to Ray and wish him a very happy and healthy retirement.

HONORING THE NORRISTOWN GARDEN CLUB ON ITS 95TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 3, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the upcoming 95th anniversary of the Norristown Garden Club in Norristown, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

The Norristown Garden Club was founded on April 13, 1913 by seven women who met at the home of Miss Bertha Slingluff Harry and established the Club to promote their common interest in the culture of flowers by exchanging ideas, seeds, plants and bulbs. At this first meeting, the group chose officers and laid the groundwork for what has been 95 years of fellowship and service to the beautification of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Throughout the 20th Century and today, the members of the Norristown Garden Club have dedicated endless energies and hours to volunteer activities in the area. Examples of this include 32 years of consecutive service to the Montgomery Geriatric Center and Rehabilitation—an achievement they reached in 1986. The organization has also donated thousands of dollars in flowers to places such as the Valley Forge Historical Society Museum and Ronald McDonald House. It is clear that the members not only gather around a common love