I request that the Congressional Record reflect that had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

(1) Rollcall No. 457. On H.R. 3169, to provide the Secretary of Education with waiver authority for students who are eligible for Pell Grants who are adversely affected by a natural disaster: "yes."

(2) Rollcall No. 456. On H.R. 3650, to allow United States Courts to conduct business during emergency conditions, and for other purposes: "yes."

CONGRATULATIONS TO KAMALA S. FARQUHARS, RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 8, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the superior academic performance of Kamala S. Farquhars, a recipient of this year’s Presidential Freedom Scholarship. Thirteen students in the 28th Congressional District are receiving this special recognition. This award recognizes outstanding service and citizenship initiatives by the students, who were nominated, and provides an opportunity to acknowledge their leadership. Administered by Learn and Serve America, the scholarship provides $500 in Federal funds, matched with $500 from a community organization or business obtained for the student by their high school or Boys and Girls Club. Winners must have completed at least 100 hours of community service, either through a school-based service-learning program or independently through service at a nonprofit or faith-based organization. Kamala is a member of the North Fort Worth Boys and Girls Club. The organization matched the $500 federal fund scholarship. Over 38,000 students to date have received this award and I extend my sincere congratulations to Kamala S. Farquhars for being one of them. This student’s contribution and services should serve as inspiration to those who wish to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF LANCE CPL. AARON H. REED

HON. ROBERT W. NEY
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and community of Lance Cpl. Aaron H. Reed upon the death of this outstanding Marine who served with the 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, Fourth Division, Lima Company. Lance Cpl. Aaron H. Reed was an active member of the Richmond Dale Church of God where his devotion to the Lord was fostered though his commitment to the Youth Group. He was an active citizen in his community and did his best to make his country a better place to live.

Lance Cpl. Aaron H. Reed will be remembered for his unsurpassed sacrifice of self while protecting others. His example of strength and fortitude will be remembered by all those who knew him.

While words cannot express our grief during the loss of such a courageous Marine, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family, friends, and colleagues of Lance Cpl. Aaron H. Reed.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF HURRICANE KATRINA, 2005

SPREACH OF
HON. DORIS O. MATSUI
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, September 2, 2005

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, our thoughts and prayers are with the people of New Orleans and all other Gulf Coast residents affected by this horrific disaster. As a nation we have watched with horror as the city of New Orleans has faced Hurricane Katrina and been overtaken by the waters of Lake Pontchartrain. We have seen the heart-wrenching stories that restore your faith, but sadly we have also seen the opposite.

Lives have been interrupted. Families separated. And many now face an uncertain future of trying to locate family and friends as well as begin to rebuild their lives, many from scratch. With the victims dispersed across this nation, when this can begin is not known. The full impact of Hurricane Katrina—emotionally, physically and financially—is not known for years and more realistically decades.

It is during tragedies like this, that we must come together as Americans to help our fellow citizens in their time of need. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to praise the hundreds of Americans who are working day and night to help rescue and bring relief to the thousands of people trapped in the affected area.

From the start, the American people have again shown their unity of spirit and their willingness to aid those in the midst of this devastation. And these are not only professional rescue personnel but simply kind-hearted neighbors who may have a boat, or some extra water or blankets and are scouring the area looking for survivors. I cannot imagine the difficulties they are facing and the sacrifices they have made to help their fellow Americans. I thank them for all their efforts and pray that they remain safe themselves and return home to their families.

I commend the generosity of the American people, including my home town of Sacramento, which because of its location at the confluence of the American and Sacramento Rivers has a unique understanding of being a flood-threatened city. I am proud of their generosity and extension of assistance—sending its firefigthers, search and rescue teams and opening its doors to hundreds of victims of Hurricane Katrina who are unable to return to their homes. Their efforts to restore a sense of normalcy for those who have been so uprooted are a testament to them.

I also share the frustration of so many with the early response of our government to this crisis. While the conditions under which the relief workers are functioning are catastrophic.
The couple made their home in northeast Arkansas and spent the next 42 years growing cotton, soybeans, and milo. Throughout the years, the Wards were blessed with three children, James E. Ward, Vondella W. Davis, and Lois M. Meadows, and now have the pleasure of spending time with six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Their love for each other and their family extends to their neighbors as well, where they continue to stay involved in their community. They remain active members in the political process and are often seen participating in local activities and events. Their energy is truly remarkable and perhaps the secret to a long and fulfilling life.

A 75th wedding anniversary reminds us that marriage is not an instant achievement but a covenant that requires love, patience, and respect. Ode and Beatrice Ward have perfected this commitment to each other and are truly blessed to have a strong marriage, their family, and a lifetime of memories. As they live each day by their wedding vows, they continue to inspire all who are fortunate to know them.

On September 20, 2005, Ode and Beatrice Ward will join many of their family and friends at a celebration to honor their 75 years of marriage. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this joyous occasion and sending our best wishes for many more years of love and happiness.

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**CONGRATULATING THE TRACY NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM**

**HON. RICHARD W. POMBO**

**OF CALIFORNIA**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Thursday, September 8, 2005**

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Tracy National Little League All-star team, from my hometown in Tracy, California. This group of 12-year-olds rose up through the ranks, first becoming District 67 champs, then Section 3 champs, then Northern California champs, and finally Western Region Runner-ups.

Players: Casey Anklim, Brock Blades, Jeramee Campbell, Dominic D’souze, Alex Flores, Michael Hager, Jacob Lopez, Kyle Moses, Tyler Sanfilippo, Tyler Trew, Jacob Valdez, Joshua Wesley and Casey Wichman showed great talent and teamwork. Their hard work and dedication really paid off, taking them nearly all the way to the Little League World Series. Manager Emmett Lee and Coaches John Moses and Rob Wichman provide great leadership for the boys, and were instrumental in their success.

As many of you know, I am a big baseball fan. My son Richie plays on his high school team, and each year I look forward to watching in the Congressional Baseball Game. I am very proud of these kids from Tracy, and know that the skills they learn on the diamond—teamwork, competition, dedication—will serve them well throughout their lives. I look forward to following their progress again next season and know they will be even better.

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**IN HONOR OF THE WARD’S 75TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. MARION BERRY**

**OF ARKANSAS**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Thursday, September 8, 2005**

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to a special couple from Caraway, AR, Ode and Beatrice Ward, who will celebrate their 75th wedding anniversary on September 20, 2005. This is a significant milestone and one that only a very few are fortunate enough to celebrate in their lifetime.

Ode and Beatrice Ward met in Leachville, AR, and decided to marry in the fall of 1930. They were married in a small church in nearby Leachville and lived in a small apartment in Caraway, AR.

The couple made their home in northeast Arkansas and spent the next 42 years growing cotton, soybeans, and milo. Throughout the years, the Wards were blessed with three children, James E. Ward, Vondella W. Davis, and Lois M. Meadows, and now have the pleasure of spending time with six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Their love for each other and their family extends to their neighbors as well, where they continue to stay involved in their community. They remain active members in the political process and are often seen participating in local activities and events. Their energy is truly remarkable and perhaps the secret to a long and fulfilling life.

A 75th wedding anniversary reminds us that marriage is not an instant achievement but a covenant that requires love, patience, and respect. Ode and Beatrice Ward have perfected this commitment to each other and are truly blessed to have a strong marriage, their family, and a lifetime of memories. As they live each day by their wedding vows, they continue to inspire all who are fortunate to know them.

On September 20, 2005, Ode and Beatrice Ward will join many of their family and friends at a celebration to honor their 75 years of marriage. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this joyous occasion and sending our best wishes for many more years of love and happiness.

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**TRIBUTE TO MARTHA BOGLE**

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

**OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Thursday, September 8, 2005**

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one who was an extraordinary force behind the recent designation of the Congaree Swamp National Monument as a National Park. When Martha Bogle came to this 22,200-acre National Parks Service site near Columbia, SC, in 1995, about 50,000 acres of this old-growth bottomland hardwood forest that was designated a national monument. Today that figure has tripled and it is due in large measure to the hard work and dedication of Ms. Bogle.

Upon her arrival, Ms. Bogle realized the majesty of the towering pines and giant hardwoods, but access to the facility was so poor that few visitors were enjoying these amazing vistas. As the new superintendent, Ms. Bogle looked for a cost-effective way the community could join in making this hidden jewel more accessible. Her tenacity paid off when she convinced the South Carolina National Guard to partner with the Parks Service in building a new entrance road and visitors center. The result was an award-winning, 12,000 square foot visitors center with wonderful educational tools and roads and parking lots that could better accommodate visitors. This was quite an accomplishment for Ms. Bogle’s first foray as a park superintendent.

Still her vision for the site was not complete. With improved facilities and access, Ms. Bogle embarked upon a campaign to turn the Congaree Swamp National Monument into a national park. This was an even greater undertaking because only 52 of the National Parks Service’s 388 sites were designated as national parks. Yet Ms. Bogle found allies in her former colleague, Senator Fritz Hollings, and myself, and we joined her and the many “Friends of the Congaree” in the fight to secure the designation. After some difficult days and lots of hard work on the part of Ms. Bogle and many others, on November 10, 2003, the President signed legislation that officially changed the Congaree Swamp National Monument into the Congaree National Park. In addition, we were able to include in the legislation, at Ms. Bogle’s request, a 4,600-acre expansion of the site. As she departs, Ms. Bogle is working to acquire the additional property from willing sellers.

Ms. Bogle’s love of nature began in her childhood in a small Tennessee town. Upon her graduation from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville with a Bachelor’s in Botany, Ms. Bogle wasted no time in securing a position with the National Parks Service. Her 26-year career has taken her to nine National Parks Service sites and one national wildlife refuge.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you, and my colleagues to join me today in thanking Martha Bogle for her tremendous contributions to the Congaree National Park, and wish her well as she leaves South Carolina to become assistant superintendent of the Blue Ridge Parkway. No matter where she serves in the National Park Service, Ms. Bogle brings an infectious joy in her surroundings and a commitment that will insure our Nation’s natural treasures are preserved and protected for many generations to come.

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO CHAVONTRELL ALLEN, RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP**

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

**OF TEXAS**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Thursday, September 8, 2005**

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the superior academic performance of Chavontrell Allen, a recipient of this year’s Presidential Freedom Scholarship. Thirteen students in the 26th Congressional District are receiving this special recognition.

This award recognizes outstanding service and citizenship initiatives by the students who were nominated, and provides an opportunity to acknowledge their leadership. Administered by Learn and Serve America, the scholarship provides $500 in Federal funds, matched with $500 from a community organization or business, for the student’s high school or Boys and Girls Club. Winners must have completed at least 100 hours of community service, either through a school-based service-learning program or independently through service at a nonprofit or faith-based organization.

Chavontrell is a member of the Frisco Boys and Girls Clubs of Collins County. This organization contributed matching funds of $500.

Over 38,000 students to date have received this award and I extend my sincere congratulations to Chavontrell Allen for being one of them. This student’s contribution and service should serve as inspiration to those who wish to make a positive difference in the lives of others.