

the entire MS community, providing services to any who request assistance in coping with this disease. Through events such as the 5th Annual Wheelchair Wash, Familia Unida continues to bring awareness to the importance of the inclusion of all persons, especially those living with disabilities, in our lives.

Familia Unida has enhanced the quality of life for many through its extensive services in obtaining health care access, as well as providing educational resources. As Family Unida continues to honor its founding principles of providing culturally sensitive programs and support for those living with MS, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing its valued service and commitment to the MS community.

RECOGNIZING BOB SIKES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL UPON ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize Bob Sikes Elementary School on its fiftieth anniversary.

Named after Robert L. F. Sikes, the beloved former U.S. Representative of Crestview, Florida, Bob Sikes Elementary School upholds the same values and standards as its namesake. Serving from 1941 until 1962, Congressman Sikes is still remembered for his hard work and dedication to the area. His image continues to live on in the exemplary institutions that adopt both his name and his commitment to excellence.

For 5 decades, Bob Sikes Elementary School has influenced the academic success of its students. The school houses an exceptional faculty whose outstanding teaching capabilities have enhanced the learning opportunities for those enrolled. The school's administration is equally impressive as it expertly balances the rigorous demands of running the school. It is the countless hours of service and dedication employed by the faculty and administration that have enabled the students at Bob Sikes Elementary to attain academic excellence.

In addition to the active academic environment, Bob Sikes Elementary maintains a strong sense of community and enables each of its students to feel special. Teachers take the time to recognize and reward students' individual talents and help foster a familial feel in the classrooms. After 50 years, multiple generations of Crestview families who have attended Bob Sikes Elementary look back fondly on the school that taught them to read, to be kind to others, to count, and so many other important lessons. It is a testament to the school's academic and administrative strengths that 5 decades of families have continued to send their children to this exemplary school. It is these same strengths that ensure its continued success and the enrollment of children for decades to come.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Bob

Spikes Elementary School on this outstanding achievement and for its exemplary service in the Okaloosa County School District.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize The Heritage Foundation on the 35th anniversary of their founding. Since 1973, Heritage has been a stalwart in promoting and educating the American people on the merits of conservative, free market principles. Their belief in the power of individual liberty, American values, and limited government is matched by their dedication to a strong national defense.

The Heritage Foundation has been intricately involved in the rise of modern conservatism. It has benefited from the strong leadership of individuals like Executive Vice President and CEO Phillip Truluck. Phil is a native of South Carolina and graduate of the University of South Carolina. Additionally, the late Tom Roe of Greenville, South Carolina, was a longtime trustee and endowed the Thomas A. Roe Institute of Economic Policy at The Heritage Foundation.

From its influence in the days of the Reagan Revolution to the Contract with America and in promoting a strong national defense and sound economic growth in the aftermath of September 11th, I commend The Heritage Foundation for over three decades of important work to help our Nation's leaders build a stronger America.

IN HONOR OF LORENE FOSTER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 2008

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Lorene Foster, who will turn 100 years young on October 20.

Lorene has been a resident of Simi Valley, California, since 1947. A real Simi Valley pioneer, she and her late husband, Chester, owned and operated the Simi Susana Airport in the east end of Simi Valley, where I kept my airplane when I was a private pilot. Lorene and Chester became my good friends.

Lorene has always been active and organized. She was involved in the Simi Valley Women's Club, PTA and served as class parent, 4-H, Campfire Girls, Bluebirds, Bridge Club, Boots and Slippers Square Dancing, Community Drama Group, Garden Club, and was a Simi Valley Hospital volunteer. Many of the groups she involved herself with she led or served as president.

Somehow, she also found time to travel around the world—twice.

Lorene still lives on her own and cares for her own finances. She still enjoys floral ar-

ranging, board games, cards, and painting. Lorene also enjoys her 3 daughters, 14 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues join my wife, Janice, and me in congratulating Lorene for 100 years of good and active living and in wishing her many more.

TRIBUTE TO CENTRAL COMMUNITY BRANCH OF THE YMCA

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 2008

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful community institution in my district, the Central Community Branch of YMCA Greater Worcester.

For 144 years, the Central Community Branch of the YMCA of Central Massachusetts has worked to improve the lives of families in the Worcester community. The branch was established in 1864 to "improve the spiritual and mental condition of young men." The organization moved into its current Main Street home in Worcester in 1918, when the building was constructed. Since 1918, the building has undergone three major renovations in 1959, 1983, and 2008.

Currently, the newly renovated Main Street facility provides thousands of youth and adults with health and fitness programs, a range of classes, and sports leagues. The branch also offers the Worcester community an incredible diversity of programs in education, health, and fitness. Its Minority Achievers Program helps tutor high school children and guide them on the path to college. Its "Schools Out" programs provide hundreds of youth with safe after-school education and recreation programs. Its summer camps in Sutton and Boylston provide families with wonderful summer programming. Its Kids on the Go program teaches children aged 8–14 how to lead a healthy lifestyle with exercise and a balanced diet.

On Thursday, October 2, 2008, the Central Community Branch of YMCA of Central Massachusetts celebrates its successful completion of the "Strength of the Team" capital campaign and its renovations through a ribbon cutting ceremony. The organization has invested \$5 million to improve the inner city beacon, allowing the community to be aware of its location. The renovation was driven by a successful capital campaign, which raised the largest gift to the branch in its entire history of \$2.2 million from the George I. Alden trust. It also was the source of the largest individual gift of \$500,000 from Gene DeFeudis. The wide support that this campaign received is tribute to the great work that the central branch does in the Greater Worcester community.

Madam Speaker, I commend this wonderful organization that brings together people from all backgrounds, cultures and religions for the purpose of improving the mind, body and spirit of all. I congratulate the staff, members and supporters of the Central Community Branch of the YMCA of Central Massachusetts for their successful "Strength of the Team" capital