

may that be the day when we hear the cries of the unborn at last. May that be the day we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect the least of these, our tiny American brothers and sisters, from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is February 13, 2008—12,805 days since *Roe v. Wade* first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children—this, in the land of free and the home of the brave.

HONORING RETIRING MARILLA TOWN SUPERVISOR JOHN FOSS

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the years of faithful public service of John Foss, retiring Supervisor of the Town of Marilla.

Madam Speaker, John Foss is a lot of things, and a lot of adjectives describe him well. Intelligent, committed and focused on the continued growth and improvement of his hometown, John Foss labored hard on behalf of his constituents, and he has the results to show for it.

I have had the pleasure of knowing John way back to the mid-1990s, when as a candidate for the New York State Assembly, John welcomed me to Marilla and introduced me to dozens of his neighbors—local residents and farmers with concerns about the agricultural industry in Erie County and New York State. John's friendship was critical to me in those days and his steadfast support for our efforts to revitalize the economy of Erie County and Western New York remain important to this very day.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring the public service career of retiring Marilla Town Supervisor John Foss, and join me in wishing John and his entire family the very best of good luck and Godspeed as they embark upon this new chapter of their lives, active in the public affairs of the town of Marilla, but outside the formal role of Supervisor. Congratulations, John, on a job very well done.

CONGRATULATING ROCK THE BOAT ON HIS SUCCESS AT THE WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Ch. Pinecrest Orchard Hill Rock the Boat at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. Rock the Boat, better known as Rocky, earned the "Best-in-Breed" title among the Cavalier King Charles Spaniels on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, for the second consecutive year.

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels are a part of the toy group, which encompasses twenty-three breeds. The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, America's oldest organization dedicated to the sport of purebred dogs, limits entry to 2,500 dogs. Rocky won best-in-breed in his category after going up against a field of thirty-five entrants, and was one of only 169 dogs to receive this honor for 2008.

This triumph is the most recent in a string of successes for Rocky and his owners. In his brief show career, Rocky has accumulated six all-breed Best in Show wins, over thirty Toy Group wins, seven Specialty Best of Breed wins and eight Best in Show wins at the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, USA Specialties, making him the American Kennel Club's #1 Cavalier. His list of achievements is only made more impressive by the fact that he is not yet three years old.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Rocky, as well as his breeder, owners, and trainer, for his many impressive accomplishments. It is an honor to have such a celebrated canine reside in the 26th District of Texas. I look forward to seeing what the future brings for the talented Rocky.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, January 23, 2008, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation. I would like to make a correction to my earlier explanation of my missed votes on January 23, 2008.

Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

(1) Rollcall No. 21: "yes." On Ordering the Previous Question.

(2) Rollcall No. 22: "yes." On Motion to Pass H.R. 3963, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding.

RECOGNITION OF CATHY TRAVIS

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the contributions of a great public servant, Cathy Travis, on the occasion of her retirement from the staff of Congressman SOLOMON ORTIZ and the House of Representatives. On January 1, 2008, after more than 25 years on the Hill, Cathy retired from her position as the senior advisor to Congressman ORTIZ.

Through her dedication and diligence, Cathy also enabled me to maximize my efficiency as the chairwoman of the Texas Democratic congressional delegation. For that, I am grateful.

A native of Jonesboro, Arkansas, Cathy graduated from Arkansas State University with a bachelor's degree in public relations and an

emphasis in political science. Politics always fascinated her, and after graduation, she went to work for former Congressman Bill Alexander (D-Arkansas) as a press assistant. She also worked on the floor of the House of Representatives, for the Office of the House Majority Whip, and on numerous political campaigns. She performed all assignments with a sense of humor, a sense of duty and above all, a sense of patriotism.

Since the early 1990s, Cathy Travis saw a need for more educational tools to give the American people a better understanding of how our Government works and the fundamental rights accorded by the Constitution. Thus was born her book, *Constitution Translated for Kids*, an accessible translation of the document that serves as the foundation of the United States Government. The original text is paired side-by-side with a kid-friendly interpretation to pique interest and stimulate further discussion of American liberties. It also includes a discussion of proposed amendments to the Constitution that have been strongly debated, and a detailed explanation on the separation of powers.

Cathy Travis is a dedicated American in the finest tradition, and this institution will greatly miss her.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE HOWELL

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a father, husband, and soldier who made the ultimate sacrifice in service of the Nation. U.S. Army PFC George Howell was from the small rural central California community of Prunedale. He was a humble man who devoted his life to his family.

George enlisted into the Army in June 2007, and was deployed to Iraq in September 2007, where he fought valiantly as an infantry soldier in the 10th Mountain Division. He fought not only to give freedom to the people of Iraq, but to offer a better life to his family. He was a soldier who rose to defend his country and a young father who rose to provide for his young children. He dedicated his life so that others can live in a future filled with hope.

On December 21, 2007, George was fatally wounded when his unit was attacked while on patrol in northern Iraq. He was laid to rest with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery on January 25, 2008. George was awarded a Purple Heart and the Army Service Ribbon for his courageous service. These awards depict the greatness of this fine soldier and symbolize the sincere gratitude of this country. Moreover, George's life has inspired the lives of others and has united a community. This soldier, father, and husband shall he remembered for his caring, altruistic life.

Held closest to George's heart is the love and support of his wife and partner, Kristen, and his two young children, Niya, Raiden, and his yet to be born child. His dream and lifework was his family, and he fought to offer them a life filled with limitless opportunity. In the future, his family will experience the dream their father has waiting for them.