

California against Parker High School of San Diego, California. Parker's football team entered the game with an 11–2 record, and a 45-point scoring average per game.

With Isaiah Burse as quarterback, the Crusaders were able to move the ball quickly throughout the game. However, Parker was able to move the ball equally as well, leading to a nail biter. In the final minutes of the game, the Crusaders were holding on to a 44–40 lead, but Parker was moving the ball quickly down the field. With fourth-and-goal at the two, and 1 minute 40 seconds to play, the Crusaders defense dug deep to hold the Parker offense. The Crusaders were able to pick up a first down, triggering a celebration on their sideline and a final score of 44–40, with Modesto Christian on top.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the 2009 Modesto Christian High School Football Team upon its achievements and upon becoming the California Interscholastic Federation Small Schools State Football Champions. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing the entire team and coaching staff congratulations on its many accomplishments this season.

RECOGNITION OF MERLE J. PRATT

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Merle J. Pratt, a great American who has worked for decades to protect our nation, advocate for our veterans, and strengthen the State of Ohio. Currently a resident of Powell, Ohio, Merle has loyally served our nation as a member of the United States Navy, an employee for the State of Ohio, and a leader in numerous community organizations.

Merle served in the U.S. Navy for 26 years, including five years of active duty and over two decades in the U.S. Naval Reserve until his retirement in 1994 as a chief petty officer. Merle also served the Buckeye State in the Ohio Secretary of State's office and the Ohio Attorney General's office. After 26 years of service, Merle retired from his position as the Director of Constituent Services and Veteran Liaison for the Ohio Attorney General's office in 2009. His devotion to helping Ohio citizens and veterans inspired Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro to award Merle with the Innovation and Excellence Award in 2003.

In addition to his career as a public servant in the State of Ohio, Merle has served as a trustee, chairman, or president for many organizations and chapters dedicated to helping our nation's veterans, including the Military/Veterans Educational Foundation, Vietnam Veterans of America, the Columbus Veterans Day Parade Committee, the American Legion, the Franklin County Veteran's Memorial Board of Trustees, the Ohio Governor's Veterans Advisory Committee, and the Ohio Attorney General's Veterans Advisory Council. He has also been a longtime member of the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Executive Committee, the Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee, the Ohio Veterans Employment and Training

Council, and the Ohio Military Activation Task Force. Merle has been a Life Member of AMVETS Post 89 and served as the Chairman of the AMVETS State Legislative Committee from 1999 to 2009, during which he was awarded the prestigious AMVETS Silver Helmet Civil Servant of the Year award in 2004 for his passion and continued service to veterans in central Ohio. As a true public servant, Merle is continuing to actively participate in veterans services, and is currently serving as Commander for the AMVETS Department of Ohio.

Throughout his life, Merle has inspired those around him with his continued dedication to helping veterans and military families. On February 20, 2010, Merle will be recognized by the AMVETS Department of Ohio for his decades of invaluable service. I am proud to join this group in honoring Merle Pratt, whose leadership and commitment to our veterans, both in the Columbus community as well as around the nation, has been an inspiration and a blessing in the lives of countless Americans.

RECOGNIZING JANICE GOULD

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extensive and distinguished career of Janice Gould. She has been a teacher and a vital part of the Chicago community for 35 years.

Ms. Gould teaches art at Lawrence Hall Youth Services, a school that treats, educates and provides a home to at-risk youth. Using the power of art, she shows her students that great accomplishments are possible. Her former students have participated in and won national art competitions and the Chicago City Clerk vehicle sticker contests.

Ms. Gould herself has a long list of special honors and awards. She received the Kohl International Teaching Award, the Golden Apple Teaching Award and the Exceptional Teachers Award, as well as being a member of the National Teachers Hall of Fame. She and her students also started the "Permanent Children's Art Collection" for the Illinois State Board of Education, an exhibit designed as a reminder of what special-needs children can accomplish and create when given the ability to blossom.

Under Ms. Gould's guidance, troubled youth can transform into self-confident, competent young men and women. When most aspects of their lives have shrouded them in darkness, her art classes provide them the environment to develop their artistic talents and shine.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Janice Gould and her extraordinary career, and thank her for her many outstanding contributions to the City of Chicago and its youth. Her passion and dedication serve as an example for us all.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PHYLLIS WHITE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with the heaviest of hearts that I rise today to pay tribute to the life of one of my dearest friends and an outstanding member of our community, Phyllis White. Phyllis lived her life in the best and most rewarding way possible—dedicated to the service of others and to her community.

I knew Phyllis for over forty years—a friendship that began when we were both organizers together for the Community Action Institute. She was always a vibrant presence back then, and she lived each and every day I knew her with compassion and humanity, grace and conviction. As an organizer, a counselor, and later as an academic advisor, Phyllis was always there to lend a hand, an ear, or a shoulder to those in need around her.

Phyllis was no stranger to the rough-and-tumble of life. She lived to see both her sister, Natalie, and her lovely daughter, Linda, lose their battles with breast cancer. Yet, she never let these tragedies crush her spirit or diminish her vitality, her optimism, and her caring for others. She—and later her granddaughter Dawn—took over the leadership of Sisters' Journey, a breast cancer survivors' advocacy organization her daughter Linda had founded, to keep up the fight against this deadly disease and help ensure that other families did not have to share in their grief. And to the end, and despite her long illness, Phyllis took comfort in the small things, and never stopped giving back to people when she could.

In short, Phyllis was a role model and an inspiration to me all those years ago, and will continue to serve as a source of inspiration to all of those fortunate enough to have been touched by her kind heart and compassion. I will keep her in my thoughts for the rest of my days. As we mourn the loss of Phyllis today, we can take solace that she is now with Natalie and Linda once more. And I know her legacy here in our world lives on—not only in her career and good works throughout Hamden and New Haven, but in the love of her children Ed Jr., Keith, Craig, Barry, and Anita, her fourteen grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren.

Mentor and friend, Phyllis was an extraordinary woman. The impact that she had on my life has much to do with the person I am today. I will always be grateful for her many years of special friendship and for the immeasurable good that she did for our community. Phyllis White is a reflection of all that we could hope to be and has left a legacy to which we should all strive. Though I mourn the friend I lost, I am proud to stand today to celebrate her life. She will be missed but never forgotten.

RECOGNITION OF MARINA DAVIS' LIFELONG DEDICATION AS AN EDUCATOR

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Marina Davis for 40 years of dedicated service to the young adults of central Ohio. Marina Davis devoted her life to improving our education system and inspiring students to strive for excellence. She passed away in December 2009, but will be remembered by everyone who knew her as a dedicated educator and a role model.

Marina Davis began her career in 1970 as a teacher at St. Anthony Grade School in Columbus, Ohio. She went on to teach English at St. Francis DeSales before becoming an assistant principal. While there, she chaired the St. Francis DeSales High School Committee, which received a Blue Ribbon Award for Excellence in Education from the U.S. Department of Education. In 1995 she became the first principal of Dublin Scioto High School, where she worked until her death this past December.

As an advocate for her students, staff, and faculty, Marina continually worked to improve the quality of education at each school she served. As an innovative administrator she instituted the Professional Learning Community Model at Dublin Scioto, which in 2009 received a Silver Award of Accomplishment from U.S. News and World Report. Marina's passion and commitment to education allowed her to make a difference in the lives of thousands of Ohio students and families, and this tragic loss is being felt throughout the community.

In memory of this outstanding public servant, the Dublin City Schools Board of Education has adopted a resolution formally naming the Performing Arts Center at Scioto High School in her honor. The Marina Davis Performing Arts Center will be dedicated on May 18, 2010, and will honor Marina's lifelong commitment to advancing the performing arts among Dublin students. Her contributions to the central Ohio school system will never be forgotten, and I am proud to recognize and honor this accomplished and devoted educator for a lifetime of service.

A TRIBUTE TO MIKE WATERS

HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to a fine American, Mike Waters, on an occasion when he and his business have received a prestigious honor: the International Circle of Excellence Award for 2009.

The Circle of Excellence, which is awarded by the International dealer organization of Navistar, Inc., honors International truck dealerships that achieve the highest level of dealer performance with respect to operating and fi-

nancial standards, market representation, and most importantly, customer satisfaction. It is the highest honor a dealer principal can receive from the company.

Mike's business, Waters Truck & Tractor Co., is headquartered in Columbus, Mississippi, where it was founded 72 years ago by his grandfather. Since Mike joined the company full-time in 1975, it has grown into one of the preeminent truck dealerships in the Southeast and the entire nation. In addition to five full-service truck locations, the Waters Companies include an IC Bus school bus dealership, a wrecker service, and remote facility and equipment maintenance. The Waters Companies employ 275 people in all. In 2002, Waters Truck & Tractor was named the International Dealer of the Year, an honor awarded to the one International dealer who exhibits the highest commitment to best-in-class customer service. With this most recent award, Waters Truck & Tractor has now received the Circle of Excellence Award a total of 29 times.

Mike has achieved this level of accomplishment and recognition through many years of hard work and service to his industry and community. He is active in his church and many civic groups and is a board member for numerous organizations, including the Cadence Bank, the Baptist Memorial Health Care System and the Mississippi University for Women Foundation. Mike has now welcomed the fourth generation into the business, with Michael, Vaughan and Josh Waters having joined the company.

Through his commitment to hard work and outstanding customer service, he has built an economically vital business of which he can be justly proud. Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Mike Waters for his record of accomplishment and for his many contributions to his community, state and nation.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. JOHNNIE BAMPFIELD JAMES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mrs. Johnnie Bampfield James who turns 90 years old this month.

Born Johnnie Elizabeth Watts, on February 25, 1920, in Fairfax, S.C., to the Rev. John Quincy Watts and Estella English Watts, Mrs. James was one of thirteen children. She remembers walking with her brothers about 2 miles to attend the Huspah School, a two-room school located on the grounds of the local church. Her basketball uniform is currently displayed at the "Old Colored School", which has been formally certified as a historical landmark in South Carolina.

In 1937, she attended South Carolina State University for a semester, met and married James Howard Bampfield, from Yemassee, SC. She left school, began a family, and moved to Beaufort, S.C. Her daughter, Ethel was born in 1940. Joining her husband in New York City, she worked as a domestic until she returned home to Hampton, S.C. and gave birth to her daughter, Gwen, in 1951.

She began substitute teaching and was encouraged to return to school to complete her college education with a promise of a job when she graduated. She attended Claflin College graduating in 1957 and began a teaching career in Dale-Lobeca, S.C. (Beaufort area) where she taught 1st grade. When an opening became available at home, she joined the staff at the Hampton Colored School.

In 1958 Ms. Johnnie returned to New York and joined her husband in Brooklyn where she began a near twenty year dedicated career of working with at-risk children at the Spofford Juvenile Detention Center, Bronx, N.Y. As a "dorm mother" Ms. Johnnie gained the respect, admiration and love of hundreds of young girls as they passed through the juvenile justice system. On more than one occasion she requested special permission to take a young girl home with her, and in one such instance became a foster parent for a youth who had no family resources. Cutting across ethnic, racial and religious differences, Mrs. James, a skilled seamstress, was a mentor for the girls sharing her talent for arts and crafts and design and decorating. She was also a supportive and reliable employee always demonstrating awareness and consideration of others. In 1965 her adopted daughter Barbara J. Lee joined the family.

In 1976 she retired from service in New York and returned to her hometown of Hampton, South Carolina, the same year of her husband's death.

In 1978, she married the late Deacon Felder James. Ms. Johnnie joined the Huspah Missionary Baptist Church at an early age and has been a faithful member and a Deaconess for more than 30 years. Ms. Johnnie continues to enjoy her arts and crafts, volunteering at the Council on Aging Center in Hampton. Her cooking ministry provides infamous Sunday fellowship dinners for all who come.

She is a member of the Eastern Star-Glad Tidings Chapter, an active member of the Brother & Sister Benevolent Society. She is a mother of two daughters, one adopted daughter, one stepson, six grandchildren, ten great grandchildren, and three great-great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mrs. Johnnie Bampfield James who turns 90 this month and I encourage my colleagues to join me in this effort and celebration.

HONORING ALBRECHT-KEMPER MUSEUM OF ART

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 22, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art in Saint Joseph, Missouri, which has been awarded accreditation by the American Association of Museums. Accreditation by the AAM is the highest recognition of a museum's commitment to public service, professional standards, and excellence in education.

The Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art originated in 1913 with the foundation of the Saint