

HONORING JAMES E. McERLANE  
FOR HIS SERVICE TO SCOUTING

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 11, 2010*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor James E. McErlane, who has earned the 2010 Distinguished Citizen Award from the Chester County Council of Boy Scouts of America.

Scouting has been a part of Mr. McErlane's life since he joined Troop 7 in Malvern, Pennsylvania as a youth. He achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and earned his Parvuli Dei Catholic Scouting Award. A man of tremendous character, Mr. McErlane epitomizes the principles of leadership, self-discipline, hard work and a duty to serve his country and community that Scouting instilled in him.

Mr. McErlane has worked to promote the traditions and enhance the experience of Scouting for area youth, serving on the Chester County Council's Executive Board of Directors and as a member on several Distinguished Citizen Award Dinner committees. He also chaired the Eagle Scout Alumni Committee.

In addition to being a Senior Partner at Lamb McErlane Law Offices, Mr. McErlane continues serving as an active member of the Chester County Library Trust and the Chester County Food Bank.

His extremely successful legal career and tireless work in the community have earned Mr. McErlane the respect and admiration of his peers and all who know him.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing James E. McErlane for his valuable contributions to improving the quality of life in his community and his exemplary commitment to the values of Scouting.

HONORING MS. DIANE COLLINS

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

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 11, 2010*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the tireless service of Diane Collins for her remarkable dedication as a volunteer at the Loch Raven VA Community Living and Rehabilitation Center and Chapter 451 in Dundalk. To salute her service, Ms. Collins was awarded the 2009 Congressional Volunteer Recognition Award by the Veterans Advisory Council for Maryland's 2nd District.

Veterans of the United States Armed Forces have dedicated themselves to protecting the lives of every American. Their service to our Nation deserves the highest level of gratitude. It is important that we take the time to recognize the individuals who give of their time and talents to support veterans and ensure their comfort, care, and well-being.

As a member of the Disabled American Veterans Representatives for the Loch Raven VA Community Living and Rehabilitation Center, Ms. Collins is an active fundraiser and friend, giving 506 hours of volunteer service to date. She makes certain she is aware of all patient

needs and makes requests to the Disabled American Veterans to purchase items not routinely supplied by the VA. Once a month, Diane creates a fun activity for the residents, including parties with watermelon, cupcakes, fried chicken, strawberry shortcake and hot dogs. Through her chapter, a juke box was donated to the center.

Ms. Collins does things simply because she believes they are "the right thing to do." She exceeds expectations in all respects. To the veterans' delight, she brings young people with her to visit with them and regularly babysits for a severely disabled neighbor. Her colleagues say she exemplifies the VA's mission statement of creating an environment that fosters respect, compassion, and excellence.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Diane Collins. Her compassion and dedication to veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces are an inspiration to us all, and are deserving of the utmost gratitude. It is with great pride that I congratulate Diane Collins on her exemplary service as an advocate and a volunteer.

**HOME STAR ENERGY RETROFIT  
ACT OF 2010**

SPEECH OF

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2010*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5019) to provide for the establishment of the Home Star Retrofit Rebate Program, and for other purposes:

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5019—Home Star Energy Retrofit Act of 2010. I want to thank my colleague Representative WELCH for bringing this important bill to the floor.

In our current economic crisis we need to seize on opportunities to create jobs, and with our need to find the energy to power our country, we need to find every kilowatt of savings we can. This bill will help accomplish both of those goals.

Home Star is a short-term program to create jobs, save energy, and lower families' energy bills. Home Star will restart the assembly lines at factories that manufacture energy efficiency technologies and will put construction workers back on the job installing these improvements in the homes of millions of American families.

There are huge energy savings available through basic retrofits, which will save people money and reduce our dependence on foreign oil. By encouraging people to help themselves through the installation of specific energy-saving technologies, including insulation, duct sealing, windows and doors, air sealing, and water heaters, we will all benefit.

Home Star is expected to allow 3 million families to retrofit their homes to be more energy efficient. Consumers are predicted to save \$9.2 billion on their energy bills over the next 10 years as a result of Home Star's energy efficiency investments. And Home Star will create 168,000 new jobs here in the United States. Construction jobs cannot be outsourced, and more than 90 percent of energy efficiency technologies are manufactured here in America.

We also must do everything we can to continue to encourage the development of an energy efficiency industry in this country. Foreign countries are threatening to take our market share in manufacturing energy efficient technologies and we cannot let this huge market go offshore. This bill will help create a larger market for these products and solidify our position as a market leader.

This bill is a win-win-win, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

**CELEBRATING THE DESIGNATION  
OF THE EASTERN BAND OF  
CHEROKEE AS AN ADVANTAGE  
WEST CERTIFIED ENTREPRE-  
NEURIAL COMMUNITY**

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 11, 2010*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Eastern Band of Cherokee in Cherokee, North Carolina on becoming a Certified Entrepreneurial Community by the AdvantageWest Economic Development Group. AdvantageWest, an economic development commission which serves 23 Western North Carolina counties, created the "Certified Entrepreneurial Community Program" to train local communities to encourage small business start-ups in the mountain region and to help such businesses thrive.

The Eastern Band of Cherokee, North Carolina has an over 11,000-year history rich with culture, arts, and a heritage of magnificent storytelling. Being designated as a Certified Entrepreneurial Community is just one example of the continuation of the remarkable history, and a tribute to the vision of the Eastern Band of Cherokee. The focus on youth and education as integral components of their Certified Entrepreneurial Community vision ensures that the future leaders of the community will have the tools to continue their strong legacy.

The Certification, developed by the AdvantageWest Economic Development Group, contains a strict set of guidelines that highlight a community's enthusiasm and readiness to support entrepreneurship and small business. While several communities throughout Western North Carolina have become certified as entrepreneurial communities, the Eastern Band of Cherokee is the first nation to receive this designation. This designation showcases the Eastern Band of Cherokee's foresight in creating and fostering an environment in which prosperity can be achieved. As a Certified Entrepreneurial Community, the Eastern Band will build upon the success of its marketing campaign to further promote the potential of its people to the United States and abroad.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to celebrate this remarkable honor bestowed on the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in Cherokee, North Carolina, and their commitment to the future of their people. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating their outstanding achievement.