

shepherding it to its present form was not always easy, though. Over the years, Mary dealt with major budget shortfalls, the lack of a permanent building, and numerous other potential roadblocks that would have caused other people to give up.

Fortunately, Mary persisted, and succeeded. Past MOMs secretary Lenella Maxwell says of her, "She is just a very giving and loving person. She has a heart for children. She loves God very much, and her family is important to her. She has a very contagious smile. It's just like magic watching when she works with children. She can bring out the best in them. She has a heart of gold, and she wants to just help people."

Mary recently told the Muncie Start Press, "I'm not happy not working with kids. My reward is just hearing young people or children come back and tell me stories that I've made a difference in their lives. The goal is still the same, help improve the lives of people, and I think education is one of the ways that we can help do that."

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mary Dollison for her tireless service to the Muncie community. She truly makes the community, and the world, a better place.

IN RECOGNITION OF RAYMORE-PECULIAR HIGH SCHOOL, CLASS 5 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 25, 2005*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise in recognition of Missouri's Class 5 Football Champions, the Raymore-Peculiar High School football team, and their coach, Tom Kruse. Last November Raymore-Peculiar defeated McCluer North High School football team in the championship game by a score of 37 to 18. The victory was especially satisfying as it was Raymore-Peculiar's first State football championship.

The championship team was coached by Tom Kruse, an alumnus of Raymore-Peculiar. While a student at Raymore-Peculiar, he was a member of the football team. Coach Kruse returned to his alma mater and for the past five years has elevated his team to championship caliber. This year's football season established Raymore-Peculiar as a powerhouse in the Class 5 division and they proudly represent their city, State, and the Fifth District of Missouri as champions by receiving national recognition. Recorded for all time is the perfect season with a record of 13-0 for Raymore-Peculiar.

As the legendary Dallas Cowboys coach Tom Landry said, "Setting a goal is not the main thing. It is deciding how you will go about achieving it and staying with that plan." Congratulations to Raymore-Peculiar High School football team. You had a goal and a plan.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in warm congratulations to Missouri's Class 5 football champions. Raymore-Peculiar's team and coach have brought pride and respect to the Fifth District and it is most fitting that as we

prepare for the upcoming Super Bowl we take time to recognize a new generation of football players.

HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS GUNNAR BECKER

**HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 25, 2005*

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to honor the life of PFC Gunnar Becker who died January 13, 2005 while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Every Member of the House of Representatives has taken a solemn oath to defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. While we certainly understand the gravity of the issues facing this legislative body, PFC Gunnar Becker lived that commitment to our country. Today, we remember and honor his noble service to the United States and the ultimate sacrifice he has paid with his life to defend our freedoms and foster liberty for others.

Gunnar, who had been serving in Iraq since February 14, 2004, was part of the 1st Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. He is described as hardworking, full of energy, and funny. Family and friends say he was doing what he wanted to do in life—giving back to the country that gave him so much.

The lives of countless people were enormously enhanced by Gunnar's compassion and service. Gunnar, who represented the best of the United States, South Dakota, and the Army continues to inspire all those who knew him and many who did not. Our Nation and the State of South Dakota are far better places because of his service, and the best way to honor him is to emulate his devotion to our country.

I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my sympathies to the family of PFC Gunnar Becker. His commitment to and sacrifice for our Nation will never be forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 25, 2005*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes in the House on Thursday, January 6, due to a previous and unavoidable commitment in my congressional district. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 7.

IN HONOR OF DAN HUDSON

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 25, 2005*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dan Hudson, a valuable

member of the Monterey community who passed away on October 11, 2004, after a courageous struggle with cancer. He was an entrepreneur with a love of storytelling, but is perhaps best known for his creation of the Monterey County Post.

Dan was born on January 7, 1951, in Berkeley, CA, but soon returned to his family's home on the Monterey Peninsula. He spent his youth exploring the Central Coast, and was well known for his love of adventure. After graduating from Robert Louis Stevenson High School, Dan created Hudson & Company, in the Barnyard Shopping Village in Carmel, CA. He attended the Monterey College of Law, but after his graduation in 1994 decided instead to go into the newspaper business.

The Monterey County Post was the result of this decision, which he designed particularly to serve the residents of Monterey County. The lead article dealt with Carlos, a former gang member, and instantly made a name for the paper as taking a serious, in-depth approach to crime and illegal drugs. Dan wasn't afraid to tackle controversial issues, and though the paper had a conservative leaning, he welcomed opinions from everyone.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Dan Hudson's many accomplishments, and I commend him for his dedication to his community and friends. He was a remarkable figure, and his memory will live on in the many people whose lives he has touched. I join the Monterey Bay community, and friends and family in honoring this truly admirable man and friend for all of his lifelong achievements.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. GLORIA FRAZIER EVANS

**HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 25, 2005*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warm congratulations to a very dedicated and devoted educator. Gloria Frazier Evans has given leadership and service to the students at Booker T. Washington High School for seven years. She has been the embodiment of the school's most treasured motto: "Not The Largest, But The Best." On Saturday, February 5, 2005, the graduating class of 1961 from Booker T. Washington High School will honor Mrs. Gloria F. Evans for "Keeping the Legacy Alive" for her community.

Born in Orange, Texas, Gloria graduated valedictorian of her 1966 class at M.B. North High School. She furthered her education at the University of North Texas where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree (1970) in French and English and a Master of Education degree (1971) in English Education. Gloria completed coursework for certification in Guidance and Counseling at Florida Atlantic University (1980), and coursework for certification in Administration and Supervision at Florida International University (1986).

Gloria is the youngest child and only girl of James and Henrietta Frazier. She is married to William Evans, retired educator and track coach. They have two daughters, Erica Nicole