

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

efforts to work with both sides of the aisle include service on the conference committee for the hotly debated tax reform bill of 1986, and mediation between congressional leaders and the Bush administration on tax policy and China's most-favored nation status.

Since leaving Congress, Pease has returned to Ohio. He has served on the Board of Amtrak, and currently serves as Visiting Distinguished Professor in Oberlin College's Department of Politics.

Don Pease was, and still is, committed to Ohio's working families. His efforts to improve education, expand access to health care, and support workers have made a difference in our lives. By renaming the Medina Federal Building at 143 West Liberty Street in Medina, Ohio, as the "Donald J. Pease Federal Building," this bill honors his hard work in the district he loves so much.

Don Pease was held in high regard as both an ethical and able legislator. He devoted 16 years of service to the 13th District, the state of Ohio, and the nation. I am pleased to join eleven bipartisan colleagues in Ohio in recognizing his dedication to improving people's lives. Thank you.

A TRIBUTE TO RETIRING COL.  
TONY J. BUCKLES

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2001*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to recognize the outstanding service to our Nation by Colonel Tony J. Buckles, who will be retiring from the Army on April 1, 2001 after a distinguished career that has spanned over 30 years of dedicated service. Tony Buckles distinguished himself as a leader who epitomized the modern American professional soldier.

Tony Buckles' illustrious career as an Armor Officer embodied all of the Army's values of Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage.

Colonel Buckles demonstrated his outstanding tactical and operational expertise in numerous command and staff positions overseas and in the continental United States. Continually serving in positions of ever-increasing responsibility, the highlights of his career include serving as an Armor Company Commander three times and the youngest Armor Battalion Commander in the Army. Tony served as the Chief of Plans and Operations at the Combat Maneuver Training Center in Hohenfels, Germany at the peak of the Cold War. He was responsible for the development and evaluation of warfighting skills for all armor and mechanized forces in the European Theater.

Tony's talent for solving complex management problems complemented his proven operational skill. During Operation DESERT STORM, Colonel Buckles spearheaded the \$2.6 billion dollar total package fielding of the Light Armored Vehicle to the Saudi Arabian National Guard. His subsequent assignment was Chief, Combat Arms Division, US Total Army Personnel Command, where he was re-

sponsible for the career management of 28,000 combat arms officers from accession through retirement. He also served as the Garrison Commander of the Army's largest installation at Fort Hood, Texas. This facility covered an area of 340 square miles and supported all aspects of life and training for 195,000 soldiers and families.

As evidence of the quality of Colonel Buckles' leadership, management, and interpersonal skills, he was specially selected to serve as the Chief of the Army's Congressional Liaison Office in the United States House of Representatives. He was responsible for maintaining liaison with 435 Members of Congress, their personal staffs, and twenty permanent or select legislative committees. During that period, Tony personally escorted more than 200 Members of Congress on fact-finding missions to over 75 foreign countries. His dedication, candor and professionalism while serving in that capacity earned him the reputation as the best source on Capitol Hill to resolve issues pertaining to the Army.

Accordingly, I invite my colleagues to join in offering our heartfelt congratulations to Colonel Tony J. Buckles on a career of selfless service marked by his resolute dedication and unwavering integrity. He represents the very best that our great Nation has to offer. We wish Tony and his wife, Nancy, continued success and happiness in all of their future endeavors.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2001

**HON. MIKE McINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2001*

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, each year during the month of February, we as a nation come together to honor the history of African Americans. We do so by celebrating this nation's greatest legacy: the legacy of liberation.

Dr. Martin Luther King, one of this nation's greatest liberators, once said, "Let's make America what it ought to be . . . Let's make America a better nation." Dr. King fought tirelessly to fulfill the legacy of liberation and make America a better nation—a nation of liberty and justice for all. Dr. King knew, as Frederick Douglass once said, "Liberty given is never so precious as liberty sought for and fought for." Thanks to the efforts of freedom fighters such as Dr. King and Frederick Douglass, we have come a long way toward fulfilling the legacy of liberation. However, we still have a long way to go before all citizens—no matter their skin color—will be able to share in this legacy and truly know what it is to be free.

Today, I want to share with you the three ingredients necessary to fulfill the legacy of liberation: listening, learning, and leading. We must listen to the voices of the past who fought for freedom for all African Americans. We must learn from the accomplishments and achievements of African Americans who helped build this nation. And we must lead the way to liberty by following in the footsteps of our greatest African-American leaders.

First, we must begin by listening to the voices of liberty. We must listen to these pio-

neers of freedom and equality who had the vision to see through the injustice of slavery and recognize the value of respect of all individuals no matter what the color of their skin. If we listen closely, we will hear the voices of those who articulated the hope and promise of our nation. These are the voices of those who spoke up, stood up, and fought for the true significance of "one Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." And whose voices do we hear? We hear the voices of Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Abraham Lincoln, Carter Woodson, Rosa Parks, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Their voices are the voices of liberation. And while many have listened, some have not heard their message. But we cannot give up—we must keep listening until each and every voice of liberty is heard!

In addition to listening to the voices of liberty, we must also learn from their legacy. This legacy of liberation includes the great contributions that African Americans have made to society. These are achievements that build upon the foundation of liberty and strengthen our nation's freedom. John F. Kennedy, one of this nation's greatest Presidents, once said, "In a time of turbulence and change, it is more true than ever that knowledge is power." The turbulence of the Civil War and the Civil Rights Movement brought about some of the greatest changes that we have ever seen in the history of this nation. We, as a nation, were forced to address and acknowledge our total history. In doing so, we finally began to recognize the accomplishments of all our citizens. This knowledge of our past has served to strengthen the legacy of liberation and bring hope to the future.

Indeed there is so much we can learn from our African-American brothers and sisters if we will only take the time to do so. The list of accomplishments is long and distinguished. I would like to share just a few with you today. For example, a black slave by the name of Onesius experimented with smallpox vaccines in the 1720s. Elijah McCoy's perfection of the locomotive engine led people to say they wanted his product, not some cheap imitation. They wanted the real McCoy! George Washington Carver, an agricultural revolutionary, concentrated his research on industrial uses of cotton, peanuts, pecans, and sweet potatoes. Dr. Charles Dew is responsible for engineering blood transfusions. Langston Hughes, who was known as the "Poet Laureate of Black America," helped bring vision and scope to African-American literature through his poetry. Duke Ellington brought jazz to the forefront of the global music scene. It is without a doubt that America would not be the same without the contributions of these pioneers. They helped to make America what it is today and further the legacy of liberation. If Dr. King were here today, he would be pleased with the progress that has been made in recognizing African Americans for their contributions to society. But he would also tell us to roll up our sleeves because the cause is not yet finished. Much remains to be done! Much remains to be learned!

We must not only listen and learn from liberty's legacy, but we must also lead the way toward greater freedom for all. We can do so by following in the footsteps of some of this