

The Giants played in the spotlight of the IHSAA throughout this impressive season. Under the leadership of Head Coach James Blackmon, the team finished the season with a remarkable record of 23–7. Coach Blackmon, who is a Marion High School graduate and had an impressive basketball career himself, returned to Marion to coach the team in 2013. Coach Blackmon leads by example and inspires his players with his coaching and character. He works tirelessly to motivate, train, and push his team to dream big and reach their goals. As the daughter of a high school football coach, I understand the tireless dedication, time commitment, and personal sacrifices required to lead young athletes to victory, and I applaud Coach Blackmon’s dedication to excellence.

While their 8th consecutive state title is momentous on its own, what the Giants basketball team accomplished during the state championship was even more extraordinary than that. The Giants broke records for highest combined 3-point field goal percentage, most points scored in a quarter, scoring 31 points in the 3rd quarter alone, and most points in a half, scoring 48 points total in the second half. In addition to the Giants’ significant team accomplishments, individuals from the team were acknowledged for their outstanding contributions and accomplishments. Senior Reggie Jones tied the record for highest individual free-throw percentage, making 100 percent of his free throws during the state championship game. Reggie was also named the Chronicle-Tribune’s Boys Basketball Player of the Year, selected to be one of Hoosier Basketball Magazine’s Top 60 Senior Boys’ Basketball Players, and was chosen for the IBCA/Subway Senior All-State Team. Additionally, Reggie, along with senior teammate Vijay Blackmon and junior Tim Leavell were selected to play on the All-NCC 1st team.

Throughout the years, the Giants have demonstrated incredible dedication to their sport—putting in countless hours on the court and the weight room. They have been supported by their committed parents, coaches, and trainers. High school sports are a special experience. They teach discipline, build character, and allow young men and women to have an experience they will remember for a lifetime. This team exemplifies the wonderful attributes that high school sports teach, and I am proud to represent such a hardworking and highly regarded group of young men and coaches.

On behalf of Indiana’s 5th Congressional District, I’d like to extend huge congratulations to the Marion High School Boys’ Basketball Team. I look forward to cheering the team on through another great season next year and send my best wishes as the Giants work toward breaking the record for most consecutive wins. Go Giants.

HONORING THE PERMIAN BASIN
HONOR FLIGHT

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY
OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 90 Veterans from West Texas who will be visiting our Washington D.C. this week, sponsored by the Permian Basin Honor Flight.

On behalf of a grateful state and nation, we welcome these heroes to the nation’s capital.

The Veterans on this Honor Flight are: Richard Galloway, Darrell Sanders, Clinton Adams, Mike Barber, Jerry Pinkston, SFC Aaron Hernandez, Dennis Sever, Jimmy L. Fine, Benny B. Fine, Alejos Rios Lara, Ira E. Wilson, Larry J. Monroe, Helen A. Bird, Jackie Lee Voss, Gary Clayton Collinsworth, Charles R. Sessions, Jimmy G. George, James R. Priest, Lowell D. Wade Jr., Horace L. Bowden, Margaret Voisel Forster, Larry K. Bagley, Donald E. Gorden Jr., Domingo Carrizales, James Miller, Paul W. Janssen, David P. Brockman, Robert L. Neff, James H. Silvers, Robert S. Thames, Bobbie R. Kerrigan, Rolland L. Rose, Gary W. Ward, Roscoe C. Haynes, Leonard C. Martinez, Donald R. Price, Luis R. Lopez, Gene A. Roberts, Melvin M. Longwell Jr., James H. Shaw, Ricky A. Warnick, Curtis D. McClain, Billie G. Mathis, James F. Kemper, Billie Ray Norman, Willard C. Walker, Jerome J. Engler, Stephen L. McConnell, Dock R. Clark, David H. Box, John W. Calhoun, Garland D. Pearce, Charles R. McMillian, Thomas E. Minding, John Gutierrez Alderete, David A. Dixon, Robert L. Kasper, Warren J. Lange, James V. Yakshaw, Tom D. Dodd, William E. Halfmann, Donald E. McClure, Johnny A. Wright, Robert C. Schlagal, Steven D. Rea, Juan Tarin, David Madrid, John M. Williams, Ronnie M. Nunley, Richard Cotte, Mark D. Kator, Jimmie K. Matthews, Milton R. Williamson, James L. White, Robert L. Teters, Steven W. Wagner, Roberto Martinez, Michael G. Roquemore, Mark E. Webb, Harry A. Spannaus, James W. Huston, Michael D. Jackson, Kenneth D. Carte, Michael W. Griffis, John R. Hayes, Edward Comacho, and Duane Janssen.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to have the opportunity to meet these brave men and women who exemplify the best of our country. Their sacrifice and commitment to the duty to our nation can never be fully repaid, and I hope that when they visit our nation’s monuments in Washington D.C., the gratitude and respect we have for them will truly be reflected.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking these veterans and their families for their exemplary dedication and service to this great nation. I would also like to extend a special thank you to the local communities, all of the volunteers, and Mr. John West and Ms. Teresa Galloway for their extensive work in organizing this Honor Flight. This trip would not have been possible without all the financial and emotional support of the people who have put in so much hard work and personal time to make sure this trip could be possible.

HONORING COLONEL DOUGLAS J.
SCHWARTZ

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Hoosier and a highly decorated American Airman.

Colonel Douglas J. Schwartz of the United States Air Force, retired on May 14, 2016 from his post as Commander of the 434th Air Refueling Wing based at Grissom Air Reserve Base in Miami County, Indiana. The 434th Air

Refueling Wing is the largest KC–135R Stratotanker unit in the Air Force Reserve Command.

Colonel Schwartz received his commission through Officer Training School in 1981 as a graduate from Purdue University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in management. He began pilot training at Williams Air Force Base in Arizona, and was assigned to the 325th Bomb Squadron at Fairchild Air Force Base in Washington state. He transferred to the Air Force Reserve in 1992, where he flew KC–135R Stratotankers with the 72nd Air Refueling Squadron at Grissom Air Reserve Base. Prior to taking command at Grissom, Colonel Schwartz served as commander of the 927th Air Refueling Wing based at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida.

Colonel Schwartz has numerous command and leadership assignments at the squadron, wing and numbered air force level including assistant chief pilot, chief of standardization and evaluation, operations officer, flight commander, detachment commander, group commander, vice commander, director of staff and wing commander. He is a command pilot with more than 4,200 flying hours and has deployed in support of Operations Joint Endeavor, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, amongst others.

I sincerely thank Colonel Schwartz for his amazing leadership at Grissom over the last two years and wish him many clear skies ahead.

TRIBUTE TO ELAINE AND VIRGIL
HILDEBRAND

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Elaine and Virgil Hildebrand of Hancock, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on March 23, 2016. Virgil and Elaine reside on their farm in Hancock.

Virgil and Elaine’s lifelong commitment to each other and their children, Bill, Janice, Joyce, and the late JoAnn truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 70th anniversary, I know it is filled with happy memories and continued hope for their future years together.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 70th year together and I wish them many more years of happiness. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

DR. JOHN THUSS

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. John Thuss of Caldwell County, North Carolina. On behalf of the people of Western North Carolina, I would like to thank Dr. Thuss for his dedication to the residents of

Caldwell County and congratulate him on his retirement after so many years of service.

Over his 16 years of service as a Caldwell County Commissioner, Dr. Thuss presided over several critical projects vital to the economic, educational, and conservation interests of the people of Caldwell County. He was instrumental in the designation and preservation of Wilson Creek as a Wild and Scenic River and has demonstrated his commitment to expanding educational opportunities through his work establishing the Caldwell Early College High School and Caldwell Career Center Middle College. Dr. Thuss' concern for public education is further evidenced by his support for West Caldwell High School athletics and Communities in Schools, the nation's largest and most effective dropout prevention program. During his time on the Board of Directors of the Caldwell County Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Thuss has been a vocal supporter of local businesses and economic development throughout Caldwell County. He is a former member of the North Carolina Board of Health and a former member of the Human Resource Committee of the National Association of County Officials. After a year of service as an at-large member of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC), Dr. Thuss was honored as the NCACC's Outstanding Commissioner of the Year.

Dr. John Thuss is a model public servant whose work for his community has earned him respect and gratitude across Western North Carolina. I am proud to honor Dr. John Thuss for his long service to Caldwell County and sincerely express the gratitude and best wishes of the people of North Carolina as he enters retirement.

HONORING CANTEEN BREWHOUSE

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Canteen Brewhouse on their achievement during the 2016 World Beer Cup awards.

The Brewers Association hosts the World Beer Cup every two years, a competition which features over 200 judges for over 90 categories of beer. Large and small breweries throughout the globe enter this prestigious event.

I am honored to know that Albuquerque, New Mexico's very own Canteen Brewhouse received the Silver in the Bohemian-Style Pilsner category, for their High Plains Pils, out of a total of 65 entries from around the world.

Canteen Brewhouse was founded in Albuquerque in 1994 as the Il Vincino Brewing Company. Over the past 20 years their beers have become staples in our state and have gone on to win over 140 local, national, and international awards. In 2014, Il Vincino Brewing Company updated its name to Canteen Brewhouse.

As a small locally owned manufacturing and service business Canteen Brewhouse represents the prosperity of a burgeoning local craft beer industry in New Mexico. Canteen Brewhouse is a testament to the contributions small businesses make to our country and

communities and the idea that with hard work and dedication nothing is unattainable.

To this day lawyers, government officials, business leaders, political icons, artists and students continue to enjoy exquisite beers in Canteen Brewhouse's friendly atmosphere. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize Canteen Brewhouse for their accomplishments in the 2016 World Beer Cup competition and commitment to our community at large. I am proud to know that we have a great business located in the First Congressional District of New Mexico.

HONORING NORMA HARRIS ON BEING ACCEPTED BY THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FUTURE PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL SCIENTISTS AS A DELEGATE TO THE CONGRESS OF FUTURE MEDICAL LEADERS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Neosho High School student Norma Harris on her being accepted as a delegate to the Congress of Future Medical Leaders by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is an honors-only program that is designed to motivate and direct the top students in the United States. Specifically, it's designed for students aspiring to become physicians or medical researchers, and provides a path and mentorship for students to accomplish their goals.

To be considered for acceptance as a delegate, applicants are either recommended by a teacher or member of the Academy based on a proven track record of academic excellence. Delegates represent all 50 states plus Puerto Rico, and must have a minimum 3.5 GPA. Students like Harris who qualify for this incredibly selective honor exemplify top-tier diligence and academic talent.

Mr. Speaker, as a perennial Honor Roll student at her high school, Norma Harris has displayed elite academic qualifications, which will undoubtedly serve her future aspirations well. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her for this achievement. On behalf of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District, I wish Norma the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF LAVERNE JACKSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. LaVerne Guice Chatmon Jackson of Columbus, Georgia on her 97th birthday on May 17, 2016. Mrs. Jackson has been an outstanding member of the community through her work as a nurse for 37 years and her service to numerous civic and charitable organizations.

LaVerne Guice was born in Birmingham, Alabama on May 17, 1919. She came from a

large family of six children. Her father, Thomas Jefferson Guice, was a blacksmith for the Frisco railroad for many years and her mother, Minnie Waters Guice, was a teacher for over forty years.

In 1936, Mrs. Jackson graduated from Industrial High School (now A.H. Parker High School) in Birmingham, Alabama. She earned a degree from the Norwood School of Nursing, also located in Birmingham. Mrs. Jackson continued her education at the University of Chicago, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Miles College, and Tuskegee Institute (now University).

Mrs. Jackson's Christian faith has been important to her since a young age when she chose to become baptized at Sardis Baptist Church in Birmingham. When she married the late Warren Pete Chatmon, II, she became a member of Green Liberty Baptist Church, where she served on the Usher Board and in the Young Matrons, and sang in the choir.

Mrs. Jackson was able to touch many lives during her 37 years as a Public Health Nurse for the Jefferson County Department of Health in Birmingham. During those years, she worked in a variety of capacities, helping to heal people of all ages and from all walks of life. When she retired in 1984, she said, "One could not have had a more rewarding career; to have the responsibility of promoting health and wellbeing is in itself rewarding for it has not only affected the present population but it will have an impact on future generations as well. You can be assured that I will continue to work in our community promoting health and wellbeing, for the nurse in me will never retire."

In 1986, Mrs. Jackson, then a widow, decided to move to Columbus, Georgia to reunite with her childhood sweetheart, the late CW4 Lawton W. Jackson. Mrs. Jackson and her husband became active members of the First African Baptist Church in Columbus.

Mrs. Jackson quickly fell in love with her new city and volunteered much of her time to better the Columbus community. She served in the Metro Columbus Urban League, United Negro College Fund, American Heart Association, American Diabetes Association, March of Dimes, Lindsay Creek Association, Girl Scouts of America, Columbus Health Fair, and the Columbus Community Center. Mrs. Jackson also served the Fort Benning community as President, Vice President, and Chaplain of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Officer's Wives Club and the Chattahoochee Valley Chapter of the Retired Officers Association. Her giving spirit, concern for others, and contributions to the community led to Mrs. Jackson's induction into the Gracious Ladies of Georgia in 1995.

Mrs. Jackson is also a charter member of the Xi Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc. An active member for more than fifty years, Mrs. Jackson has served as president of both the Birmingham and Columbus chapters. On the national level, she served as the Dean of Pledges and South East Regional Director.

Mrs. Jackson has lived a selfless and generous life, serving as a nurse and volunteer. She has been blessed with two children, Gwendolyn Chatmon Corrin and Warren Pete Chatmon, III; ten grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and my wife, Vivian, in extending our best wishes to LaVerne G. Jackson on her 97th