

gown fit for the new First Lady. They studied both Michelle Obama and the work of other designers. They then sent a book of their designs to the First Lady.

More than a year later, the First Lady remembered that project and it when it was time to arrange for her Smithsonian ceremony she asked the Huntington High School students to join her in Washington, DC for the special event.

Madam Speaker, all of Long Island couldn't be more proud of the work of the Huntington High School students.

We are equally proud of their teachers who challenged them with this creative project. These teachers thought big. They thought outside the box. And they along with their students are being rightfully rewarded with this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Madam Speaker, I thank First Lady Michelle Obama for her thoughtful inclusion of the Huntington High School Fashion Program in this ceremony and I commend Huntington High School's students, teachers, parents and administrators whose great efforts led to this special recognition.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAUL  
MCHUGH

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 15, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Paul McHugh as he is named the recipient of the 2010 James P. Sweeney Founder Award by the Retired Irish Police Society of Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. McHugh began his service as a police officer in 1965 as a member of the Cleveland Motorcycle Unit. His twenty-seven-year tenure was framed by integrity, loyalty and bravery. He risked his life on numerous occasions to protect his colleagues and the citizens of Cleveland. His acts of courage did not go unrecognized. In 1967, Mr. McHugh was awarded the Meritorious Award for an act of heroism by the Cleveland Police Department. While assigned to the First District Detective Bureau, Mr. McHugh's sharp and persistent investigative efforts led to the dismantling of a massive burglary ring, for which he was recognized as the "City of Cleveland Police Officer of the Month."

After his retirement from the Police Department in 1992, he volunteered as a leader and member of many local police and charitable organizations including the Police and Fire Holy Name Society, where he currently serves as Treasurer, the Saint Patrick West Park Hunger Center, the American Legion and AmVets, and the Holy Family Cancer Home.

Mr. McHugh has a life-long connection to his Irish heritage. He grew up as one of twelve children on Cleveland's west side. He is extremely active in Cleveland's Irish-American community. For the past twelve years he has served as Treasurer for the Retired Irish Police. Mr. McHugh is also a member of the West Side Irish American Club, serves on the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, and served as the Past President of the Mayo So-

ciety of Greater Cleveland. Above all his civic engagements, Mr. McHugh is a dedicated family man. Together, he and his wife, Marie raised their children, Colleen and Allan. Mr. and Mrs. McHugh remain active in the lives of their children and four grandsons.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Paul McHugh, whose exemplary service on behalf of our community is an inspiration and example for all of us. His dedication to helping others continues to enhance and strengthen our entire community, and we are grateful for his efforts.

IN HONOR OF ANGELO PETITTI

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 15, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Angelo Petitti upon his recognition as the recipient of the St. Malachi Center's 2010 Sister Michael Marie Griffin Anchor Award, which will be presented to him at the St. Malachi Center's Tenth Annual Soup for the Soul Benefit.

Mr. Petitti emigrated from Faeto, Italy in 1963 when he was just 16 years old. He studied political science at Kent State University and worked as a landscaper. He left Kent State to pursue his true passion: landscape design. He moved to Florida and founded his own landscape business, but eventually moved the business back to Ohio to form Petitti Landscape Company with his brother Dominic.

Working out of a small garage, the Petitti brothers were soon inundated with requests from passersby who saw the shrubs that lined the driveway. Over the past forty years, Mr. Petitti has become one of the most successful garden center owners in Ohio. He can be heard on his weekly radio show, "In the Garden with Angelo," and is regularly seen out in the community, lending his time to help raise funds for numerous local charitable organizations.

Above all, Mr. Petitti is devoted to his family. His wife, Maria, also emigrated from the same town in Italy, and they married in 1975. Together, they raised their son, AJ, and daughters, Andria and Lisa—all of whom are involved in the family business. Mr. Petitti's unwavering integrity and generosity continues to spread throughout our community, where he is highly respected and admired by the community. He is a kind and humble man with a deep sense of charity.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Angelo Petitti, recipient of the 2010 Sister Michael Marie Griffin Anchor Award. Mr. Petitti personifies the American Dream and is an inspiration to us all.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 15, 2010*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,575,678,862,901.61.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,937,253,116,607.81 so far this Congress. The debt has increased \$1,739,800,627,446.86 since just yesterday.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

IN HONOR OF OTIS PAUL  
DRAYTON, JR.

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 15, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Otis Paul Drayton Jr., a Veteran and an Olympic champion. Mr. Drayton's life was built upon a foundation of family, friends and community. His kind heart and energetic spirit will be forever remembered by those who loved him.

As a young man, Mr. Drayton moved from New York to Cleveland. He graduated from Cathedral Latin High School and went on to Villanova University where his talent as a runner was apparent. He won several national championships including a 1961 meet with the Soviet Union where Mr. Drayton set a world record for the 4 x 100 relay with a time of 39.1 seconds. In the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo where he won gold and silver medals, Mr. Drayton set the record again with a time of 39.0 seconds.

Though highly accomplished, Mr. Drayton was a kind and humble man. His quick smile and gentle nature easily endeared him to everyone. For many years he served as the Deputy Project Director for the City of Cleveland Division of Recreation and later as a part-time employee of the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department. Above all else, Mr. Drayton was a devoted husband to his beloved wife, Jeune.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring Otis Paul Drayton. I offer my deepest condolences to his wife, Jeune, his son, Walter, and his extended family and friends. Mr. Drayton lived his life with great joy, energy, and a generous heart. He will never be forgotten.

HONORING EDD KELLUM HENDEE

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 15, 2010*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Edd Kellum Hendee,

a beloved father, husband, son and brother taken from his loving family far too soon.

A 1999 graduate of the Naval Academy who served his country honorably as a Lieutenant on the U.S.S. *Denver* during Operation Enduring Freedom, Hendee earned a Masters in English from George Mason University and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

As Vice President of Acquisitions for the Starwood Capital Group, Hendee led one of the largest initial public offerings in history by balancing his keen intellect with a heart the size of Texas and his love for his Savior. Hendee also pushed the limits of his own endurance as an Ironman Triathlete.

His proud parents would tell you that their son's exceptional achievements paled in comparison to his greatest accomplishment, the family that he, and the love of his life, Claudine Moore Hendee, were building with their sons, Campbell Luke, 4, and Hudson Jacob, 2, and 8-month-old daughter Reagan Reese.

In addition to his wife and three children, Edd K. Hendee leaves behind his devoted parents, Nina Johnson and Edd Campbell Hendee, his sisters, Lisa Hendee Blackard and Kristin Ann Hendee, his mother-in-law Norma Jean Moore, father-in-law Gary Lee Moore, sisters-in-law Gena Moore Rush and Gabriella Lee Moore, brothers-in-law Chris Kirkland Blackard and David Rush, as well as friends and co-workers around the globe.

Hendee's quick smile and infectious laugh will be remembered fondly by all who knew him. If there was one thing we could learn from him, it would be to never let a minute pass without treasuring family and making every moment with them count to the absolute fullest.

IN HONOR OF FATHER JEROME LAJACK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Father Jerome Lajack, who has served as pastor of St. Wendelin Parish in Cleveland since 1977. Throughout his tenure, Father Lajack worked tirelessly to strengthen and guide the community of St. Wendelin.

A man of kindness and compassion, Father Lajack brought a sense of family and community to the St. Wendelin congregation. Moreover, he brought special attention to the needs and struggles of our most vulnerable citizens—the young and the elderly.

Father Lajack developed and instituted many new programs on behalf of children and teens, including Children's Choir, Children's Liturgy, and Vacation Bible School. He also focused on caring for the elderly of the congregation, visiting the sick and addressing the needs of the homebound. Additionally, Father Lajack has been an excellent steward of the parish, maintaining fiscal stability over three decades through the generous help of parishioners.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of Father Jerome Lajack.

Father Lajack's leadership, kindness, unwavering faith and ability to improve the lives of others will endure as part of the spirit of the members of St. Wendelin Church. His impact will forever radiate far beyond the front steps of St. Wendelin's.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I regret that I missed a recorded vote on March 11, 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of H. Res. 1031 on agreeing to Article II of the resolution (roll No. 103).

IN HONOR OF DORIS "GRANNY D" HADDOCK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Doris "Granny D" Haddock, whose 100 years of life radiated love, energy, and belief in social justice.

Granny D and her late husband, Jim Haddock, shared a spirit of activism and a belief in giving back to the people. Together they raised two children, Elizabeth and James. Their family, which would come to include eight grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren, was a source of their joy and strength.

Granny D and her husband's commitment to public service began fifty years ago when they worked tirelessly to stop the development of a nuclear bomb test site in Alaska. Their efforts were successful and an entire Inuit fishing village was saved.

More than a decade ago, Granny D took the first step in a cross-country trek from California to Washington D.C. She walked over 3,000 miles to bring international attention to the need for campaign finance reform. After 14 months of marching eastward, and just after her ninetieth birthday, Granny D arrived at her destination. Granny D's work on behalf of this issue has taken root in her home state where New Hampshire House Bill 513 will appear on the ballot in the next election. If passed, the bill will enable candidates running for certain state senate seats to campaign with public financing.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring Doris "Granny D" Haddock. I offer my deep condolences to her son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Libby Haddock, her grandchildren, her great-grandchildren, and her many friends. Granny D will never be forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on March 12, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 111. Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 111: "yes"—Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2010.

AMY DAVID—PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

HON. CYNTHIA M. LUMMIS

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 15, 2010

Mrs. LUMMIS. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor a young student from the State of Wyoming who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in her community.

Amy David of Boulder, Wyoming has just been named one of the top honorees in Wyoming by the 2010 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state. Amy was nominated by the Sublette County 4-H. She is a senior at Pinedale High School and has represented the state as Miss Wyoming Teen USA. Amy has been an ambassador throughout Wyoming promoting physical fitness, healthy minds, self-confidence and goal setting for youth. She has participated in many health-related fund raisers and co-founded an annual race to raise money for cystic fibrosis research.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it is vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to insure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ms. David are inspiring to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

Ms. David should be extremely proud to have been singled out from the thousands of dedicated volunteers who participated in this year's program. I heartily applaud Ms. David for her initiative in seeking to make her community and state a better place to live, and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.