

## HONORING SHANNON PARKS

**HON. JOHN BOOZMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2009*

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the initiative and achievement of Shannon Parks from Rogers, Arkansas. Shannon is a recipient of the Congressional Award Bronze Medal.

The Congressional Award Program recognizes excellence and service among young Americans who are challenged to set goals and carry through in public service, personal development and physical fitness and expedition or exploration.

Shannon diligently worked completing her volunteer hours through two different avenues, choosing to volunteer with children because she aspires to become an elementary teacher. She volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club in Rogers, Arkansas, and then she started to help kids learn at the Benton County School of the Arts.

She improved her personal development by learning to fence and practicing at her local fencing club. She completed physical fitness goals by lifting weights, running, and dancing. She also planned a family outing that included camping and rock climbing over a weekend.

Shannon has worked very hard for this award, and it is refreshing to see that young Americans in my district and all across the country are working so hard to improve themselves and their communities.

I want to thank Shannon for her efforts and encourage her to keep working towards her goals.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2009*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, yesterday, I missed three votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows.

Rollcall No. 647, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 593, as Amended, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 648, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1376, as Amended, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 649, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1121, as Amended, I would have voted "yea."

## HONORING THE ROCK SCHOOL FOR DANCE EDUCATION, AN ADMIRABLE PHILADELPHIA, PA ORGANIZATION

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2009*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rock School for Dance Education of Philadelphia, PA. The Rock School helps its students succeed academically as well as artistically. For many years,

the Rock School has helped prepare students both in the performing arts world and the educational world.

Initially called the School of Pennsylvania Ballet, the Rock School changed its name in 1992 to become an independent institution. During this time, the school became one of the nation's top-five pre-professional training programs. Its reputation continues to grow as it attracts more international students while acquiring exceptional faculty and great successes from its alumni.

The Rock School engages and enriches local communities through its comprehensive outreach programs. More than 10,000 inner city children and their families take part in the School's outreach program annually. The Rock School and its Rock Reach program create positive opportunities for inner city children to participate in productive, stimulating activities. Rock School serves the Philadelphia and Camden community by teaching dance lessons and making dance facilities accessible to local citizens. The Rock Reach program, directed by Sarah Cooper, brings dance to life for Philadelphia and Camden students. Dancers from the school perform at local schools, teach dance lessons, and open their facilities up to the local community.

In addition, the Rock School awards over \$500,000 in academic scholarships annually. The scholarships are given to talented students who need financial assistance. Scholarship students attend a pre-professional dance training program while also giving outstanding college-preparatory classes. These students dedicate themselves to dance, and the discipline they learn while dancing carries on in everything they do for the rest of their lives.

Madam Speaker, the Rock School for Dance Education instills a quality of thought and action that enriches its students' lives and the local community. I hope to see the school continue along this path of success for years to come. It is an honor to pay tribute to such a fine institution.

## HONORING THE LIFE OF MARINE SERGEANT MICHAEL WAYNE HEEDE, JR.

**HON. C. A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2009*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the life of Marine Sergeant Michael Wayne Heede, Jr. who died honorably serving his country in Afghanistan as a part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Sergeant Heede enlisted in the Marine Corps in September of 2005, shortly after his high school graduation. A veteran of the Iraq war and on his third tour of duty, he served as a Combat Engineer. Sergeant Heede was assigned under the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, 1 Marine Expeditionary Force at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California.

In July of 2009 at the age of 22, Sergeant Heede was killed in action while supporting combat operations in the Helmand province of southern Afghanistan. During his military career, Sergeant Heede was awarded the Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Unit Commendation

Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, among others.

I commend Sergeant Heede for the dedication and devotion to preserving the freedom of our nation. His commitment and bravery gives his mother, Mrs. Gloria Crothers of Edgewood, Maryland and his widow, Mrs. Brittny Heede of Southport, North Carolina great pride.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor the life of Marine Sergeant Michael Wayne Heede, Jr. The distinguished service Sergeant Heede has shown to our country will forever reverberate in our memories. It gives me great pride to honor one of our nation's fallen heroes.

## TRIBUTE TO THE MOST REVEREND JOSEPH R. CISTONE

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2009*

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to The Most Reverend Joseph R. Cistone on his installation as the sixth bishop of the Diocese of Saginaw.

A lifelong resident of Philadelphia, Bishop Cistone knew he wanted to be a priest from an early age. His life's calling has now led him to mid-Michigan as the new leader of more than 130,000 Catholics in the 11-county diocese.

Without question, this is a region in transition; one hit especially hard by worldwide economic downturn severely impacting this long-time manufacturing community. We look to our faith now more than ever to carry us through these difficult times and strengthen us during hardship.

In the midst of these challenges, we are thankful His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI led Bishop Cistone to Saginaw as a powerful sign that we are not alone in this journey. We believe Bishop Cistone has been led to Saginaw to richly bless us with his talents in our time of greatest need.

As members of the community of believers in the diocese, we offer our prayers and congratulations to Bishop Cistone as he starts his ministry in mid-Michigan. We pray for his family, especially his parents and brothers today as their son and brother takes on a new role in the Church. We also pray for his new family, the people of the Diocese of Saginaw. We hope that Bishop Cistone's example of faith in God will inspire not just Catholics but people of all faiths and even non-religious backgrounds to seek the Lord.

For the many Catholics I represent in Michigan's Fourth Congressional District, may God lead and guide Bishop Cistone and the Saginaw Diocese to do His will.

## IN SUPPORT OF FAMILIES AFFECTED BY OVARIAN CANCER

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 2009*

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support for women and