

business or civic life and acted as role models for Indians and Indian-Americans in the United States. The Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas includes a thriving Indo-American community, which benefits from strong community leaders like Dr. Khator. Moreover, the entire Houston economy benefits from the remarkable contributions of the UH educational community.

I applaud President Renu Khator on her remarkable progress in strengthening University of Houston's educational system. On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Dr. Khator for receiving the "Pride of India Award."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, when Roll Call Vote #516 was taken on November 12, 2014, I was unable to be in Washington, DC to place my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor.

HONORING SERGEANT MILTON MOORE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran and community servant, Sergeant Milton Moore. Sergeant Moore has shown what can be done through hard work, setting goals, and aiming high.

Sergeant Moore attended the Southern Regional Public Safety Institute in Long Beach, MS where he graduated with honors in 2000. He has completed training in: Clandestine Lab Investigations, Interview and Interrogation, Psychological Response to Active Shooter, and numerous other training courses, including, FEMA Incident Command System ICS200, ICS300, ICS400, and ICS700.

Sergeant Milton Moore was hired with the City of Vicksburg in September 1999, as a firefighter. Deciding to follow the footsteps of his father, he became an employee of the Vicksburg Police Department in March 2000. Since that time, he has served as a Patrol Officer and Field Training Officer.

Sergeant Moore was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in February 2010, scoring the highest of all candidates. Sergeant Moore is presently serving as a shift commander, where he currently has 9 officers under his command.

Sergeant Moore was only 6 years old when his father joined the Vicksburg Police Department in 1975. Being around law enforcement all of his life, Sergeant Moore gained interest and respect for the duties of law enforcement. He knew that one day he would be able to wear the uniform and follow his father's footsteps and become an officer at the Vicksburg Police Department. Most of the traits and values that Sergeant Moore's father instilled in

him he still practices daily. These attributes have helped Sergeant Moore become a model officer.

February 19, 2014, Sergeant Milton Moore was honored as Officer of the Year by the Vicksburg Homecoming Benevolence Club. Being a recipient of this award, was a very humbling experience for Sergeant Moore. The award is named the "Artel Moore Award" after Sergeant Moore's deceased father.

Sergeant Moore is a member of the Mississippi Homeland Security Task Force. Sergeant Moore is a veteran of the United States Armed Forces, serving in the U.S. Navy during the first Iraq war, Desert Storm, in 1991.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sergeant Milton Moore for his dedication to serving our great Country and his community.

TRIBUTE TO VETERANS DAY
ESSAY CONTEST WINNER

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the winner of the 2014 Veterans Day essay contest for New York's 14th Congressional District. Kezia Dickson, a student from I.S. 61 in Corona, Queens submitted the winning essay on the topic, "What Veterans Day Means To Me." Kezia's essay reads as follows:

Each day, millions of people in the Armed Forces risk their lives in order to protect us. They put losing their family, friends and life behind just so that they can protect us. These people show unexplainable bravery and courage. I can't even imagine putting my life on the line to fight in a war where I may possibly die. When I sit down and think about what these people are doing it blows my mind. I find it so honorable and breathtaking that someone would put themselves in such danger for strangers.

That is why when Veterans Day comes along I make sure to do something for those members of the Armed Forces. This holiday is just a chance for me to say thank you and God bless you for your unimaginable courage and kindness. I can't even go on to think about the struggle and pain some of these family members may feel each day as they don't know if their husband, wife, son or daughter, mother or father is still alive. Just let alone going to sleep without having that type of awareness is hard. Sometimes we Americans take things for granted, especially other freedoms. Most people fail to understand that the freedom we have doesn't come for free. Sacrifices are made and people end up dying in the process.

For some, Veterans Day is a day where you don't have to go to work or school. For me it's a time of reflection and renewal. That is why Veterans Day is very important to me. To know that somebody's husband/wife, son/daughter, father/mother is dying just so that I can have my freedom makes me take a step back. It makes me think twice about the actions I'm taking and the things I'm doing right now. I just begin to say to myself: "Are the things I'm doing now worth someone's life being lost?"

I appreciate these members of the Armed Forces with the deepest gratitude. They've helped save my life and protect other millions of Americans. In my family, I have uncles and cousins who have served and are serving now. I understand what they do is very hard and it takes mental, emotional, and physical strength to go through with it. They go through so many obstacles, but they seem to never give up. They make me proud to call myself an American. It is their bravery and audacity that keeps America living. What they do is just unbelievable. Basically, Veterans Day is my time to say, "Thank you for saving my life and thank you for your service."

STATEMENT CONCERNING
B.R.A.K.E.S. (BE RESPONSIBLE
AND KEEP EVERYONE SAFE)

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to highlight the good work of B.R.A.K.E.S. (Be Responsible and Keep Everyone Safe), a charitable organization that is taking meaningful steps to reduce the number of traffic-related injuries and deaths by training and educating teenage drivers and their parents about the importance of safe, responsible driving.

B.R.A.K.E.S. was born out of the personal tragedy of National Hot Rod Association drag racing star Doug Herbert. In January 2008, Herbert lost his two young sons, Jon and James, in a car accident. His loss led him to create a driving program that same year to help prevent other families from experiencing similar grief by teaching young drivers more conscientious and confident skills behind the wheel.

More than 5,000 American teenagers lose their lives in traffic accidents each year. B.R.A.K.E.S. is working to reduce this staggering number of deaths by providing free advanced driver's education in a program entitled the Teen Pro-Active Driving Course. This program goes beyond conventional driver's education to target specific driving situations responsible for many traffic accidents involving teens.

Based in North Carolina, B.R.A.K.E.S. is making an impact nationwide. More than 11,000 teenage drivers and their parents have attended the B.R.A.K.E.S. program in 10 states. Participants have traveled from 29 states and 2 countries to attend these training events. The group is constantly seeking additional locations so even more young American drivers and their families can experience the peace of mind that comes with this specialized training.

Last month, I visited a B.R.A.K.E.S. program with my teenage son Cameron and was truly impressed by what they do. I consider it a privilege to share what B.R.A.K.E.S. is accomplishing in the lives of thousands of teenage drivers, and I wish them continued success in their mission.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF JAZZ À LA MODE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the 30th anniversary of New England Public Radio's weeknight program, Jazz à la Mode.

Jazz à la Mode, with its host and producer Tom Reney, started broadcasting on August 6, 1984. This exemplary program provides its listeners with some of the greatest recorded jazz, stretching from the classics to music created by emerging artists. Jazz à la Mode gives a broad offering of styles and the evolution of jazz from Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington to Miles Davis and John Coltrane and beyond. Additionally, Tom Reney has had the opportunity to interview many famous musicians such as David Brubeck, James Moody, and Wynton Marsalis. The hallmark of Tom Reney's program is special yearlong series that he dedicates to individual artists that had a substantial impact on jazz as a genre. Jazz à la Mode has done centennials for Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, and Count Basie.

In addition, Reney makes a point to highlight the jazz concerts, performances, and festivals that take part around New England. His audience will always have the most up-to-date information to be able to see live performances. Reney also acts as host for many jazz festivals around New England including the Tanglewood Jazz Festival and the Springfield Jazz and Roots Festival in my district.

Mr. Speaker, Jazz à la Mode has been a part of the cultural identity of western Massachusetts and New England for the past 30 years. As they celebrate this important milestone, I wish Tom Reney and the staff of Jazz à la Mode further success and many more years of entertaining New England.

HONORING DAVID ABSHIRE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. David M. Abshire, who passed away on October 31st, 2014, in Alexandria, Virginia. I worked with David during my career in Congress and always held him in the highest regard.

David was an indispensable public servant. He began his career at West Point, from which he graduated and led a platoon in the Korean War, earning a Bronze Star for bravery. He went on to found the Center for Strategic and International Studies and lead the Center for the Study of the Presidency & Congress. David also served as assistant secretary of state for congressional relations and chairman of the Board for International Broadcasting under President Nixon and United States ambassador to NATO under President Reagan. He coordinated President Reagan's internal investigation of the Iran-Contra Affair as well.

David was a man of moral strength and character. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends and community. David is survived by his wife Carolyn, five children and 11 grandchildren.

I respectfully submit David's obituary from The New York Times and ask my colleagues to join me in honoring David's life and accomplishments.

[From The New York Times, Nov. 3, 2014]

DAVID M. ABSHIRE, WHO HELPED REAGAN THROUGH IRAN-CONTRA SCANDAL, DIES AT 88

(By Douglas Martin)

David M. Abshire, who led respected research groups and held high government posts but made his most visible mark by helping President Ronald Reagan navigate the political storms of the Iran-contra scandal, died on Friday in Alexandria, Va. He was 88.

His death was announced by the Center for the Study of the Presidency & Congress, a Washington group he helped lead.

Reagan sought out Mr. Abshire in December 1986. He called him in Brussels, where he was the United States ambassador to NATO, and asked him to accept a cabinet-level job as coordinator of the White House's response to multiple investigations of the administration's secret sales of arms to Iran, despite an embargo on such sales.

There were allegations that United States officials had hoped the arms sales would secure the release of several hostages being held in Lebanon by a group with ties to Iran, which would have been another violation of policy. Proceeds from the sales were to be used to finance the anti-Communist insurgents in Nicaragua known as contras—aid that Congress had expressly forbidden.

Reagan asked Mr. Abshire to handle all requests and obligations stemming from investigations in both the House and the Senate and from an independent commission headed by John Tower, a former senator from Texas.

"What we wanted was someone who would come and could immerse himself in all the details of this Iran controversy—the dates, when the arms went, who said what on which date," Patrick J. Buchanan, then the White House communications director, said in an interview with CNN in 1986. "It really is a detailed job, and the rest of the White House staff, which was not involved in the controversy, has to get on with the budget, has got to get on with the State of the Union. We simply don't have the expertise."

In a profile in 1987, The New York Times said the job could leave Mr. Abshire in a "potentially tricky position" and raised the possibility that he could turn up an incriminating "smoking gun."

Mr. Abshire accepted the post on the condition that the administration would be forthcoming. He told The Times that he regretted suppressing information about military incursions into Laos and Cambodia during the Nixon administration, when he was assistant secretary of state for congressional relations.

"That," he said, "was an example of how not to do it."

In his first meeting with Reagan, recounted in his 2005 book, "Saving the Reagan Presidency: Trust Is the Coin of the Realm," Mr. Abshire told the president that it was unwise to keep insisting that the United States did not trade arms for hostages. He pointed out that two-thirds of the public believed that the administration had made such a deal.

"Dave, I don't care if I'm the only person in America that does not believe it—I don't

believe it was arms for hostages," he quoted Reagan as saying.

But in a dozen meetings with the president and in others with the first lady, Nancy Reagan, Mr. Abshire pressed his case for admitting what seemed obvious to him and to many others. He also released thousands of unedited documents to investigators, handled press relations and signed off on the president's speeches about the subject.

On March 4, 1987, with evidence of the arms deal mounting, Reagan admitted in a speech to the nation that he had learned he was wrong. "What began as a strategic opening to Iran deteriorated, in its implementation, into trading arms for hostages," he said.

Mr. Abshire soon resigned, feeling he had finished the job 90 days after taking it. Reagan largely escaped personal blame and saw his approval rating rise from 46 percent to 64 percent in less than two years.

The Washington Post in 2006 called Mr. Abshire the "judicious convener and manager of the A-list powerful." In 1962, he joined with Adm. Arleigh Burke to start the Center for Strategic and International Studies, originally as an affiliate of Georgetown University. Distinguished foreign policy figures like Henry A. Kissinger, James R. Schlesinger, Zbigniew Brzezinski and Brent Scowcroft have been senior advisers and adjunct fellows there.

Mr. Kissinger, at a colloquium in Mr. Abshire's honor in 2006, said that Mr. Abshire had a knack for getting people to do what he wanted, "making you feel that he's doing you a tremendous favor for giving you that opportunity."

From 1999 to 2012, Mr. Abshire was president and chief executive of the Center for the Study of the Presidency & Congress. More recently he was vice chairman. He served on government task forces and policy study groups and wrote seven books. He headed Reagan's foreign affairs transition team after his election in 1980, and was often mentioned as a candidate for national security adviser in Republican administrations.

His job as assistant secretary of state under President Richard M. Nixon was to be a liaison to Congress. Nixon then appointed him chairman of the Board for International Broadcasting, overseeing Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty.

As NATO ambassador, Mr. Abshire helped parlay the deployment of American Pershing II missiles in Europe into a treaty limiting intermediate-range nuclear weapons there.

David Manker Abshire was born in Chattanooga, Tenn., on April 11, 1926. An imposing figure at 6-foot-4, he never lost his courtly Tennessee drawl.

He graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1951 and, as a platoon leader in the Korean War, was awarded a Bronze Star and other decorations for bravery. He earned a Ph.D. in history from Georgetown.

Mr. Abshire, who died in a nursing home in Alexandria, is survived by his wife of 56 years, the former Carolyn Sample; his son, Lupton; his daughters, Anna Bowman, Mary Lee Jensvold, Phyllis d'Hoop and Carolyn Hall; and 11 grandchildren.

Reagan was not the first president to ask for Mr. Abshire's help in dealing with a crisis. In his memoir, Mr. Abshire wrote that Nixon had asked him to join his staff to fight the threat of impeachment during the investigations of the cover-up of the Watergate break-in. He tactfully said no.

He recalled that when a relative expressed amazement that he had turned down a president, he replied: "I don't believe he's telling the truth."