

the beliefs of co-founders Charles Crittenton and Dr. Kate Waller Barrett. They believed that the best way to address compelling social issues in the United States was through a network of independent, local agencies supported by a national body. This belief grew into a national movement encompassing, at one point, 76 agencies in 5 countries, and continues to guide the organization today.

There are now over 23 Crittenton agencies across the country, which have provided valuable support and services to 5 million vulnerable girls, young women, and their families. Their success has come from over a century of providing forward-thinking and innovative services grounded in research, compassion, and a belief that change comes through empowerment. Crittenton programs address complex social issues, including teen pregnancy, mental health, substance abuse, and interpersonal violence, and they do so in ways that are gender and culturally specific.

Most importantly, Crittenton services build upon the individuality, resiliency and strength of this country's young women.

Please join me in wishing another successful 125 years to the National Crittenton Foundation and its family of agencies across the country.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FOR 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 16, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission has been enhancing the lives of Southern Ohio residents for 40 years; and

Whereas, the twelve rural counties of Adams, Brown, Clermont, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton came together in 1968 to create a centralized planning effort for the entire region; and

Whereas, the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission serves these twelve counties by planning public works projects and social services that benefit the entire region; therefore, be it

Resolved that along with their friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission on their contributions and service to the people of Southern Ohio. Congratulations to the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission for 40 years of committed service.

TRIBUTE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOLEDO METROPOLITAN AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 16, 2008*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today, pleased to recognize a milestone anniversary

for the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments, TMACOG, in northwestern Ohio and southeast Michigan. TMACOG celebrates its 40th anniversary this month.

When in the early 1960s Federal funds began to go to local governments directly, local leaders from communities in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan had been meeting informally as the Area Cooperation Committee and building a regional organization. In 1968 the group formally adopted bylaws and elected leadership as TMACOG. Andy Devine, who was then a member of Toledo City Council, was elected to be the first chair. The newly formed executive committee held its first meeting in the council chambers in the city of Oregon, Ohio. In celebration of TMACOG's 40th year, the April 16, 2008, meeting of the TMACOG executive committee will also be held in the city of Oregon.

TMACOG's areas of concentration are transportation planning, environmental planning, and commuter services. Looking to the future, member concerns also include alternative energy and energy conservation measures, economic development, and more interest in freight transportation and logistics.

TMACOG's vision statement, adopted in 2002, states that "TMACOG will be the governmental partner of choice to coordinate regional assets, opportunities, and challenges." Over the course of four decades, local leaders have looked to the organization to lead the region forward. While we celebrate TMACOG's achievements the past 40 years, we join with the organization to promote a bright future of opportunity and growth.

ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIRGINIA TECH TRAGEDY

**HON. RICK BOUCHER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 16, 2008*

Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, I have the privilege of representing Virginia's Ninth Congressional District, of which Virginia Tech is a part.

One year ago, a tragedy of a scale and senselessness that defied explanation befell the university, and it came to a campus that is known across the Nation for its friendliness, peacefulness and close association among students and faculty.

In the year that has passed, an incredible spirit of cohesion and determination and a generous outpouring of support from across the Nation have benefited the campus, and much healing has occurred.

The university's proud traditions and its reputation as an exemplary institution of teaching, learning and research have carried on, and the resilience of students, faculty and the community has assured for Virginia Tech a strong recovery.

Today as we remember the enormous loss of young lives full of promise and mature lives of major contribution from a violent and inexplicable act, we also remember the poise and dignity with which the university's faculty and administration responded in a time of uncertainty;

The courage of the Virginia Tech, Montgomery County and Blacksburg first responders in a time of emergency;

The heroism of those who risked personal safety to prevent further loss of life;

The generosity of those who offered their support and financial contributions to the victims and their families in their time of greatest need;

And the remarkable spirit of the Virginia Tech community and resilience of our region when faced with great tragedy.

Today, as we remember an act of great violence, we also remember Virginia Tech's strong resurgence, and we look forward and are committed to its even greater future.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC LOSS OF LIFE AT VIRGINIA TECH

**HON. VIRGIL H. GOODE, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 16, 2008*

Mr. GOODE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the victims of the Virginia Tech shooting incident, which occurred one year ago today. On April 16, 2007, a great tragedy shocked and saddened the world, claiming the lives of 32 innocent members of the Virginia Tech community and injuring many others. I continue to pray for the families and friends of the victims as they cope with the pain this heartbreaking incident brought upon them. At the same time, I am moved and touched by how the world united over the past year to support the Virginia Tech community as it navigates the difficult recovery process.

In the days that followed the tragedy, citizens across America and around the world watched as the Virginia Tech community pulled together to demonstrate the power of "Hokie Spirit." The Nation also provided an outpouring of support, caring, and compassion for the students and families affected by this event. With the world's assistance, the Virginia Tech community exhibited its resilience, collective strength, and courage in the days, weeks, and months following the tragedy. Virginia Tech Professor Peggy Meszaros described this process by stating, "The reverberations around our campus, and the community, and the state and the nation, if not the world, this Hokie spirit, this belief that we will support one another, that we will survive this tragedy that we will, if we can, even become stronger—that's been a real unifying theme in all of this."

Moving forward, we should remember the victims for how they lived: as loving, caring scholars and citizens who wanted to make the world a better place. Today, the victims' families and friends carry on this legacy on behalf of those who lost their lives. For example, last year Virginia Tech created V.T.-Engage, a volunteer program for persons in the university community to perform public service in honor of the victims of the tragedy. The program volunteers have already completed more than 200,000 hours of service this year, paying tribute to the memory of those lives lost.

I ask Congress to honor and remember the victims of this tragedy and continue to show support for those affected by it. May God continue to bless the families and friends who lost loved ones and the entire Virginia Tech community on this day of solemn remembrance.