Hill, VA and wish them continued future success. Through their hard work and perseverance they have earned the national honor of being designated a "School to Watch".

GIBBS HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR BLAINE KRAUSS NAMED PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, as we enter high school graduation season, I am proud to let my colleagues know that Blaine Krauss, a senior in the arts program at Gibbs High School in St. Petersburg, Florida, which I have the privilege to represent, has been named a Presidential Scholar.

Blaine is the only student in the Tampa Bay area and one of only four in the entire State of Florida to be so recognized for his outstanding academic achievement and artistic excellence. He will honored at the White House next month along with a guest he has chosen to accompany him, Mr. Keven Renken, the Chairman of the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs High School and Blaine's acting teacher.

Following my remarks, I will include a story from The St. Petersburg Times by Luis Perez about this great national honor for Blaine.

Madam Speaker, Blaine will be attending the University of Cincinnati next fall where he will major in musical theater. As his teacher says, he is a talented individual, but I know that he did not achieve his success without a lot of hard work and preparation. Please join me in congratulating Blaine for a job well done.

[From the St. Petersburg Times, May 4, 2010]

GIBBS HIGH SENIOR RECEIVES RARE NATIONAL HONOR: PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR

(By Luis Perez)

ST. PETERSBURG.—Blaine Krauss, a senior in the arts program at Gibbs High School, was sitting in acting class Monday when he learned he had been named one of the scholastic elite: a presidential scholar. In dramatic fashion, he spent a good while running around the school. "I screamed with my friend and ran out of the classroom," said Krauss, 18, of St. Petersburg. "It took me about an hour and a half to calm down."

Krauss is among 141 students nationwide—four in Florida and the only one in the Tampa Bay area—to receive the honor this year for exceptional academic achievement and artistic excellence.

Each scholar gets to invite his most inspiring or challenging teacher to a White House reception this June. Krauss selected Keven Renken, chairman of the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs and his acting teacher for three years.

"Blaine is an amazingly talented student," said Renken, who has taught for 21 years. "He is just one of them. He has it. You can just tell. He's a great singer, a great talent. He's just one of the special ones."

Krauss, who aspires to sing on Broadway and a career in the political stage, said he was glad to be part of good publicity for the high school. This fall, he is entering the University of Cincinnati to major in musical theatre.

"I am happy to be a product of Gibbs and to say that our school is generating great kids," he said.

IN MEMORY OF COLONEL JACK COLLEY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jack Colley who passed away on May 16, 2010. He was the head of the Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS), Division of Emergency Management.

Prior to joining TXDPS, he served in the United States Army from 1970–97 and retired as a Colonel. He was a valuable member of TXDPS and changed the field of Emergency Management. During his tenure, Colonel Colley was involved in the response and recovery of some of the largest incidents and disasters in Texas, such as the Space Shuttle Columbia crash in 2003, Hurricane Rita in 2005, and Hurricane Ike in 2008. Learning from the fallout of Hurricane Katrina, he began efforts to evacuate and shelter companion animals, emphasizing that no one would be left behind because they could not bring their pet.

He sought to make disaster response quicker, faster, and smarter and utilized innovative methods to make the Division of Emergency Management more effective. Among his many initiatives, Colonel Colley pushed for an Interstate Emergency Response Support Plan (IERSP)—partnering with Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Oklahoma, the first of its kind in the nation. Under his leadership, the Division of Emergency Management also focused on Re-Entry Task Forces that provided critical care and security and restored infrastructure within the first 72 hours after a storm. He was a visionary, a great leader, and a dedicated public servant. The great State of Texas has suffered a great loss; Jack Colley will be missed by all.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in recognizing the legacy of Colonel Jack Colley. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

A TRIBUTE TO PAUL MAXWELL

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise with my colleagues Congressman GEORGE MILLER and Congressman JERRY MCNERNEY, to recognize Paul Maxwell, Contra Costa Transportation Authority's Chief Deputy Executive Director and most recently its Interim Executive Director, and congratulate him as he approaches his retirement.

Paul joined the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) in April 1990 as its first Deputy Director for Projects bringing a wealth of knowledge of transportation planning, programming, and funding, having previously served 13 years in the region at the Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission. As Deputy Director for Projects at CCTA, Paul has been responsible for the Authority's participation, project management and delivery of over two billion dollars of capital improvements. His service to Contra Costa County residents has included oversight and management of the development of state highway expansions, local street improvements, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) District rail extensions, transit centers, bicycle bridges, trails and other facilities. Further, as part of his responsibilities with CCTA's Congestion Management Agency, Paul advocated for state and federal transportation funds for crucial Authority projects and worked closely with staff in the development of those project priorities, including State Route 4, BART, and the Richmond Parkway, to name just a few.

Most recently he has worked tirelessly on the combined efforts of the CCTA, Caltrans, and the Alameda Congestion Management Agency to deliver the Caldecott Tunnel fourth bore project; the largest American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funded transportation project in the United States to date. He has also worked with BART, Caltrans, Contra Costa County, and East County cities to deliver the expansion of State Route 4 East and the eBART extension. State Route 4 and the Caldecott Tunnel, located on State Route 24, are two of the major commute and freight corridors connecting the East Bay Area to the coast and the Central Valley. Their improvement is essential to the economic vitality of our region and I know my friends, Mr. MILLER and Mr. MCNERNEY, and I are very grateful for Paul's efforts on these major projects.

Throughout his tenure, Paul has maintained strong relationships with those involved in various CCTA projects and is well-respected by his colleagues, agency staff, Board members and stakeholders. In 1996, Paul was named Chief Deputy Executive Director where he oversaw the coordination of all Authority sections. And in December 2009, he was named and has acted as the Interim Executive Director until his retirement this month.

Prior to this distinguished record at CCTA, Paul served as the Manager of Planning and Programming at the Bay Area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission where his responsibilities included transportation finance, air quality planning, multi-modal transportation corridor studies, and the Regional Transportation Plan. He served as the primary liaison between the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the California Transportation Commission. He has also worked with the Metropolitan Washington, DC, Council of Governments and DeLeuw, Cather and Company, an engineering and construction firm here in Washington, DC.

Paul holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Newcastle University in the United Kingdom. He also achieved his Masters of Science in Transportation Engineering from the University of California—Berkeley.

Madam Speaker, we invite our colleagues to join us in honoring Paul for his tireless and dedicated service to the people of California, the Bay Area, and especially Contra Costa County. We also join his family, colleagues and friends in congratulating Paul on a successful and fulfilling career, and a very well-deserved retirement.

PASS H.R. 4213

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, before this week is over, we will vote to create jobs

in America. We will do this by discouraging the outsourcing of American jobs and supporting our nation's workforce and small businesses.

For too long, large corporations have exploited tax loopholes by slipping between foreign and U.S. tax codes. This system permits big businesses to evade their responsibilities and shifts the tax burden onto everyone else. It also encourages big businesses to move jobs from the U.S. to other countries. This begs the question: Why would we perpetuate a system that encourages the outsourcing of American jobs?

This Democratic-led Congress is saying no more. Big businesses have to pay their fair share just like the rest of us. This Congress is lifting the tax burden off the middle class still struggling from the Bush recession. We are leading a recovery of shared prosperity. We are bringing jobs to America through targeted tax cuts and smart investments: this includes tax credits for research and development, support for 250,000 summer jobs, and tax incentives for small businesses in low-income communities and in the hard-hit construction sector.

We should, hopefully with the support of the Republicans, pass H.R. 4213, close harmful corporate tax loopholes, and create jobs right here, in America, right now.