

of Peace Corps volunteers for the past four decades. Since its inception on March 1, 1961 the Peace Corps has become a powerful symbol of America's commitment to encouraging progress and developing opportunity across the world.

Today marks the 40th anniversary of the Executive Order signed by president John F. Kennedy that established the Peace Corps. Over 162,000 Americans, including seven current members of Congress, have served as Peace Corps volunteers. They have made significant and lasting contributions in agriculture, health care, science, human rights, and the environment, serving in over 134 nations worldwide. At the same time, they have been enriched by their experience and strengthened the ties of friendship between the people of the United States and the citizens of other nations.

The Peace Corps also serves as a model for countless other programs and continues to foster a spirit of cooperation and volunteerism worldwide. Its volunteers come from all races and all walks of life and embody the core values that we as Americans treasure.

I served in the Peace Corps from 1965 to 1967 in El Salvador. Like many returning volunteers, I have carried the ideals of the Peace Corps and the concept of public service my entire life—into my own community and into my career in the United States Congress.

Mr. Speaker I ask that the Members of Congress honor the men and women of the Peace Corps on the occasion of its 40th anniversary and continue to promote the spirit of service and volunteerism that they embody.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 1, 2001

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, on February 28, 2001, I was unavoidably detained away from the House floor; as a result I missed two recorded votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted aye on rollcall #17, passage of H.R. 256, legislation that would extend Chapter 12 federal bankruptcy protection for farmers retroactive to July 1, 2000, and through June 1, 2001. I also would have voted aye on rollcall #18, a bill that would designate a U.S. courthouse in Allentown, Pennsylvania, as the "Edwin N. Cahn Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse."

TRIBUTE TO THE ALABAMA GRAND CHAPTER, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 1, 2001

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Alabama Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star on their One Hundredth Birthday. I congratulate them for one hundred extraordinary years of charity and human out-

reach. I also send my best wishes to the group for their birthday celebration to be held this Saturday, March 3, 2001 at the York Rite Temple in Birmingham.

Internationally, the Alabama Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star is the largest fraternal organization in the world that both men and women can belong. The Order was established in Alabama in 1901 in Montgomery. Thousands of members in the 200 chapters support countless numbers of charities and humanitarian projects such as cancer research and scholarships that enhance and enrich the lives of all of our citizens.

Each member has devoted themselves to their community, their state and their nation providing not only financial assistance but personal time when their community needs them.

This is a special day for the Chapter and for everyone who has benefited from their many, many programs. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives and the people of the 5th district of Alabama, I share my congratulations with the Alabama Grand Chapter for one hundred outstanding years of service and I wish them several hundred more.

HONORING THE 86TH BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE

**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 1, 2001

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I commend the men and women who serve in the United States Naval Reserve. On March 3, 2001, the Naval Reserve will celebrate its 86th Birthday. Today almost 90,000 Naval Reservists stand alongside their active duty colleagues in defense of our nation in the preservation of our freedoms both here and abroad.

The Naval Reserve is an essential asset in assisting the United States Navy meet the challenges of an unpredictable and dangerous world. As the last remaining superpower, the United States has been, and will be, called on to protect our interest throughout every region of the World. The Naval Reserve stands ready to meet that challenge.

This year, our country will mark the 60th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor and the entrance of the United States in World War II. In Hawaii, the USS *Arizona* and the USS *Missouri* serve as a symbol to both the beginning and the ending of one of America's finest hours. For these two ships serve as a vivid reminder of the sacrifices, including their very lives, that were given by active and duty reserve sailors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to recognize the contribution Naval Reservists make each and every day on behalf of this nation.

IN HONOR OF BROOKS COUNTY AND ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 1, 2001

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the 90th Anniversary of Brooks County, Texas. Brooks County was created in 1911 and will commemorate its 90th anniversary at a celebration on Saturday, March 3, 2001.

Led by County Judge Homer Mora and County Commissioners Gloria Garza, Ramon Navarro, Raul M. Ramirez, and Salvador Gonzalez, Brooks County is entering an era of new beginnings. The county is currently working on several projects to stimulate economic development, improve its infrastructure, and preserve its heritage and culture.

Compromising more than 900 square miles, Brooks County is between the Nueces and Rio Grande Rivers in South Texas. Brooks County is a ranching area famous for its cattle breeding and meat production, including gaming grounds for deer, turkey, javelina, and a variety of birds. The area is also known for its agricultural industry, including products such as cotton, peanuts, vegetables, and melons. Brooks County's most valuable resource is its 9,000 residents, whose active participation in their community is evident through their commitment to historic preservation and volunteer spirit.

Some of the points of interest in historic Brooks County include the Heritage Museum of Falfurrias, a shrine to Don Pedrito Jaramillo, and the first highway in Texas, a 20-mile section completed in 1920.

BILL TO DESIGNATE FEDERAL BUILDING IN MEDINA, OHIO AS THE DONALD J. PEASE FEDERAL BUILDING

**HON. SHERROD BROWN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 1, 2001

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Don Pease began his long and distinguished congressional career in 1976, a time when Gerald Ford was President of the United States and Ohio's 13th District was characterized by growing industrialization and rural communities. Upon his retirement in 1992, Don Pease could look back and see a fundamentally changed landscape he helped shape on both a local and national level.

A native of Oberlin, Ohio, Pease is a graduate of Ohio University and served on the Oberlin City Council, in the Ohio House and Senate, and as editor of the Oberlin News-Tribune. In 1976, he won election to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Pease spearheaded the fight for human rights protections with his standing on the International Relations Committee. Five years later, he secured a seat on the House Ways and Means Committee and further dedicated himself to tax policy.

Don's numerous legislative victories were marked by an ability to reach consensus. His