

HONORING PAT PLUMMER

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 30, 2010*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Pat Plummer upon his retirement as the Varsity Head Football Coach of Hoover High School in Fresno, California and his induction into the Hoover Hall of Fame. Coach Plummer will be inducted into the Hoover Hall Fame on Saturday, July 31, 2010.

Coach Pat Plummer was born in Glendale, California. At a young age, his family moved to northern California, where he graduated from Del Oro High School. Upon graduating from high school, Coach Plummer attended Sierra Junior College in Rocklin, California. In 1970, he transferred to California State University, Fresno, on a football scholarship. In 1972, Coach Plummer was named to the All-Pacific Coast Athletic Association team as an offensive guard. Coach Plummer graduated from CSU Fresno with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Physical Education and a minor in Geography; in 1974, he earned a teaching credential.

Upon obtaining his credential, Coach Plummer began teaching and coaching football at Tulare Western Union High School in Tulare, California. He was the defensive coordinator for two years before being named the head varsity coach. Coach Plummer remained at Tulare Western for eight years. In 1985, he was offered the position of Head Varsity Football Coach at Hoover High School. Since taking that job, Coach Plummer has compiled a record of 132 wins, 116 losses and 3 ties. He led his teams to six Fresno City Championships (1987, 1988, 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1994) and two North Yosemite League Championships (1997 and 1999).

In 2005 and 2006, Coach Plummer took a hiatus from coaching varsity football so that he and his wife, Micki, would have more time to watch his son, Shawn, play varsity football at a rival school. For those two years, Coach Plummer was the head freshman football coach at Hoover. In 2007, Coach Plummer returned to the Head Varsity Coach position. In his 25 years as the head varsity coach, he has coached several All-Star games including the Tulare-Kings All Star Game in 1985, the Fresno City-County All-Star game in 1989, 1993, and 1999, and the North-South All-Star game in 2003 and 2007.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Pat Plummer upon his retirement from Hoover High School and induction into the Hoover Hall of Fame. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Coach Plummer many years of continued success.

NASHVILLE RISING CONCERT

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 30, 2010*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today and ask my colleagues to join me in

recognizing those artists and actors who recently participated in "Nashville Rising: A Benefit Concert for Flood Recovery" to aide those affected by the catastrophic flooding in Tennessee.

Just a few months ago, historic flooding—a 1,000 year flood—affected 46 counties in Tennessee. The flood waters left damaged homes and hearts. With rain-soaked hands, volunteers offered what they could, and Tennessee lived up to its name as the Volunteer State. I want to thank the many who supported Tennessee's flood relief efforts.

Led by Faith Hill and Tim McGraw, artists—Amy Grant, Billy Ray Cyrus, Blake Shelton, Carrie Underwood, Jason Aldean, Julie Roberts, LeAnn Rimes, Luke Bryan, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Martina McBride, Michael W. Smith, Miley Cyrus, Miranda Lambert, Montgomery Gentry, Taylor Swift, Toby Keith, and ZZ Top—performed, and with messages from Reese Witherspoon, Matthew McConaughey, Craig Ferguson, and Dolly Parton—all joined together to help raise over \$2.2 million for flood relief efforts.

Music has the hope to heal what the flooding left behind. I ask my colleagues to stand with me in thanking those who offered their time and talents to the Nashville Rising Concert, and all who have helped their neighbors during this time of need.

HONORING WILSON COUNTY  
MAYOR ROBERT DEDMAN ON HIS  
RETIREMENT

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 30, 2010*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Dedman, who is retiring after twelve years of service as Wilson County Mayor and a lifetime of public service.

A lifelong resident of Lebanon, Tennessee, Bob served a tour of duty with the Army in the 1950s, followed by a time with the American Legion. After serving his country, he served his community as Lebanon's Purchasing Agent in 1972. He went on to join the Tennessee Secretary of State's Personal Property and Inventory Division until 1984, when he successfully ran for Wilson County Property Assessor. After deciding not to seek re-election to the office, he spent a term with the 100th General Assembly as Senate Sergeant-At-Arms.

In 1998, Bob was elected Wilson County Mayor, and during his time in office, Wilson County has become the fastest growing county in the state. For twelve years, he has been a dedicated servant to the people of Wilson County. He has always been true to his promise to listen to the people he serves, accessible and welcoming to county residents.

Recently, Progressive Farmer magazine ranked Wilson County as one of the top ten "Most Livable Small Communities." This accolade is in large part due to Bob's leadership and the collective vision of the Wilson County Commission, over which he has presided.

For decades, Bob has been committed to his community. He has served on the boards

of the Four Lakes Development District, Greater Nashville Regional Council of Governments, University Medical Center, and the Regional Transportation Authority. This list of memberships is only a small sample of Bob's commitment to his community.

Thank you, Bob, for a job well done. I hope you enjoy a long and happy retirement with your wife Lois, your children and grandchildren.

HONORING THE BOY SCOUTS OF  
AMERICA

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 30, 2010*

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, as one of more than twenty Eagle Scouts serving in Congress, I would like to honor the Boy Scouts of America and welcome them to our nation's Capitol to celebrate 100 years of excellence.

Over the past 100 years, the Boy Scouts of America have positively impacted millions of young men, not only providing them with knowledge of the outdoors, but building character and leadership traits that serves them, their communities, and their nation.

This week over 46,000 Boy Scouts, leaders, staff and volunteers from around the world are attending the 2010 National Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia. Many of these Scouts visited our nation's capital and participated in the Boy Scouts of America Grand Centennial Parade held this past weekend on the National Mall. I had the privilege of attending the Jamboree in 1973, and it was the height of my Scouting career.

On Tuesday I had the privilege of meeting with Troop 67 from Mesquite and Troop 339 from Forney along with many others from the 5th Congressional District who are participating in this year's events and continuing the tradition of Scouting. I am pleased to see that after 100 years, the Boy Scouts of America continues to educate and prepare young men with such success. Their visit lifted me up, and gave me great hope for our nation's future.

Scouting is an important part of the American character because it teaches countless young men about service to their community, patriotism, dedication, hard work, and reverence to God. In addition to teaching good citizenship, Scouting builds leadership skills by teaching self-reliance, setting goals and "learning by doing." Scouts know to "Be Prepared."

Since 1910 the Boy Scouts of America have served over 114 million of our nation's youth, including many of the members of this body. Currently there are 211 Members of Congress who have been involved in Scouting as a youth, earned rank of Eagle Scout, or participated as adult volunteer. I am proud to be one of the 22 Eagle Scouts currently serving in this body.

For me, Scouting was great fun. Scouting is about wonderful memories and a love of the outdoors. It is about useful knowledge that still comes in handy today. But far more important than those, to me Scouting is a way of life. Although I did not realize it at the time, everything a young man needs to know about life

he learns in Boy Scouts. It is contained within the Scout Oath and the 12 Points of the Scout Law. So Scouting is not just an achievement of a destination, it is a way of life. If young men will allow Scouting to be their moral compass, it will guide them successfully through the hazards, temptations and pitfalls of life. We should all celebrate Scouting and recognize its great value to our nation.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to be an Eagle Scout. On behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I thank the Boy Scouts of America for 100 years of devotion to service, leadership, and citizenship.

CELEBRATING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BILL SIGNING OF MEDICARE AND MEDICAID LEGISLATION

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 30, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to speak on acknowledgement of the 45th Anniversary of the signing of the Medicare and Medicaid legislation.

In 1965, the United States Congress made a commitment to our nation's most vulnerable citizens when it passed into law legislation that created Medicare and Medicaid as part of the Social Security Act. We as a nation decided that the elderly, poor children, the blind, and the disabled would never be denied proper medical care because of their inability to pay. When President Lyndon Johnson signed the bill and made it law on July 30, 1965, millions of elderly and poor people were spared needless worry and suffering. It was one of our nation's finest moments. We displayed the compassion and will that makes this country great. Access to adequate health care is a right not a privilege.

Please join me today in commemoration of the 45th anniversary of the bill signing for Medicare and Medicaid.

HONORING CHIEF JUDGE DANNY DAVIS FOR HIS TWENTY-SIX YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 30, 2010*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Judge Danny Davis for his twenty six years of service as the Chief District Court Judge of the 30th Judicial District in Western North Carolina. During his thirty one years of experience in the courtroom Judge Davis distinguished himself as a superior legal mind, as well as a patient, restrained, and fair jurist.

In the eyes of Judge Davis, an effective judge must listen to both sides of an argument and form a sound legal opinion based on fact, while also maintaining a courteous and respectful demeanor. Holding true to his words, Judge Davis is best known for his fairness and sound reasoning.

Judge Davis has always strived to improve society, leaving his community better than he found it. Throughout his career, Davis has exemplified the highest standard of legal excellence, maintaining the strongest sense of character while reaching a consensus.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Judge Davis on his retirement. He has exemplified real leadership in his ability to ensure that the utmost fairness is in our nation's judicial system. It is truly an honor to recognize him for his many years of service and dedication to Western North Carolina, and I urge my colleagues to support this remarkable jurist.

REVITALIZING CITIES AND TOWNS BY BRINGING BUSINESS BACK

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 30, 2010*

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today I introduce a bill to help our commercial neighborhoods to recover the economic activity they have lost during the Great Recession. When the economy tumbled and unemployment rose to the highest level seen in a generation, businesses were forced to close their doors, transforming once-thriving commercial streets into quiet avenues with "For Rent" signs.

My bill encourages private investors to develop land and vacant properties that have had no substantial economic activity for at least two years by exempting them from taxes for up to ten years.

Proper tax incentives can ignite an economic renaissance in our cities and towns by nurturing private investment and enterprise. This is the best government stimulus I know.

CONGRATULATING THE JEFFERSON DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF FLUSHING ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 30, 2010*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Jefferson Democratic Club of Flushing, Inc. Representing Part A of the 26th Assembly District of New York, the Jefferson Democratic Club has fiercely and tirelessly advocated on every level for the interests of the Queens and greater New York City communities.

Speaker Tip O'Neil once observed that "all politics is local." Organizations like the Jefferson Democratic Club are local politics' driving force. Without the hard work, enthusiasm, and dedication of the men and women of political organizations like the Jefferson Democratic Club, the gears of our democracy would grind to a halt.

Founded on June 14th, 1910 during the Republican Administration of William Howard Taft, the Jefferson Dems have been championing democratic values at the grassroots level for generations. Serving the areas of

Auburndale, Bay Terrace, Bayside, Douglaston, Floral Park, Flushing, Little Neck, New Hyde Park, North Shore Towers, and Whitestone, they are a staple of the community and an invaluable asset to the people they represent. In recent years, the Club has participated in annual gift drives benefiting hospitalized war veterans; toy and clothing drives to assist hospitalized and needy children and the children of troops currently serving overseas; and many other important community programs.

I am proud to recognize such a prestigious organization and congratulate current District Leaders Joseph Bechtold and Ann-Margaret Carrozza; incoming District Leaders, Michael Sais and Carol Gresser; President, David Fisher; and all the members of the Jefferson Democratic Club of Flushing for their one hundred years of service to the people of Queens County, New York City, and New York State. I hope to see the good work continue for one hundred more. I ask that my colleagues in the House to join me and rise in recognition of the Jefferson Democratic Club of Flushing's centennial anniversary.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF CEIL STEINBERG

**HON. RON KLEIN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 30, 2010*

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, we rise today to honor the life and memory of an extraordinary member of our South Florida community.

Ceil Steinberg passed away this week at the age of 82, leaving behind a legacy of service and strength.

Throughout Ceil's remarkable life, she maintained a steadfast commitment to serving our Nation's veterans. She served as President of the Ladies National Auxiliary of the Jewish War Veterans, and continued to be active in our local veterans community into her 80s.

Ceil's two wonderful daughters, Circuit Court Judge Debra Nelson and her sister Anita Kahn, who has taught in South Florida public schools for over 30 years, blessed their mom with 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren, who Ceil adored.

When we think of public service, we think of Ceil, and her determination to give back, especially to those who have served our Nation in uniform.

We want to express our deep personal condolences to all of Ceil's family, and her beloved partner Bill Kling, who is also a fixture in our local veterans' community.

We will miss seeing Ceil, but the light of her legacy will continue to burn brightly well into the future.