

Ukraine as well as the Ukrainian American community in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Specifically, Ambassador Shamshur played an important role in the lifting the Jackson-Vanick trade restrictions, which has benefitted the U.S. and Ukraine by opening new markets and expanded opportunities for entrepreneurs and job creators in both nations.

This month, Ambassador Shamshur will be leaving his post to pursue new opportunities of his own. Friends and colleagues will honor his accomplishments during a dinner on May 26, 2010 at the Metropolitan Club of the City of Washington.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Ambassador Oleh Shamshur for his exemplary service and valuable contributions to strengthening the ties between the United States and Ukraine and in extending best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE MARINES AND CORPSMEN OF THE 3RD BATTALION, 25TH MARINES INFANTRY REGIMENT ON MEMORIAL DAY

**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 26, 2010*

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor those who have answered the call of duty for their country and made the ultimate sacrifice. I would like to call on everyone to reflect this Memorial Day on those service members who have sacrificed their lives for this country and the family members who were left behind.

I would like to honor my constituent, Nathan Huffman, USMC Sgt. Ret., and other Marine Reservists from the 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines Infantry Regiment and fellow Corpsmen, who served their country honorably from March 2005 to October 2005 in Al Anbar Province during Operation Iraqi Freedom. This Memorial Day, Sgt. Huffman has organized a Memorial Day Ultra Marathon in honor of their 48 fallen Marines and Corpsmen who perished during their service in Iraq, and the many other service members who have given their lives while serving our country.

Sgt. Huffman will depart the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond, Virginia along with many of his fellow Marines, Corpsmen, friends, and supporters and run day and night to cover the over 100-mile journey which will end at the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial. The purpose of this ultra marathon from Richmond to Washington, D.C. is to commemorate the core values of Memorial Day and honor the fallen. In the words of Staff Sergeant Joseph Goodrich on his reflection of Memorial Day, "I started looking at all of the headstones with flags in front of them. I started thinking about who they were, how they lived, how they died and what they did for me . . . I swore to myself that I would not let them down. They sacrificed, and gave to me something I could never repay; freedom." Sgt. Goodrich was killed in Iraq on July 10, 2005.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the many courageous men and

women who have given their lives in the service of our great Nation, and their widows, mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters who are left behind. They have not given their lives in vain—rather they have offered their valor and dedication to a grateful Nation. Sgt. Huffman and his fellow runners have heard and answered a second call of duty to remind our Nation to never forget the fallen, the wounded, and loved ones who have lost their heroes. Please join me in recognizing their efforts and those of our brave troops and let us never forget their sacrifices.

HONORING COMMANDER DONALD GAITHER

**HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 26, 2010*

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay honor and tribute to the late Commander Donald Gaither, a founder of the elite Navy SEALs, for his 27 years of service in the U.S. Navy.

Commander Gaither was a native Hoosier and one we are all proud of. Commander Gaither was born in Daviess County, Indiana and graduated from Washington High School in 1937. While serving on his first submarine, the USS *Swordfish*, the submarine engine room was damaged during battle. In performance of his duties as chief motor machinist, he was awarded the Silver Star medal for distinguished submarine service.

Commander Gaither's U.S. Navy career continued to be characterized by strong leadership and consistent work. As he rose through the ranks from apprentice seaman to commander, he was highly regarded by those who worked under him. During his time in the Navy, Commander Gaither served as an executive officer in Underwater Demolitions, a precursor to the Navy SEALs. After the Korean War, Congress considered eliminating the Underwater Demolitions Program. Commander Gaither came to Congress and persuaded Congress to keep the program. The Underwater Demolitions Program was later expanded into the Navy SEALs, making Commander Gaither one of the founding fathers of the Navy SEALs.

Commander Gaither's success in the Navy is a tribute to what hard work and determination can accomplish. Commander Gaither spent countless hours studying and preparing for each Navy promotion he received. His work ethic was only matched by his strong leadership skills. Although Commander Gaither died of natural causes post-retirement, his 27 years of service through three wars represent a lifetime commitment to serving our country.

Today, I ask all members of Congress to join me as we honor the life of Commander Donald Gaither of the U.S. Navy, an accomplished war veteran who courageously served to better the lives of all American citizens.

RECOGNIZING TONYA WOODS FOR HER COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS AND EDUCATION IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

**HON. JOHN BOOZMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 26, 2010*

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tonya Woods, for her achievement of being named the Arkansas Elementary School Assistant Principal of the Year for her work at T.G. Smith Elementary School in Springdale.

Woods is a graduate of John Brown University and earned her master's from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. She is looking to continue her education, and is now interviewing for a Ph.D. program.

Woods has been committed to education as an administrator for the past 5 years at Smith Elementary. Her hard work and commitment to students serves as an inspiration to her co-workers.

Woods is constantly looking for creative ways to improve the lives of her students and that is why she received this honor. Her efforts have brought innovative resources to the school through promoting technology in the classroom, establishing a homework club that encourages children to excel in their studies and overseeing a program aimed at preparing students for the Arkansas Benchmark exams.

It is the efforts of educators like Tonya Woods that will enable our future generations to reach their full potential and I am proud of her commitment to education and her efforts to improve the lives of students in Arkansas.

IN TRIBUTE TO KEN STARR

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 26, 2010*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to my friend, Ken Starr, who is leaving his post overlooking Malibu, California, and the Pacific Ocean as dean of Pepperdine University's School of Law to return to his native Texas as Baylor University's 14th president.

Judge Starr has had a long and storied career. After graduating law school, he became a clerk for then-Chief Justice Warren Burger. He left Justice Burger to work as an attorney in Los Angeles for several years before returning to Washington, DC, in 1981 to serve under U.S. Attorney General William French Smith.

Judge Starr was a federal judge on the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals from 1983 to 1989 and was U.S. Solicitor General from 1989 to 1993. While on the bench, Judge Starr won the respect of both political parties. He was often mentioned as a potential U.S. Supreme Court nominee.

In 1994, Judge Starr was appointed independent counsel to continue the investigation into the Whitewater land transactions begun by Robert Fiske. He was charged with investigating several allegations connected to President Clinton, eventually issuing a report on