

opportunity five decades ago, this organization has flourished into the multi-million dollar service agency that it is today.

KCEOC has inspired people across our region to put compassion for our neighbors into action. Through its programs and innovative responses to dire needs in our impoverished communities, more families today have access to child development programs, food resources, affordable housing, and assistance with financial needs than ever before. This agency has also been a critical partner for economic development, from recruiting jobs to providing the infrastructure for new businesses. The employees of KCEOC serve as great ambassadors for eastern Kentucky, proving that we have a strong, dedicated workforce and an intricate support community that believes in helping one another succeed.

Through the vision of leaders like Paul Dole, this agency has turned community losses into gains. One of the greatest examples of those efforts was the transformation of the old asbestos-plagued Corbin Hospital into clean, state-of-the-art housing for senior citizens.

Winston Churchill once said that a pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty. That's what KCEOC works to convey every single day by providing a hand-up, rather than a hand out. They provide hope in an otherwise dark hour for many families and I can't thank this agency enough for its efforts day-in and day-out, letting our neighbors know that someone cares.

KCEOC has forged important partnerships with local schools, employers and other community organizations to capitalize on the resources that are abundant in our communities. Together, we have made great strides in southeastern Kentucky, but we certainly wouldn't be where we are today without the foundation that KCEOC has carefully crafted for thousands of families in our region.

In celebration of this 50th anniversary, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the work of the KCEOC Community Action Partnership in southeastern Kentucky.

7TH ANNUAL LAKESHORE CLASSIC BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the Gary Chamber of Commerce as the organization celebrates the 7th annual Lakeshore Classic basketball tournament. In honor of this occasion, the Gary Chamber of Commerce hosted a celebratory event in Gary, Indiana, which included a corporate luncheon held at the Majestic Star Casino on Tuesday, November 25, and a basketball tournament at West Side High School on Friday and Saturday, November 28 and 29.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of sports and impressive team players. The theme for this year's Lakeshore Classic is the "Cavalcade of Champions," saluting all of the region's state basketball champions from 1940 to 2014. These exceptional players and coaches have made a mark in the region's notable sporting history and are to be highly

commended. Along with these outstanding basketball teams, the Gary Chamber chose a prominent featured speaker for their corporate luncheon, Mr. Ulysses "Junior" Bridgeman, a former National Basketball Association star and one of the most successful businessmen in the United States. Alongside his extraordinary success, Mr. Bridgeman has also proven to be a great model in transitioning from professional sports to the business industry.

I would like to take this time to honor the region's state basketball champions from 1940 to 2014. These teams have set the standard for sports excellence in our region while creating an inspiring example for the community of Northwest Indiana. The girls basketball teams include East Chicago Roosevelt (1977), East Chicago Roosevelt (1979), Crown Point High School (1984), Crown Point High School (1985), and Lake Central High School (1994). The boys basketball teams include Hammond Technical High School (1940), East Chicago Washington High School (1960), Michigan City Elston High School (1966), Gary Roosevelt High School (1968), East Chicago Roosevelt High School (1970), East Chicago Washington High School (1971), Gary Roosevelt High School (1991), Gary West Side High School (2002), East Chicago Central High School (2007), Thea Bowman Academy (2010), Wheeler High School (2010), and Thea Bowman Academy (2013).

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the Gary Chamber of Commerce, the organizers and sponsors of the 7th annual Lakeshore Classic, and the prestigious state champion teams that have been honored. Their noteworthy commitment, leadership, and contributions have inspired generations to come.

HONORING CHRISTOPHER CARSWELL

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor Christopher Carswell, an inspirational young man who has faced numerous medical struggles with grace and poise and has used his experiences as motivation to start his own non-profit organization, 1Boy4Change, when he was only 13 years old. Today, he is 16 and has a story that we all could learn a lesson from.

Throughout his decade and a half of life, Chris has suffered a tonsil adenoid surgery that resulted in the need for a feeding tube, multiple hand reconstructive surgeries, as well as a connective tissue disorder that put him in a wheelchair for a time. Then, he started having seizures that put him into respiratory/cardiac arrest as well as a stroke which robbed him of the right half of his field of vision. But through this long list of challenges, Chris has remained an upbeat person and has dedicated himself to the service of others.

In 2010, Chris was matched up with Bronx, a service dog who became his constant companion, ensuring he would never face what life threw at him alone. Shortly after that, he started 1Boy4Change, with the mission of raising awareness and providing support for individ-

uals and families with disabilities. In the early days of the organization, Chris helped match up 70 service dogs to veterans and children.

Since then, he has expanded his mission to support others who have also chosen to live a life of service: our soldiers and police officers. In that capacity, Chris has started programs meant to help out K9 units by providing them comprehensive first aid kits as well as car heat alarms that can save the lives of dogs that are left in patrol cars.

Chris is to undergo brain surgery in January, and his doctors are hopeful that the procedure will stop his seizures. I hope all of my colleagues in the House will join with me as we wish Chris a successful operation and a speedy recovery so he can come back and continue the good work he's doing.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF MARTIN LITTON

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the extraordinary life and work of Martin Litton, a legendary and passionate environmentalist and wilderness preservationist who died on November 30, 2014, at his home in Portola Valley, California. Mr. Litton was born in Los Angeles on February 13, 1917, and was 97 years of age when he died of age-related causes.

Martin Litton was introduced early to the joys of the wilderness. He attributed a 12-day trip on Mt. Whitney that he and a friend took as teens as the inspiration for his lifelong crusade to protect our environment. At age 18 he wrote a letter to the Los Angeles Times urging Californians to save Mono Lake. Martin Litton was best known for his fierce opposition to the destruction of the Colorado River by the construction of dams, often in association with the Sierra Club. He was one of the first several hundred people to float the river in 1955, and after fourteen years as the travel editor at *Sunset Magazine* he began running the river often, founding Grand Canyon Dories in 1970 and running commercial trips through the 1970s and 1980s, until he sold the business in 1988. He ran his last trip in 2004 at age 87, rowing his own wooden dory.

Martin Litton was an author, activist, pilot, and a catalyst for change. He was close to major figures in the environmental movement, such as David Brower, Edward Abbey and others. Martin Litton gave generously of his time and considerable talents to the conservation movement as a Director of the Sierra Club from 1964 to 1973, as a member of the Executive Committee of the American Land Conservancy, as an Advisor to the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and on the Honorary Board of Directors of the Glen Canyon Institute.

Martin Litton leaves his wife, Esther, his children John, Kathleen and Helen, as well as five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in extending our most sincere condolences to Martin Litton's family, and in honoring his extraordinarily productive life. Martin Litton was a soaring figure, larger