

Payton Myers, Kacee Newman, Taylor O'Bryant, Richard Olds, James Olson, James Pike, Lyle Potter, Tyler Reed, Blake Richey, John Hunter Sattler, Jack Schaeffer, Brady Schuh, Colbert Sheard, Jeremiah Slaughter, Spencer Smith, Brandon Spears, James Tyler Stricklin, Connor Tate, Travis Tate, John Timaeus, Andrew Walker, Jeffrey Dylan Watson, Elliot West, John West, Robert Westmoreland, Mason Wheeler, Zach Ziegelgrube.

In addition, these Scouts of which their U.S. Representative LOUIE GOHMERT is immensely proud, as should be the Nation itself, the following outstanding leaders have participated to lead these wonderful young men to the fulfillment of this scouting dream are the following: Paul Dunaway, Rory Hassell, Stephen Head, Jeffrey Jones, Matt Lindsey, Chris Peurifoy, Lyle Potter, Jim Reed, Greg Tate, Clinton Willbanks, Geoffrey Willbanks.

The foregoing Boy Scouts and leaders have, by their demonstrated excellence and zeal, not only expanded their horizons and abilities, but they have also made it possible to create a better world in which to live for all those who follow hence. Accordingly, their names and participation are hereby memorialized in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States of America to bear witness of their valiant participation to all those who may draw near. May God bless every one of these fine individuals just as He has so richly blessed these United States of America to this time.

A TRIBUTE TO BEATRICE  
WILKINSON-WELTERS

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 29, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters for her appointment as Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago and for her outstanding contributions to the welfare of residents of Brooklyn.

Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters has distinguished herself through many years of service to her nation and community as the Founder and Chairman of the AnBryce Foundation and the Vincent Wilkinson Foundation, whose focus on underserved youth and young adults provide multiple settings for their personal and scholastic development.

She earned her undergraduate degree from Manhattanville College and her graduate degree from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. She also received an Honorary Doctorate from Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters has provided vision and leadership through her service as a trustee or board member for the Kennedy Center Board of Trustees, the National Symphony Orchestra, the Library of Congress, the Brookings Institution, the Washington Jesuit Academy, and the Maret School.

Despite her demanding career and many contributions to society, Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters has been a devoted wife to her husband, Anthony and a loving mother to their two sons Bryant and Andrew.

Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters was confirmed by the United States Senate as Ambassador to Trinidad-Tobago on March 10, 2010 and

sworn in by President Barack Obama on April 27, 2010.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Beatrice Wilkinson-Welters.

CELEBRATION OF THE COLUMBUS  
RECREATION AND PARKS DE-  
PARTMENT ON ITS CENTENNIAL

**HON. MARY JO KILROY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 29, 2010*

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department. Through its 100 years of serving our community, the Department has enriched the lives of central Ohioans by offering social and educational programming, activities, and events for all ages to enjoy.

On July 15, 1910, Columbus mayor George S. Marshall signed into law legislation establishing the Columbus Department of Recreation, which encompassed the city's six established park locations. As part of the City Beautiful Movement, the Department of Recreation became crucial in Columbus' development as an aesthetically-pleasing city filled with green spaces and public parks. With the Department's hard work, residents began to enjoy beautiful scenery, community centers, trails, pools, golf courses, and programming designed with central Ohioans of all ages in mind. In 1972 the Department of Recreation merged with the Division of Forestry and Parks to become the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department we have today, and has grown from its original six parks to 215 established parks, greenways and green spaces that span over 10,000 acres across Franklin County.

The Columbus Recreation and Parks Department offers a wide variety of classes, events, and programs to connect residents of all neighborhoods involved in the community. Locations such as the Cultural Arts Center offer art classes for painting, ceramics, and sculpting. Entire theatrical seasons are played out at various centers such as the Davis Youth Performing Arts Center. Central Ohio seniors can enjoy aerobics classes, along with senior golf, softball, and basketball leagues.

From April through December of this year, the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department will be celebrating its centennial anniversary with events every month. At the Jazz and Rib Fest in the Arena District, the Department commemorated its July 15th birthday with a "Best Ribs" contest and they have held their 100th hole celebration at Raymond Golf Course.

For 100 years, the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department has played a vital role in the growth of Columbus and Ohio's 15th Congressional District, as well as the enhancement of the quality of life of those who call central Ohio home. I am proud to recognize and honor the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department as they celebrate 100 years of history and achievement.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE  
ROGER WENDT FOR HIS WORK  
ON THE IOWA SAFE SCHOOLS  
ACT

**HON. LEONARD L. BOSWELL**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 29, 2010*

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend State Representative Roger Wendt, former Chair of the Iowa House Education Committee for his work protecting Iowa's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students from bullying and harassment in schools and communities. All students need a safe, supportive environment in which to learn, regardless of gender or sexual orientation. There is extensive evidence that LGBT students are disproportionately targets for harassment and discrimination in schools. The climate of fear experienced by LGBT students frequently results in increased absenteeism, decreased academic performance and increased risk of suicide and other high-risk behaviors.

On September 1, 2010, Iowa Safe Schools will recognize Alicia Claypool, State Representative Roger Wendt, and State Senator Mike Connolly for all their work protecting Iowa's LGBT students and all other students from bullying and harassment. This date will mark the 3rd year anniversary of the Iowa Safe Schools Law going into effect. This legislation protects Iowa's 500,000 students from bullying and harassment in our schools on the basis of 17 categories which include sexual orientation and gender identity.

Representative Wendt led the fight in the Iowa House for this critical piece of legislation. His years-long efforts resulted in its bi-partisan passage in February 2007. Iowa educators, administrators, and other policy makers hold Representative Wendt in high esteem for his tireless commitment to improving the lives of Iowa youth. Parents, community leaders, and students have been well-served by this advocate for equality, and I am proud to honor him.

TRUTH IN FUR LABELING ACT OF  
2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 28, 2010*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 2480, the Truth in Fur Labeling Act, which improves the accuracy of labels on fur products sold in the United States. The bill would also require the Federal Trade Commission to review its Fur Products Name Guide, ensuring that document contains accurate and consistent species names. I support the Truth in Fur Labeling Act because American consumers deserve to know what, exactly, they are purchasing when they shop for fur garments, regardless of the price of those garments.

This legislation guarantees transparency so that shoppers can make informed decisions about the products they buy. This transparency is currently compromised by the "fur

loophole" in the Fur Products Labeling Act of 1951, which allows manufacturers of fur and faux-fur garments under \$150.00 to sell these products without a label or with a label that fails to list all of the types of fur included in the product. In the market today, exporters use this loophole to deceptively sell products made from cat and dog fur as though they were made from faux fur or the fur of other animals, although it is illegal to import, export, sell or advertise domestic dog or cat fur in the U.S.

China exports about half of all the imported fur garments sold on the U.S. market. In Chinese factories, many domestic dogs and cats are brutally killed and sometimes even skinned alive for their fur. A Humane Society investigation found in the 1990s that the death toll of domestic dogs and cats in China reached 2 million animals every year; the same investigation revealed that some of the resulting dog fur was being sold in the U.S. After this scandal broke, Congress passed the Dog and Cat Protection Act of 2000, which banned the trade in dog and cat fur. Unfortunately, the "fur loophole" has created a way for dishonest exporters to continue profiting from sales of dog and cat fur to American consumers. Manufacturers also use the loophole to market real fur as faux fur, tricking Americans with humane shopping policies into supporting an industry they oppose.

Part of my objection to the current, deficient, language of the Fur Products Labeling Act lies in the fact that its loophole only applies to products of "relatively small quantity or value." A garment of \$150, the upper limit of that category, can contain multiple animal pelts. Clearly, new legislation is necessary to allow customers to be confident in the type of fur they are buying, regardless of how much money they spend.

I urge my colleagues to also support this important resolution.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF GEORGE B. VASHON

**HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 29, 2010*

Mr. MAFFEI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize George B. Vashon, a distinguished 19th century figure in American history and the notable event that occurred recently to help remedy a past injustice. This gifted writer, orator, educator, abolitionist and lawyer, who was a leader in Syracuse's anti-slavery efforts for a period of time, was posthumously admitted to the Pennsylvania bar this spring after twice being denied because of his race. His life work helped improve the lives of countless African Americans, while his individual career achievements clearly proved the merits of his being granted this distinction 163 years later.

George B. Vashon was born and raised in Pennsylvania and moved to New York, where he resided in Syracuse for some years. In his early years, he was exposed to many leading figures in the abolitionist movement through his father John B. Vashon's role as a leader of Pittsburgh's black community. One of the Vashons' close associates was New York philanthropist Gerrit Smith, a financier and activist of the anti-slavery movement. For a short pe-

riod of time, he also represented central New York in the House of Representatives. William Lloyd Garrison and Frederick Douglass were also among the central figures in the abolitionist crusade who worked closely with John and George Vashon throughout their lives.

With George B. Vashon's gifted scholarly abilities—he was fluent in several languages as a teenager and went on to become the first African American to graduate from Oberlin College—he chose to study law and pursue a legal career after college. Under the tutelage of Judge Walter Forward, who would later become Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, Vashon sought to practice law in his home state of Pennsylvania and applied for admission in 1847. His application was denied because of his "negro descent." He was so distraught at this denial that he left Pennsylvania to live and teach in Haiti for a few years, but not before he applied for and passed the New York bar and became the first black lawyer in the state.

Upon his return to the U.S., George B. Vashon moved to New York, where he opened a legal practice at the corner of Water and Warren streets in downtown Syracuse. Because of its proximity to Ohio and Canada, Syracuse had become a growing hotbed of activity along the Underground Railroad and Vashon was a central player at this time. With passage of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, Vashon's legal services were needed to assist runaway slaves gain their freedom. With the support of his friend Gerrit Smith, Vashon later went on to become the first black man to run for Attorney General in New York on the Liberty Party ticket. He also contributed to Frederick Douglass' newspaper, *The North Star*, and became one of the first black college professors in this country when he served on the faculty of New York Central College in McGrawville, New York. Years later, George would help found Howard University, where he would be the university's first black professor. He was later admitted to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In an effort to remedy the discrimination he faced when he initially pursued a legal career in Pennsylvania, two of Vashon's descendants petitioned the Supreme Court of Western Pennsylvania. Nolan Atkinson, Vashon's great-grandson, and Paul Thornell, Vashon's great-great-grandson were successful. On May 4, 2010, the Court righted a wrong in the history books. In doing so, they issued the following order: "In acknowledgement of Mr. Vashon's credentials and achievements, this Court hereby admits George B. Vashon to the practice of law in the Courts of this Commonwealth posthumously."

I am pleased to commend this important acknowledgement of this notable figure in American history. Syracuse is privileged to claim George B. Vashon as a key figure in our city's proud history of antislavery activism.

SALUTING THE 2010 TECH TITANS FINALISTS

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 29, 2010*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the finalists for the 2010 Tech Titans Awards presented by

Metroplex Technology Business Council, the largest technology trade association in Texas. At the 10th annual Tech Titans gala this August, the 2010 winners will be announced in categories designed to showcase the most cutting-edge technologies and the brightest talent emerging from the North Texas region. The event will also reveal the rankings of the 2010 Titan Fast Tech, which lists the fastest-growing DFW technology companies based on percentage of revenue growth over the last year and the last 5 years.

Founded in 1994, the Metroplex Technology Business Council, MTBC, is a non-profit organization composed of approximately 300 members that include technology businesses and providers from across the DFW Metroplex. The MTBC produces numerous events, including the Management in High-Tech Luncheon Series, the Technical Luncheon Series, Tech Week in Austin and the Tech Titans and Fast Tech Awards.

The MTBC is a shining example of the face of the future for Texas. Make no mistake, the MTBC is making great things happen for the Lone Star State—and the world.

In addition to the MTBC, supporters of the Tech Titans Awards and Fast Tech event include PricewaterhouseCoopers, TechAmerica, Deloitte, Dallas Business Journal, BKD, LLP, Time Warner Cable Business Class, GSCS Inc., Farstar Inc., and AVMG.

Congratulations to all finalists. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to excellence. I salute you.

The 2010 Tech Titans Finalists' names and categories follow:

Corporate CEO Award: Valerie Freeman, BravoTECH, Dallas, TX; Suri Gurvenda, Optimal Solutions Integration, Inc., Irving, TX; Dale Sohn, Samsung Telecommunications America, Richardson, TX; Charlie Vogt, Genband, Plano, TX.

Emerging Company CEO Award: Andres Ruzo, Link America, Inc., Rowlett, TX; Devender Aerrabolu, American Unit, Frisco, TX; Bettina Bennett, WhichBox Media, LLC, Dallas, TX; Shama Kabani, The Marketing Zen Group, Carrollton, TX.

Corporate Horizon Award: D4D Technologies, Richardson, TX; Entrust, Dallas, TX; Fujitsu Network Communications, Inc., Richardson, TX; Genband, Plano, TX.

Emerging Company Horizon Award: GlobeRanger Corporation, Richardson, TX; HealthPoints, Inc., Dallas, TX; MicroTransponder, Inc., Dallas, TX; Revere Security, Dallas, TX.

Technology Innovator Award: Drs. Cadeddu, Scott, Fernandez, & Bergs, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Arlington, TX; Yves Chabal, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX; Will Rosellini, MicroTransponder, Inc., Dallas, TX; Steve Wallach, Convey Computer, Richardson, TX.

Technology Advocate Award: Matt Blanton, StarTech Early Ventures, Richardson, TX; Gabriella Draney, Tech Wildcatters, Dallas, TX; Robert Scott, Scott & Scott, Dallas, TX; North Texas RCIC, Dallas, TX.

Technology Adopter Award: City of Richardson Animal Shelter, Richardson, TX; Dallas Cowboys Football Club, Irving, TX; The Heart Hospital at Baylor Plano, Plano, TX; Top Golf, Dallas, TX.

Community Hero Award: Wanda Gass, Texas Instruments, Dallas, TX; Suri Gurvendra, Optimal Solutions Integration, Inc.,