

World War I. She served in both the Atlantic and Pacific fleets through the 1920s and 1930s, and when the Spanish Civil War erupted in 1936, she steamed to Bilbao to ferry American citizens to safety in Gibraltar and French ports. One year and a day before the Japanese attack, the *Oklahoma* was assigned to Pearl Harbor.

The casualties aboard the USS *Oklahoma* represent the second-largest loss of life aboard any Pearl Harbor ship. Yet neither memorial nor marker exists to commemorate her and her crew. With today's groundbreaking at Pearl Harbor, we mark a significant step toward the creation of a lasting memorial to honor the 429 sailors, officers and Marines who perished on the "Okie," many of whom until 2002 rested in unmarked mass graves.

I am proud to have worked with Congressman COLE and the other members of the Armed Services Committee to pass language in the 2005 Defense Authorization Act providing a site for the memorial. But the real credit for making this project a reality goes to the *Oklahoma's* remaining survivors, the people of the State of *Oklahoma* and the USS *Oklahoma* Memorial Committee, which is raising private funds for the memorial.

I hope that this long-overdue tribute provides some comfort to the *Oklahoma's* survivors and their families, knowing that their sacrifices that day will never be forgotten.

IN MEMORY OF ARMY SGT. FIRST  
CLASS WILLIAM R. BROWN

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the courage of a young hero from my district. November 6, 2006, Army Sgt. First Class William R. Brown (1st Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group) was killed in the line of duty when a roadside improvised bomb exploded near his Humvee vehicle in Sperwan-Gar, Afghanistan, which is part of the Panjwayi District of Kandahar. He was in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Brown enlisted in the Army in June 1994, 2 weeks after graduating high school.

Sgt. Brown's family and friends remember him as a person with integrity and a strong desire to service his country through a career in the military. He is also remembered for his devotion to his wife, Audra, and two children.

A native of White Settlement, Texas, Sgt. Brown graduated from Brewer High School and began Army basic training 2 weeks later at Fort Benning, Georgia. His first assignment was with the 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. With that unit, he rose to the rank of squad leader and operations sergeant. After serving 7 years with the 75th Ranger Regiment, Sgt. Brown was transferred to Dallas, Texas, where he was an Army recruiter for 2 years.

Following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Sgt. Brown decided to join the Army's elite Special Forces. In 2004, he completed the rigorous Special Forces Qualification Course and was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 3rd Special

Forces Group (Air Borne) which is based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. After becoming a Special Forces member, he served with great distinction and valor one tour of duty in Iraq and was on his second tour of duty in Afghanistan when he was killed. Sgt. Brown volunteered for both tours of duty in Afghanistan.

During his career, Sgt. Brown earned the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, an Afghanistan Campaign Medal, a Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, a Meritorious Service Medal, an Army Accommodation Medal, an Army Achievement Medal and a National Defense Service Medal.

It is the qualities of incredible courage, strength, and pride in service of country which we see in young heroes like William R. Brown that makes us appreciate the freedoms we have here at home. I am proud to honor Sergeant Brown's service to the State of Texas, where he entered the service, and to the United States of America. He will not be forgotten.

ON THE CENTENNIAL OF TRINITY  
BAPTIST CHURCH IN RICHMOND,  
VIRGINIA

**HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an institution in the City of Richmond, VA. This year, Trinity Baptist Church is celebrating its centennial and I would like to take some time to recognize its history of service as a house of worship in Richmond during the last 100 years.

The church that we know as Trinity Baptist began in 1906 as the Sixth Mount Zion Sunday School class, which met at the home of Marcellus Waller, Sr., and Nannie Waller at 1007 West Leigh Street in Richmond. As this faith community grew, the idea was put forth to formally organize a church, and Brother Charles Thompkin suggested they call it Trinity. After a consultation with a representative from the Baptist Churches, Trinity Baptist Church was established on August 6, 1906, with Rev. James Williams as its first Pastor.

Under Pastor George Carrington, who led Trinity from 1915–1919, a new sanctuary was built at 1630 Rose Avenue. In 1960, Trinity had again outgrown its building, and Pastor King David Turner appointed a Planning Committee to find a new home for the church. Pastor Turner's work was continued by Pastor Welford David Adkins, who led the church through the purchase of land and construction of a new 1,000 seat sanctuary in 1972.

For the last 26 years, Trinity Baptist has been ably led by Rev. A. Lincoln James. Under his stewardship, Trinity has increased its staff to include Ministers of Fine Arts, Economic Development, Christian Education, and Children and Youth. Trinity's daily bag lunch feeding program and clothes closet literally feed the hungry and clothe the poor. The church's work with Caritas Charities Prose Ministry helps the homeless, and its Angel Tree program ministers to prisoners. Rev.

James has also licensed or ordained over 60 sons and daughters of Trinity into the gospel ministry, and he oversaw the ordination of the church's first female deacons in 2004.

I would like to once again congratulate Rev. James and the members of Trinity Baptist on their centennial and wish them another century of continued service to their community.

HONORING THE DECENNIAL  
SEASON OF THEATRE HUNTSVILLE

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

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the members, staff, volunteers, and patrons of the Theatre Huntsville during their decennial season. The 2006–2007 season will include performances of Noises Off, Proof, Romeo and Juliet, Crossing Delancy, To Kill a Mockingbird, Nonsense, and A Midsummer Night's Dream.

Theatre Huntsville is the second-oldest performance organization in the city of Huntsville, presenting its first performance in 1950 as the Huntsville Little Theatre. In 1979, the Huntsville Little Theatre merged with the Twickenham Repertory Company to form today's performance group.

Mr. Speaker, Theatre Huntsville strives to foster, encourage, and strengthen interest in the dramatic arts. In addition to its yearly performances, the Theatre's volunteers mentor others in the community in areas of acting, directing, and all other aspects of community theater through discussions, lectures, workshops, apprenticeships, and tutorials.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the 2006–2007 season, Theatre Huntsville will celebrate their decennial season. I rise today to join in their celebration.

IN MEMORY OF MAYOR TIM  
LESLIE

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tim Leslie, Mayor of Aubrey, in the 26th District of Texas. Mr. Leslie was a courageous leader devoted to the best interests of his community.

Mayor Leslie dedicated his life's work to the citizens of Aubrey. During the 1980's, he was elected to two terms as Mayor. Mr. Leslie's commitment to local children led him to serve on the school board for over a decade. When Mr. Leslie was elected Mayor again in 2003, he championed modern improvements to community and school facilities, and promoted cooperation between the city and schools of Aubrey.

As Mayor, Tim Leslie directed projects for the building of a new library and a water treatment facility. After being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer this year and enduring intensive chemotherapy treatments, Mr. Leslie courageously continued to fulfill his obligations as Mayor.

In addition to his career in local government, Mr. Leslie served as editor and publisher of the City of Aubrey's weekly newspaper, The Town Charter. As a founding member of the Aubrey Lions Club, he was also active in the Aubrey Chamber of Commerce and Aubrey Education Foundation. His legacy of public service will long benefit the City of Aubrey.

Mayor Leslie is survived by his wife, Allison, and their three children.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the memory of such a courageous individual. Mayor Tim Leslie was a dedicated public servant, and serves as a role model to all citizens. I extend my sincerest sympathies to his family and friends. He will be deeply missed and his service to his community will always be greatly appreciated.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DEARBORN, MICHIGAN MAYOR MICHAEL A. GUIDO

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of a great friend and wonderful public servant, Dearborn Mayor Michael A. Guido, who passed away December 5, 2006 after losing his battle with cancer.

Mayor Guido was elected the youngest person to ever serve on the Dearborn City Council, and then became the youngest mayor in the City's history in 1986. While Michael's 52 years on this earth were far too short, he did much of which to be proud. He exhibited great passion in a job he considered to be the greatest in the world.

To many, Dearborn is renowned for the great services offered by the City. It is to Michael's credit that these services were provided with great fiscal responsibility. It should be noted that the state of the art \$43-million Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, the largest municipally owned recreation center in North America, was the crowning achievement of an impressive career.

Our Nation will also feel the loss of Mayor Guido's leadership as he was the 64th President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. I am glad that mayors around the nation had the opportunity to witness the passion he had for the people he served, and the competence he exhibited in carrying out his duties. I know he was very proud to be a member, and serve as President, of this fine organization.

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our "friendly Mayor." The prosperous years he stood at the helm of Dearborn will remain his enduring legacy, but he will also always be remembered for his sense of humor, vigor for life, passionate leadership and charismatic demeanor. Michael Guido wasn't a man who bragged about the great things he did, he just went out and did them. Dearborn will miss its Mayor and I will miss a friend and a wonderful partner. I ask that all of my colleagues join me in remembering the life of this wonderful man, and extend our condolences to his wife Kari, and sons Michael and Anthony.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. CLYDE STEPHENS

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege today to honor Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Stephens as they celebrate 50 years of marriage. This is a tremendous milestone that embodies the enduring love and profound commitment they have for one another. For those of us who know the Stephens, their marriage is a celebration of life and an inspiration to us all.

On December 12, 1957, Clyde and Nellie were married in Corinth, MS. Clyde and Nellie were blessed with three wonderful children, Pam Stephens Kelly, David Stephens and Gary Stephens, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Tonight their family and friends are gathering in Middle Tennessee to celebrate this occasion.

Mr. Speaker, a 50th wedding anniversary is truly worth commemorating, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Clyde and Nellie Stephens.

TRIBUTE TO HEATHER MONTGOMERY

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Heather Montgomery upon her retirement as District Director for the Eighth Congressional District of Texas.

I've had the privilege of working alongside Heather for many years as co-workers at the South Montgomery County Woodlands Chamber of Commerce, as colleagues while she led the North Houston-Greenspoint Chamber of Commerce, and re-united again in 1998 in service to the constituents of the 8th Congressional District of Texas.

Heather brought to my district offices her wealth of knowledge and experience from leading communities and helping small businesses, as mother of three children, a grandmother, and devoted leader and volunteer of many volunteer efforts in The Woodlands, Montgomery County and north Houston area.

For the past nine years Heather has managed an extensive district staff, day to day operations of three offices, and served as direct extension of myself throughout the community. Heather always manages to find a personal connection with each of our constituents and the challenges they face.

Extremely hard-working, painstakingly fair, exceedingly knowledgeable—these are qualities Heather has not only honed, but also put at the disposal of constituents. She is gracious at all times and simply a class act.

Heather's retirement comes at a time when she and her husband Gary are the proud grandparents of nine grandchildren. I know her family is eager to have more of her time.

In the years I have worked with Heather, I have come to know a civic minded leader and

a woman of broad and varied interests which I hope she will pursue in the time afforded by retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I know you join with me in saying "thank you" and "job well done" to Heather Montgomery for her years of loyal service to myself, but most of all, to the people of Southeast Texas whom she has served with distinction. She is one of my closest friends.

IN HONOR OF SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE MARK L. LOWERY, U.S. SECRET SERVICE

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exceptional career of Mark L. Lowery, Special Agent in Charge of the United States Secret Service Dallas Field Office.

Special Agent Lowery began his career with the Secret Service in 1983 in the St. Louis Field Office, following a 6 year tenure with the St. Louis County Police Department. With the U.S. Secret Service, he served in the Washington Field Office, the Presidential Protection Division, Special Investigations and Security Division, and the Financial Crimes Division.

Under the leadership of Special Agent Lowery, the Dallas Field Office tackled many complex issues plaguing the Dallas community including identity theft, counterfeiting of currency and cyber crimes. Special Agent Lowery's leadership in these cases was instrumental, leading to the successful arrest and prosecution of many criminals in the Dallas area.

Special Agent Lowery has received numerous awards and commendations during his twenty-three year career, including the highest Secret Service award, the Medal of Valor in 1985. The legacy he leaves will speak loudly of the impact he made on our community and his peers and his devotion to the betterment of our community. His tenure at the U.S. Secret Service Dallas Field Office is marked by his dedication, work ethic and public service.

I am grateful for Special Agent Lowery's service to our nation, and I wish him all the best on the occasion of his retirement.