

mission was the defense of the Washington, D.C. area. In addition to his normal duties, Charlie was required to serve periodically in the control center where he would plot the position of aircraft around the military District of Washington. Charlie entered the Army as a Buck Private (E1) and when transferred from active duty to the army reserves he held the rank of an E4 (SP3/CPL). He completed his active duty service and was transferred to Fort George G. Meade, Maryland where he was released from active duty and transferred to the United States Army Reserve where he served for an additional six years before receiving his Honorable Discharge. Through my interview I learned of my grandfather's times and memories as a "troop." I learned that there is always hope for better days; that believing in yourself is a quality you must develop and once pursued should truly be cherished. Hope, faith, endurance, and happiness are key necessities for not only doing well in the military but surviving our society today. My grandfather learned many great lessons in the Army and over-all experienced a life-changing experience that he will value forever.—Tara O'Reilly

HONORING BEN DAVIS HIGH
SCHOOL'S GIRLS BASKETBALL
TEAM

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize and commend the Ben Davis High School Lady Giants for winning the 2010 Indiana State High School Athletic Association Girls Basketball Championship.

Ben Davis High School is a 3-year high school in the Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township, located in the 7th Congressional District of Indiana.

Since 1892, the school has provided Indianapolis students with nationally recognized academic and athletic programs. The high school is known for its debate and journalism activities, and it continues to expand on the artistic programs offered to its students.

The Lady Giants are an example of the success and pride that young people can achieve through receiving a well-rounded education.

In the Championship game, the Lady Giants defeated the Merrillville High School Lady Pirates with a final score of 99 to 52. Not only was this the Lady Giants' second straight championship win, but the team also set a new state record for making it their 58th consecutive victory.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in praising these extraordinary young women for their hard work and perseverance, and I encourage them to continue to develop and serve as an example for all students across the United States.

TRIBUTE TO UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL MISSOURI PRESIDENT
AARON PODOLEFSKY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I wish to extend my congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Aaron Podolefsky as he prepares to end his tenure as president of the University of Central Missouri, UCM, in Warrensburg, MO. After 5 years of dedicated service to the University, Dr. Podolefsky will become the president of Buffalo State College in Buffalo, New York.

After a distinguished record of academic accomplishment as a scholar at San Jose State University in California and the State University of New York at Stony Brook, Dr. Podolefsky pursued a career as an educator and academic administrator, showing a commitment to public universities and the development of young minds across the country.

During his tenure as President of UCM, Dr. Podolefsky presided over a period of great change. With the adoption of a new name for the University, he brought together students, educators, community partners, and civic leaders to develop and implement a new vision for UCM. He expanded opportunities for students and enhanced economic development in the region by reorganizing the academic departments and developing partnerships with national and international institutions.

Under his leadership, the U.S. News and World Report and Princeton Review have recognized UCM as one of the best universities in the Midwest for the first time in university history. And, UCM provides this exceptional education at low cost, ranking first in the Midwest in low student debt. These accolades, combined with an ever increasing job placement rate for UCM graduates, are evidence of Dr. Podolefsky's sustained commitment to the University.

Madam Speaker, I wish Dr. Podolefsky the best of luck in his future career at Buffalo State College and thank him for his dedication to the University of Central Missouri. Together with his wife Ronnie and sons, Noah and Isaac, Dr. Podolefsky will be missed and his mark on UCM will be felt for years to come.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
TODD KLEMAN ON HIS OFFER OF
APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE
ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Todd Kleman of Fort Jennings, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York.

Todd's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy this fall with the incoming midshipmen Class of 2014. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Todd brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2014. While attending Fort Jennings High School in Fort Jennings, Ohio, Todd attained an impressive grade point average. Todd was inducted into the National Honor Society, active in the Scholastic Bowl, and a member of the Envirothon Team.

Throughout high school, Todd was a member of the soccer and track teams, earning varsity letters in both events. Todd was active in the community by being a 4-H member, Junior Leader, member of the Junior Fair Board, and a Boy Scout. Todd also participated in the marching and pep bands. I am confident that Todd will carry the lessons of his student leadership to the Merchant Marine Academy.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Todd Kleman on the acceptance of his appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Todd will excel during his career at the Merchant Marine Academy and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2009–2010 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. This year 45 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9 through 12 made their voices heard and made a difference in their communities, their country and their Congress. These students volunteered their time, effort, and talent to inform me about the important issues facing their generation. As young leaders within their communities and their schools, these students boldly represent the promise and the hope we all have for their very bright future.

President Ronald Reagan said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

To ensure that the blessing of freedom is passed from one generation to the next, the members of the CYAC spent time interviewing