

teachers how to use the scientific method. Additionally, she has reached out to the parents and the community to work with her students on science-related projects. Dawn is the kind of teacher who loves her students and loves what she does. She is truly an inspiration to all of those around her.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Dawn Pack as the Okaloosa Teacher of the Year. She is a great educator to students and teachers alike, as well as a passionate community leader. My wife Vicki and I wish Dawn and her family all the best for the future.

HONORING WILLIAM ALLAN WOOD  
FOR A LIFE WELL-LIVED IN  
SOUTH JERSEY

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 22, 2010*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor William Allan Wood for his many years in New Jersey's First district. Mr. Wood, at 105 years old, sets an excellent example of how to live fully and completely.

Mr. Wood was born the second of seven children in June of 1904 in Camden, New Jersey. He grew up in Haddonfield, NJ. He started attending Drexel night school in the fall of 1923 studying mechanical engineering and received his certificate in 1928. While attending Drexel, he worked in a shop rebuilding machine tools and then at the Southwark Foundry in Philadelphia and later at the Baldwin Locomotive Works as a draftsman and then an engineer. In 1936, he started working for Florence Pipe Foundry, part of the R. D. Wood Company. He started as an engineer/draftsman. In 1940, he became a plant engineer and oversaw the expansion of the foundry's capacity during WWII. He remained plant engineer until he retired in 1961.

Allan married his wife Virginia in 1937 and moved to Delanco, NJ where they raised a daughter and a son. His wife passed away in 1999. He has three grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Allan has always stressed the importance of family, friends and has served on many local and state boards and commissions.

Allan has been a lifelong sailor, first in small racing sailboats and then in cruising sailboats. For 25 years, Allan and his wife sailed their beloved 27-foot sailboat on the Delaware River and the Chesapeake Bay, often in company with family and friends. It was through a sailor friend that he started his second career at C-Lec Plastics in 1962 as an engineer designing tools and equipment for casting, curing and machining large high tech plastic components. When his wife became ill he cut back to a 3-day workweek and for the past 5 years he has been working 3 half-days per week. Even at 105 years of age, Allan is one of the most reliable employees at C-Lec and is appreciated by everyone there.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mr. Wood on a life filled with achievements and service. It is an honor to pay tribute to Mr. Wood, and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF FIRE CHIEF  
BERNARD M. BENEDICT

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 22, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Fire Chief Bernard M. Benedict, upon his retirement from the Middleburg Heights Fire Department, following nearly forty years of leadership, service and dedication to the citizens of Middleburg Heights.

Chief Benedict joined the Middleburg Heights Fire Department on June 16, 1973. In November of that year, he completed the State of Ohio's 160 Hour Fire Training course, finishing fourth in his class. On June 29th, 1977, he graduated from the Paramedic Program at Cuyahoga County Community College. One year later, Chief Benedict became one of the first paramedic-firefighters with the Middleburg Heights Fire Department. From the beginning, Chief Benedict set a tone of camaraderie and professionalism within the Department, and he easily gained the respect and admiration of his colleagues and superiors.

Equipped with expertise in the safety field, an unwavering dedication to his vocation, and an affable nature, he quickly rose through the ranks, and was appointed as Acting Lieutenant in March, 1987. Committed to continuing his education, Chief Benedict completed his Associate's Degree in Emergency Medical Technology in 1990. In 2000, he was appointed as the Technical Rescue Director for the Southwest Emergency Response. One year later, in May of 2001, he was appointed Chief of the Middleburg Heights Fire Department.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Fire Chief Bernard M. Benedict for his commitment and his leadership in creating a safe community for everyone who lives and works in Middleburg Heights. His superior work as Chief, firefighter, paramedic and instructor has set the bar high for safety, response and protection within Middleburg Heights, Ohio. His service will forever be a true example for others to follow.

H.R. 4495—DESIGNATING THE FACILITY OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE LOCATED AT 100 NORTH TAYLOR LANE IN PATAGONIA, ARIZONA, AS THE "JIM KOLBE POST OFFICE"

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 22, 2010*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4495, which designates the United States Postal Service facility located at 100 North Taylor Lane in Patagonia, Arizona, as the "Jim Kolbe Post Office."

Jim Kolbe served the people of Arizona in Congress for 22 years, including 2 decades on the House Appropriations Committee. He chaired the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Agencies during his final 6 years in Congress, which is when I came to know him.

I traveled with Jim in 2005 as part of a Congressional Delegation to Africa and worked with him to promote human rights and economic growth in the developing world. Jim is now the Senior Transatlantic Fellow for the German Marshall Fund, where he continues to contribute his expertise to the Caucus for Congressional-World Bank Dialogue.

H.R. 4495 is a well-deserved honor. Today I have the privilege of joining my colleagues in paying tribute to this distinguished public servant by designating the "Jim Kolbe Post Office" in Patagonia, Arizona.

IN HONOR OF THE VIETNAMESE  
NEW YEAR: TET, 2010 YEAR OF  
THE TIGER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 22, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Vietnamese New Year: Tet, 2010, Year of the Tiger. As the Vietnamese community in Greater Cleveland gathers at St. Helena Catholic Church to celebrate, I join them in celebration of their rich history and culture.

Tet is the time of the year to pay homage to ancestors, reconnect with friends and family and celebrate every hope and possibility rising with the new year. This year's gathering will once again honor community volunteers and leaders, showcasing many Vietnamese cultural treasures including Vietnamese culinary cuisine, music and dance.

2010 also marks thirty-five years of service to the community by the Vietnamese Community in Greater Cleveland, Inc. This organization has been an invaluable resource for hundreds of Clevelanders of Vietnamese descent, linking them to needed resources and preserving the rich heritage of the Vietnamese people.

I would also like to recognize Le Nguyen, President of the Vietnamese Community in Greater Cleveland, Inc., and every member, past and present, for their dedication to Vietnamese-Americans of Northeast Ohio.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebration of the Vietnamese New Year, Tet 2010: Year of the Tiger. May every American of Vietnamese heritage hold memories of their past forever in their hearts, and find peace and happiness within every new day of the rising new year.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF  
JEAN HANDLEY

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 22, 2010*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and work of Jean Handley, an inspiring leader in our New Haven community and a long time friend to the arts and to the dispossessed, who passed away at the age of 83 last month.

A path-breaking career woman who spent three decades working for AT&T and Southern New England Telephone, SNET, Jean

knocked down barriers for working women across Connecticut. After serving 10 years as the Executive Director of the Connecticut League of Women Voters, she joined SNET in 1960 and later AT&T in 1972. Six years later, she was the highest ranking female employee in the Bell system, eventually retiring as Vice-President of Public and Corporate Relations in 1989. And she was the first female member of the Quinnipiac Club, a New Haven business institution since 1871. As it turns out, she was elected to the Club because she refused to enter through the kitchen there, as was the questionable custom for women before Handley gently and firmly put a stop to it.

This was the type of leadership Jean showed throughout her life—She led by example, with grace, elegance, good humor, and enormous competence.

Her career aside, Jean was a passionate admirer of the arts and a dedicated supporter of non-profits and community service efforts in our state. She was a longtime board member of Learning, Education, and Athletics in Partnership, LEAP, the Long Wharf Theatre, and the New Haven Symphony. In addition, she served as an Emeritus Trustee of her alma mater, Connecticut College, as well as the University of New Hampshire. And, in 1996, she was a co-founder of the International Festival of Arts and Ideas, an 18-day arts festival in New Haven that now attracts over 100,000 people each June. True to her enthusiasm, her passion for the arts, and her diligence, Jean not only commissioned a market study to ascertain the appeal of the festival first, she researched the weather to figure out the best two-week window to hold it.

Last December, in her last public appearance before succumbing to the cancer she had so bravely and silently fought, Jean was awarded with the Connecticut Arts Council's C. Newton Schenk III Award for Lifetime Achievement, which deemed her a "life-long champion of the region's arts organizations and an individual of exceedingly high standards." That she was. Our city of New Haven, and our world, is a smaller place with her passing.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOWARD THEATRE AND ITS CONTRIBUTION OF ENTERTAINMENT ON HISTORIC U STREET

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 22, 2010*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the 100th anniversary of the Howard Theatre and its contribution to music and entertainment on historic U Street in Washington, DC.

The Howard Theatre was the only theater in the Nation's capital where African Americans could enjoy live music, dance, drama and comedy during the era of racial segregation in Washington, DC.

The Howard Theatre provided a gateway to the historic U Street corridor and currently is being preserved for historic renovation. We commend Howard Theatre Restoration Inc. for spearheading the preservation of the Howard Theatre.

Known as "the largest colored theatre in the world," the Howard Theatre welcomed talent regardless of color. Many legendary music greats appeared at "The Howard," among them, Ella Fitzgerald, Billy Taylor, The Supremes, Chuck Brown, Petey Greene, Dick Gregory, and Redd Foxx.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding Howard Theatre Restoration Inc. for its work to preserve the Howard Theatre legacy, and in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Howard Theatre for its contribution as a premiere entertainment venue for people of all races and backgrounds and as a showcase of national and international importance for African American entertainers of the day.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF DON SCOTT

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 22, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Don Scott, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. Mr. Scott's life was centered around family, community and service to others. His keen business sense, positive attitude, and unstoppable energy were key elements of his success.

Throughout Cleveland, Mr. Scott was known for his gathering place called "Vel's"—the premier party center for the African-American community named after his beloved wife, Velma Rose. African-American city leaders, politicians and candidates met regularly at Vel's, where Mr. Scott always greeted guests with kind and encouraging words. He hosted major political events, giving many candidates the exposure and support they needed to rally voters and win elections, including former United States Congressman Louis Stokes.

In 1963, Don and Velma purchased the Alhambra Bowling Lanes near Euclid and East 102nd Street, and changed the name to University Lanes. They opened Vel's Red Carpet Lounge in the basement, and it soon became a popular venue that drew nationally known performers. Mr. Scott became the first African-American contestant on the popular national TV series "Championship Bowling." He won his first match in 1961 by bowling five strikes in a row and went on to tour with the Professional Bowling Association. In 1962, Mr. Scott won the first round of the PBA Open and ended the tournament by placing ninth in the nation.

Mr. Scott was first and foremost dedicated to his wife and children. Together, Don and Velma Scott raised their children, Gregory, Avis and Don D. In later years, Don and Velma travelled the world but remained committed to the betterment of their eastside community. They founded Vel's Purple Oasis Garden, a community garden and greenhouse near University Circle. They also opened "New Life Skills Academy," a training center for future entrepreneurs.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Don Scott, a man who will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. I also honor the memory of his beloved wife, the late Velma Rose. I offer my deepest con-

dolences to his children, Gregory, Avis and Don D., to his six grandchildren, his six siblings, and to his extended family and friends. Mr. Scott lived his life with a generous heart and an unwavering love for his family and his community. He will never be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF RUSSELL E. KING ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 22, 2010*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Russell "Tony" E. King upon the occasion of his 90th birthday. Mr. King has spent a lifetime serving his community and his family, and it is a privilege to recognize him on his accomplishments today.

Known as Papa King to his family, Tony has lived in Florida for almost 70 years. He was married to Jonnie King for 62 years before she passed away in 2008, and the two are the proud parents of five children, ten grandchildren, and 22 great-grandchildren. Tony served his country in the U.S. Navy for two years before starting a career at the St. Regis Paper Company, now International Paper, where he retired after 33 years. He was a very active member of the community, serving as Assistant Chief of the Brent Volunteer Fire Department and spending fifteen years in the Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary. Tony also volunteers much of his time at the Gonzalez United Methodist Church, where he is still a member.

Madam Speaker, Tony King is a Northwest Florida community leader who has spent a lifetime serving his country and his community. My wife Vicki and I wish him a happy birthday and his entire family all the best for the future.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 22, 2010*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the St. Mary's School in Taylorville, Illinois.

St. Mary's opened its doors in 1909 in a one room structure on Franklin Street in Taylorville. At that time, the school consisted of one teacher and 77 students. The school moved into its current building in 1921, which is home to kindergarten through third grade, two libraries and the school office. By the 1990s, St. Mary's enrollment had expanded so much that a second building was necessary. The new building was dedicated in 2000.

Over the last century, St. Mary's has remained dedicated to providing its students with a high quality education which will last a lifetime. Last fall, the school held its annual fall festival, where former students and educators returned to St. Mary's to celebrate a century of progress. To help students and alumni see how classes were conducted a century ago, the school re-created the original one room schoolhouse, with kindergarten through sixth grade in the same room.