

League of Women Voters of Hillsborough County's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mrs. Davis was born on Christmas Day, 1926 in Brooklyn, New York. Originally a stage actress, Mrs. Davis moved to Tampa in 1948 with husband Gene Davis, where she was a high school drama teacher and regular fixture in the community theater.

Although Mrs. Davis passed away on May 18, 2015, her legacy will continue through her broad-based legislative accomplishments, the Women's Centre in the Hyde Park community of Tampa, and the women she championed both professionally and personally. Mrs. Davis is survived by her daughters Stephanie and Karen, her son Gordon, her sister Jeanne, and her two grandchildren. On behalf of the Tampa community, I am proud to recognize Helen Gordon Davis for her dedication to Hillsborough County, the State of Florida, and to women everywhere.

AMERICAN RESEARCH AND  
COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2015*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 880—another unpaid-for permanent extension of an expired tax provision offered by the Majority.

I am privileged to represent many of our country's leading research institutions and innovative researchers and entrepreneurs in New York's 12th District. Like many of my colleagues, I believe that a permanent R&D credit will support critical research and create high-skilled, high-paying jobs throughout the country. This bill makes important improvements to the credit, and I hope to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to provide incentives for businesses to invest in research and development.

However, I cannot support policies that extend certain tax provisions while other critical tax credits, like those for higher education and the Earned Income Tax Credit, face an uncertain future. All told, the Majority's slate of unpaid-for permanent tax extensions would increase the deficit by nearly \$600 billion, all while its budget proposes severe cuts to education, transportation, and critical safety net programs in the name of deficit reduction. Americans are not fooled by this double standard, and Congress should reject this disingenuous approach to tax policy.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED JIM BRUCE GRANT, JR.

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 21, 2015*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and dedicated service of Northwest Florida's beloved Jim Bruce Grant, Jr. Jim was a loving husband, father, grand-

father, patriot, and friend, and his loss will be mourned by all those who knew him.

A native of Gulf Breeze, Florida, Jim showed tremendous leadership and service qualities, earning Eagle Scout honors during high school, and he built on this success when he answered the call of duty, joining the Florida Army National Guard in 1982. Jim also continued his education, earning multiple college and post-graduate degrees including both a Bachelor's of Science and an LL.M degree from the University of Florida, as well as a JD from the University of Alabama.

After a civilian break in service, Jim rejoined the Alabama Army National Guard in 2004, serving as a Staff Judge Advocate with 62nd Troop Command, Montgomery, Alabama. During Jim's time in the Alabama Army National Guard, he served three tours of duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his first two tours, in 2006 and 2010, Jim was assigned as a Military Intelligence Advisor in Afghanistan, while his final tour was served supporting Special Forces in Iraq as part of 1st Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group, Huntsville, Alabama. In total, Jim served our Nation for more than 16 years with honor and distinction, earning numerous awards including: two Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, Army Combat Action Badge, Afghan Campaign Medal with the number 2, and the Iraq Campaign Medal.

In addition to his meritorious service as part of our Nation's Armed Forces, Jim also had a successful career as an attorney in the firm of Capell and Howard in Montgomery, Alabama, and he was a loving and devoted family man.

To some Jim Grant will be remembered as a patriot and veteran, to others as a first-class attorney committed to our constitutional justice system, to his family and friends he will be forever be remembered as a husband, father and grandfather.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the life of Jim Bruce Grant, Jr. My wife Vicki and I extend our heartfelt prayers and condolences to his wife, Jennifer; daughters, Amanda and Alicen; grandson, George; sisters, Janie and Diane; and the entire Grant family.

RECOGNIZING DELBERT STEVENS  
FOR HIS HEROIC ACTIONS IN  
DEFENSE OF HIS COUNTRY DURING  
WORLD WAR II

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 21, 2015*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Delbert Stevens, a native of Altoona, for his heroic efforts and selfless service to his country in World War II. Mr. Stevens, who grew up in Huntingdon County, will be deservedly honored at the upcoming Altoona Memorial Day Parade. He joined the Marines in 1943 when he was 23. He fought for our nation at Iwo Jima, where American forces undertook a historically difficult mission to advance our position in the war. Though nearly 7,000 Americans perished and 20,000 more were wounded in the siege, Mr. Stevens survived the long battle.

Among the soldiers called upon to secure the island, Mr. Stevens, serving as a corporal

in the 28th Marine Regiment, overcame some of the grisliest experiences of combat. In unwavering service to his country and fellow Marines, he contributed to a decisive victory that ultimately helped enable American victory in the Pacific in World War II.

It is my honor to recognize him, one of our nation's many heroes, for his courageous service to our country. I would also like to thank all the other men and women like him who unselfishly promote and defend the American cause so that the world may be a better place.

CONGRATULATING MACEDONIA  
MINISTRY BAPTIST CHURCH ON  
ITS 80TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 21, 2015*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church on the occasion of their 80th anniversary.

Macedonia Ministry Baptist Church has been described as being unique in the sense that many of the descendants of the founders and early leaders of the church are still active members today.

On May 9, 1935, a council of 16 men and women came together to organize a new Missionary Baptist church in the City of Flint. The first pastor was Rev. Joseph Mack. In the 1940's, Rev. Ira Watkins led the congregation into a building fund campaign for the building of a new church. In 1953, they moved from their original storefront dwelling to their new building at 1116 Hickory Street. Rev. Watkins passed away in October of 1960, after serving 20 years as pastor.

In December of 1960, the congregation elected Dr. J.C. Curry as its third pastor. Dr. J.C. Curry would become the church's longest serving pastor and was one of the original organizers of the Church-Security-in-Ministry initiative. After 41 years, Dr. Curry retired in 2001.

The fourth pastor was Rev. Alfred L. Harris who led the congregation from 2002 to 2011. In June 2012, Bishop Neal Roberson was named as the new pastor. Pastor Roberson was honored to accept the assignment, stating he was grateful for the opportunity.

For eight decades, the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church has worked tirelessly to help those in the community most in need. Residents of the area have come to rely on the Macedonia Ministry Baptist Church for such blessings as food baskets given to the impoverished during the holidays, ministerial services offered to inmates of the Genesee County Jail, and the annual Free Food Give-Away.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the tenacity of the Macedonia Ministry Baptist Church and thank them for the service they have provided to the City of Flint and surrounding communities.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF MR. FRED CURLS

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 21, 2015*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and to remember the late Mr. Fred Curls, a pioneer for civil and political rights and a resident of the Fifth District of Missouri, which I am honored to represent. On Friday, May 15, 2015, Mr. Curls passed away, after an incredible and inspiring ninety-six years of life.

The silhouette of Mr. Curls now joins the always growing shadow of little-celebrated Kansas Citizens whose work will make a difference for generations as yet unborn. Young African-American elected officials may not realize that the very office they hold—or aspire to hold—is, in no small part, related to the political pioneering of Mr. Curls.

Mr. Curls was one of the original founders of Freedom Incorporated, an African-American political organization which at one time could generate nearly 70,000 votes and remains influential to this day. The organization was at the forefront in serving as a catalyst for change in civil rights, public accommodations, and the election of candidates at all levels of government. Freedom Inc.'s office has been visited by City Councilpersons, Jackson County Executives, Mayors, Missouri State Senators and Representatives, Governors, Congresspersons, Senators, Presidents, and those who have Presidential aspirations.

For more than fifty years, Mr. Curls dedicated his life to the Greater Kansas City community, promoting and improving political empowerment and the civil rights of people of color. The ripples of his efforts are felt in our community and around the country. His children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren have followed in his footsteps in acknowledging their responsibility of giving back to the community. His son, State Senator Phil B. Curls, Sr. was the President of Freedom Inc. during a period when it was recognized as one of the most potent political organizations in the United States and brought about the election of the first African-American Congressman from the Fifth District of Missouri, U.S. Representative Alan Wheat.

Since the mid-1950s, Fred Curls was involved in real estate sales and appraisals, most notably in the African-American community of Kansas City. He fought against "restrictive covenants" whereby residential homes could not be sold in certain areas to minorities. He was part of a class action lawsuit which resulted in the United States Supreme Court outlawing such covenants.

In all of his activities, Mr. Curls demonstrated his dedication and commitment to the greater good of others. He was actively involved with his high school graduating class, the Class of 1937, which remained close even in recent years. He was honored by Jackson County, Missouri, as one of its "Legacy Awardees" for its 175th anniversary as a political subdivision. He was also honored by fellow Missourian, U.S. Representative WILLIAM LACY CLAY of St. Louis and myself as an awardee of the "Missouri Walk of Fame" des-

ignation, as one of the pioneers of Kansas City's African-American political struggle.

Throughout his life, he believed in the saying "make it happen." He put his principles into practice, and the results of his efforts "made it happen" throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area.

For those reasons and more, it is indeed an honor and a privilege to honor and remember the life of Mr. Fred Curls. Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our sympathies to the family of Mr. Fred Curls, and our gratitude for his endless commitment to serving the residents of Kansas City and the State of Missouri. Whatever we, as African-Americans, may attain in the political arena, Fred Curls and those who labored to act on our behalf as political pioneers have helped to change the course of history. He was a true role model not just to the African-American community in Missouri, but to the entire community at large.

CONGRATULATING JEFF  
HERMANSEN FOR HIS BRAVE  
ACT OF HEROISM ON THE JOB

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 21, 2015*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeff Hermansen for his heroic actions on May 5, 2015. Mr. Hermansen selflessly put himself in harm's way in order to save the life of another.

Jeff Hermansen, a UPS delivery driver, was following his usual route across the East State Street Bridge in Rockford, Illinois on Tuesday, May 5th when he noticed a man struggling in the Rock River. Without hesitating, Hermansen removed his shoes, swam into the unpredictable Rock River, and brought the stranger to safety.

Mr. Hermansen's selfless heroics are made even more impressive by his excellent character. Following the incident, he declined any special treatment and went about his delivery route.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Hermansen's harrowing actions and admirable display of character are the true embodiment of a hero.

PATRICK MADDEN

**HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 21, 2015*

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Patrick Madden as a member of the United States Air Force Academy Class of 2015.

Patrick will graduate from the U.S. Air Force Academy as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force on May 28, 2015.

His career in the service has just begun, but it is a testament to Patrick's unselfish devotion to the people of this great nation. The challenges will be many and the time, although it may seem like an eternity, will fly by almost unnoticed.

The challenge for this young man will be to retain as much as possible, pass on what he learns to others, and live life for every moment.

South Mississippi is proud of Patrick and his accomplishments, and we look forward to him continuing to represent not only Mississippi, but the entire nation, as a United States Air Force officer.

As Patrick embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he may always recall with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment graduating from a program as prestigious as the Air Force Academy.

I would like to send Patrick my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors, thank him for his service, and congratulate him on this momentous occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF GREG COLLINS,  
RECIPIENT OF THE GREAT-  
ER WILKES-BARRE SALVATION  
ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE  
AWARD

**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 21, 2015*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Greg Collins, who is receiving the Community Service Award from the Greater Wilkes-Barre Salvation Army.

Mr. Collins is the Area President for Wells Fargo's Northeast Pennsylvania market, which serves nine counties in northeast Pennsylvania. Prior to joining Wells Fargo in 1992, Mr. Collins was marketing manager for Bridon American Corporation.

A native of northeastern Pennsylvania, Mr. Collins' leadership and influence extends far beyond the workplace. He serves as a board member for several area organizations, including Misericordia University, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Collins is a Scranton Plan committee member as well as Chairman of the 2015 American Heart Association Gala for Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Collins is a 2010 graduate of Leadership Wilkes-Barre's Executive Leadership Program, as well as a 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus. Earlier this year, he received the 2015 North Star Award from the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council of the Boy Scouts of America. This community service award recognizes individuals for their contributions and dedication on behalf of humanity and the promotion of health and wellness for all.

It is a distinct honor to honor Greg Collins on receiving the Greater Wilkes-Barre Salvation Army Community Service Award, and I commend him for the many years of dedicated service he provided to our local community. His work on behalf of others serves as an inspiration for all of us.