

2nd Infantry Division for their service and recognize their achievements after returning home from a 12-month deployment in Afghanistan. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the men and women of this Stryker Brigade and thank them for their service.

After 2 years of training in preparation to deploy to Iraq, the 5th Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division received a change in orders and was directed to deploy as the first Stryker brigade in Afghanistan. The brigade began its operations in Kandahar Province, where they quickly encountered a determined enemy. Over the course of their year in Afghanistan, the brigade went on to lead the assault on Marjah, fight against the Taliban in Arghandab River Valley, help secure President Karzai in Daykundi, and secure highways and lines of communications, all while fighting enemy combatants. Under the leadership of Colonel Harry D. Tunnell, the soldiers performed their duty with honor and courage.

While the brigade performed admirably in challenging circumstances, the deployment did not come without sacrifice. Thirty-seven members of the brigade died in combat operations with another 239 wounded over the course of the deployment. Their sacrifice in defense of our nation, and in an effort to establish a more stable Afghanistan, should be acknowledged and their sacrifice will not be forgotten.

After 12 months in Afghanistan, the brigade began redeploying in June 2010 and held their homecoming ceremony on July 22, 2010 at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. During the ceremony, the brigade was also formally reflagged as the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. Though the brigade may have a new designation, the service and sacrifice during their deployment as the 5th Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division will not be forgotten.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the men and women of this brigade, who have displayed venerable service to their country.

COMMENDING THE MARCH OF  
DIMES MICHIGAN CHAPTER

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the March of Dimes Michigan Chapter for their dedicated and tireless service to families across our state. Since its founding in 1939 by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the March of Dimes has been devoted to improving the health and wellness of infants and children across the country.

Last year, in my home State of Michigan, the March of Dimes awarded over \$1.1 million to local researchers to support research to save babies; awarded more than \$255,000 in chapter community grants to local programs that support innovative ways to promote and protect maternal and child health; advocated for funding to maintain the Michigan Birth Defects Registry; worked to expand Michigan's newborn screening panel to include over 40 disorders; among many other achievements.

Volunteers like Michael and Suzy Fezzey, the recipients of this year's "John Dingell Hero for Babies Award," are the reason why the Michigan Chapter of March of Dimes is so successful.

Both Michael and Suzy have gone above and beyond to improve the health and well-being of all children. Together they have worked with Sweet Dreamzzz, to provide sleep education and bedtime needs for at-risk school children, as well as working with Yatooma's Foundation for the Kids to help children and families who have lost one or both of their parents.

Suzy also serves as a board member for The Arc of Oakland County, which works with children and adults with intellectual and development disabilities, while Mike has served as the Michigan State Chapter and Metro Detroit Board Chairs for March of Dimes.

Michael and Suzy serve as role models to those around them, giving of themselves to improve the lives of children and families in their community.

Together I have worked with the March of Dimes to pass the Affordable Care Act, to establish and expand the Children's Health Insurance Program, and to advocate furiously for increased funding for research at the National Institutes of Health that will prevent birth defects, prematurity and infant mortality.

These are just a few reasons why I am proud to be an active member of my local March of Dimes chapter in Michigan, and why I am proud to call them my friends. The staff and volunteers at the Michigan Chapter are loyal advocates to improving this world for the next generation, and for more than four decades, we have worked hand-in-hand to fight for America's children, to ensure that every baby born in this country has a fighting chance.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the March of Dimes Michigan Chapter for their support for lifesaving research and quality family support programs that help ensure Michigan's families can bring their children into this world healthy and happy. I look forward to working with them for many years to come.

RAY BELL

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor C. Ray Bell, a master builder who passed away on September 4, 2010. He was an outstanding member of the Nashville community, a lifelong activist, a leader in the construction industry, and my friend.

Mr. Bell was born in Scottsboro, AL and raised in Shelbyville, TN. He graduated from the University of the South in 1963 with an honors degree in English and throughout his life remained a very well-read man. He worked in construction in Shelbyville for 6 years before he came to Nashville and started Ray Bell Construction Company, Inc. in 1970. His company became the State's largest construction firm and led the most significant projects in Tennessee and the South for over 30 years. Mr. Bell was a self-made man who had the enthusiasm and drive to make his business a great success.

Ray Bell's company built everything: skyscrapers, interstate highways, bridges, prisons, stadiums, arenas and more. Many—including the Bicentennial Mall and Train Trestle, the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, the

Shelby Street Bridge Rehabilitation and renovations to the Nashville Court House and Criminal Justice Center, Neyland Stadium and Thompson Boling Arena—quickly became renowned landmarks in Nashville's cityscape and throughout Tennessee. Mr. Bell knew how to bid projects, pinch pennies, cut costs and complete the job ahead of schedule without sacrificing quality. He was a perfectionist for his clients, making men and construction materials come together, even salvaging the work of other firms.

Ray Bell was often called a Renaissance Man because of his love for the arts, history and music. Mr. Bell's other passions included his family, politics and charitable organizations. When it came to politics, Mr. Bell firmly believed in bipartisanship and working together to accomplish common goals. He gave generously to various charities and was active with the Tennessee State Museum Foundation, Easter Seals and the Arthritis Foundation.

And so, Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Ray Bell's life and accomplishments. We are grateful for his passion for construction and politics and the decades of service and contributions he provided to Nashville and the people of Tennessee.

RECOGNIZING MARC HERBST FOR  
HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO LONG ISLAND'S  
INFRASTRUCTURE

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 29, 2010*

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Marc Herbst, Executive Director of the Long Island Contractors' Association, who has been named the 2010 Construction Executive of the Year by the Long Island Chapter of the Construction Financial Management Association. No one deserves this recognition more than Marc.

Mr. Herbst is active in Long Island's business and labor organizations. He serves as Vice President of the New York Roadway Improvement Coalition and is a member of the Council of State Executives for the American Road and Transportation Builders Association. The Suffolk County Executive appointed him as vice-chair of the Suffolk County Wastewater Treatment Task Force, and he is an employer trustee for labor benefit funds. Previously, Mr. Herbst was a five-term member of the New York State Assembly, where he was ranking member of the Transportation Committee.

As you can tell, Marc has dedicated his life's work to making Long Island a better place for generations to come. We all know that infrastructure is essential for our safety and economic livelihood. Even throughout the economic downturn, Marc continued this fight and I am proud to have worked with him to move important infrastructure projects forward on Long Island.

Long Island is a better place because of people like Marc Herbst and for that I am grateful.

I am proud to recognize Marc Herbst for this honor and for the work he has done to strengthen Long Island's infrastructure and economy.