Jets, Devils or Nets at the Meadowlands owe a debt of gratitude to Senator Bateman. His 1971 legislation establishing the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority paved the way for the construction of the Meadowlands Sports Complex.

Throughout his long life, Senator Bateman has exemplified the spirit of former President Theodore Roosevelt in his love for nature’s beauty. From the rocky shores of Pleasant Pond, Maine, to the banks of the Pequest River in Warren County, New Jersey, Senator Bateman’s skill as an avid trout fisherman is deservedly renowned. He has long been a champion of efforts to preserve open spaces in Somerset County. His early appreciation of nature helped ensure that this critical ecosystem would be preserved.

During his long and distinguished career, Senator Bateman received numerous awards and honors. For example, he was one of the five Jaycees’ “Young Men of the Year” of New Jersey in 1962; he earned the “Assemblyman of the Year” award from the New Jersey Association of Freeholders in 1967; he earned the Somerset County Education Association’s “Distinguished Service Award;” he earned the “Outstanding Citizen” award from the Somerset Valley Chamber of Commerce in 1977; and he was named the Rotary Club of Branchburg’s first Paul Harris Fellow in 1993 in honor of the founder of Rotary International in 1905.

Continuing his lifelong commitment to education, Senator Bateman in 1978 was appointed to the Somerset County College (now called Raritan Valley Community College) Board of Trustees and served as the Board’s Vice Chairman. In 1978, he became Chairman of the Board of Trustees and served in that position for 5 years. Senator Bateman will serve as a Trustee until 2009. His leadership and vision helped transform Raritan Valley Community College into one of the top community colleges in New Jersey and the Nation.

Raritan Valley Community College in 2006 awarded Senator Bateman, an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, and in 2006 he was presented with the New Jersey Council of County Colleges’ “Community College Spirit Award.”

As long and distinguished as his public record of achievement is, Senator Bateman is first and foremost a son, husband, father, grandfather and friend. A lifelong New Jerseyan, Senator Bateman was born on October 29, 1927, in Somerville, New Jersey, as the son of Lydia and C. Palmer Bateman Sr. Senator Bateman was married for 49 years to the former Joan Speer, and together they had six children, Caren, Raymond, Christopher, Robin, Michael and Joannanne. Those blessed to be acquainted with the Bateman family know firsthand that they personify Senator Bateman’s generosity, zest for life and sense of community. His ten grandchildren similarly reflect his love of sports, the outdoors and the importance of family above all else.

Those of us who followed Senator Bateman into public service are at a distinct disadvantage, for Senator Bateman’s shadow is long and his reputation is without equal. Senator Bateman established the standard for selfless service to our fellow citizens; it is a standard other public officials only strive to meet.

Somerset County and the State of New Jersey are better for Senator Bateman’s service. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Raymond H. Bateman as his family and friends gather this weekend to celebrate 80 truly remarkable years and to wish him many more happy, healthy and fulfilling years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD BELDEN
HON. JOHN B. LARSEN
OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. LAWSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay great honor to Representative Richard Belden, who passed away on August 20, 2007. Belden proudly represented Shelton, Connecticut in the state House of Representatives for 33 years and he was the longest serving lawmaker in the history of the Connecticut State House.

Dick Belden was born in Derby and graduated from Shelton High School. During his 33 years in the State House, Belden advocated a variety of issues such as fiscal restraint, open space preservation, and tough drunk-driving laws to improve the State of Connecticut. Recently, Representative Belden was the deputy House Republican leader-at-large and he served as the ranking member of the tax-writing finance committee for several years. Belden will also be remembered as an adamant questioner on the 10-member State Bond Commission. In 1984 Belden became deputy speaker when the Republicans briefly regained the House. Richard Belden was admired and a mentor to many of his colleagues. I was fortunate enough to serve with him and work with him on many issues. Above all, he was a man of integrity; his word was his bond. He will be missed at the Capitol. He will be remembered for his many years of service and his commitment to his constituents and to the state of Connecticut, but most of all as the “Dean of the House.”

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the life and accomplishments of Richard Belden. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife of 51 years, Bertha Kuryka Belden and all those who loved him. We will remember Belden as a dedicated member of the State House who touched the lives of many.

RECOGNITION OF SPORTSMEN’S WEEK
HON. JOHN J. HALL
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in enthusiastic recognition of Sportsmen’s Week in the House of Representatives.

Outdoor activities are important parts of the fabric of American life. As our Nation faces new environmental challenges, we can look to the historic commitment of sportsmen to conservation, wildlife management, and the preservation of open spaces to find guiding principles that will allow us to coexist with nature. The most famous embodiment of this tradition can be found in the tireless drive of President Theodore Roosevelt, an avid outdoorsman and hunter, to make conservation and harmonious existence with nature national priorities.

My home, New York’s Hudson Valley, has been blessed by an abundance of natural beauty and wildlife. The tie between sportsmen and their natural surroundings there remains strong and makes a significant contribution to our quality of life.

Hunters and fisherman in the region, organized in groups like the Orange County Federation of Sportmen’s Clubs, are constantly engaged in a wide variety of activities to maintain and improve our environment and enhance local recreation. They include important educational programs that teach important hunting and fishing skills in addition to the safety courses needed to obtain licenses and hunt responsibly. Sportsmen also set an admirable example by establishing a respectful, mutually beneficial relationship with ecosystems and wildlife through seasonal restocking operations. They also work to ensure that the natural beauty of our Nation will be passed on to future generations by aggressively working to preserve open space and expand parkland.

All these activities have important social, economic, and environmental benefits, and it is only right that we acknowledge them here in the House of Representatives during Sportsmen’s Week. I was proud to support Representative Gillibrand’s resolution supporting the goals of National Hunting and Fishing Day, and am honored to recognize Sportmen’s Week in Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION
HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I missed recorded votes on Monday, September 24, 2007 due to a delay in my flight. Had I been present, I would have voted the following:

“Yea” on H. Con. Res 193, Recognizing all hunters across the United States for their continued commitment to safety (rollcall No. 891)

“Yea” on H. Res. 668, Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the September 25, 1957, desegregation of Little Rock Central High School by the Little Rock Nine (rollcall No. 892)

“Yea” on H.R. 1199, Drug Endangered Children Act of 2007 (rollcall No. 893)

“Yea” on H. Res. 340, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives of the importance of providing a voice for the many victims (and families of victims) involved in missing persons cases and unidentified human remains cases (rollcall No. 894)

INTRODUCTION OF THE OVARIAN CANCER BIOMARKER RESEARCH ACT OF 2007
HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Gynecologic Cancer Awareness...
Month to introduce the Ovarian Cancer Biomarker Research Act of 2007 with Representative RALPH M. HALL. I commend Mr. HALL, my friend and colleague, for his work on this issue and for his dedication to this devastating disease.

According to the National Cancer Institute (NCI), there will be 22,430 new cases of ovarian cancer and 15,280 deaths from ovarian cancer in the United States in 2007. Ovarian cancer ranks fifth in cancer deaths among women and causes more deaths than any other cancer of the female reproductive system.

Early detection is the key to preventing deaths from this disease. In cases where ovarian cancer is detected before it has spread to other tissues, more than 90 percent of women survive longer than five years. When diagnosed in the advanced stages, the chance of five-year survival drops to about 30 percent. Currently, early stage diagnosis occurs in only 20 percent of ovarian cancer cases in and FY2006 funding for the NCI was increased by $211 million, but gynecologic cancer research funding decreased. With the lifetime risk of ovarian cancer at one out of every 69 women, we must increase the resources to fight this disease.

The need for increased research and funding for ovarian cancer is critical to improving survivorship rates from this disease. Between FY2000 and FY2006, the number of ovarian cancer biomarkers has increased by 36 percent, but gynecologic cancer research funding decreased.

The NCI, in its mission to extend the lives and improve the quality of life of all Americans with cancer, is making major progress in the fight against ovarian cancer. The NCI has developed a number of strategies to increase early detection and improve treatment outcomes. These strategies include:

- Developing new diagnostic tests to detect ovarian cancer at an earlier stage.
- Conducting clinical trials to test new treatments, such as chemotherapy and targeted therapies.
- Supporting research on the genetics of ovarian cancer to identify risk factors and develop new prevention strategies.

In conclusion, the Ovarian Cancer Biomarker Research Act of 2007 would authorize the NCI to make grants to public or nonprofit entities to establish research centers focused on ovarian cancer biomarkers. The bill would also authorize the NCI to make grants to public or nonprofit entities to establish research centers focused on ovarian cancer biomarkers. The bill would also authorize the NCI to make grants to public or nonprofit entities to establish research centers focused on ovarian cancer biomarkers.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR. JOHN “BUCK” O’NEIL

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the achievements of Mr. John Jordan “Buck” O’Neil, a former baseball player and manager and the first African American coach in Major League Baseball. At his death, Buck, as he was affectionately called, was a resident of the Fifth District of Missouri which I am honored to represent. This week, Mr. O’Neil will be inducted into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame posthumously during a ceremony as part of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation’s Annual Legislative Conference, an event held to honor the achievements of African-Americans who have made significant contributions to Missouri.

John Jordan “Buck” O’Neil was born the grandson of slaves in Carrabelle, Florida, on November 13, 1911. He acquired his love for baseball at a young age from his father, who played for the local team when he wasn’t working as a foreman in the celery fields. As a teenager, Buck realized that he wanted to do something meaningful with his life, but times were difficult throughout the country during the Great Depression, and he had received little formal education because the local high school was segregated.

When his father told him that, “There is something better, but you can’t get it here, you’re gonna have to go someplace else,” Buck made the decision to try his luck as a baseball player in the semiprofessional barnstorming leagues that traveled the entire country. It didn’t take him long to attract the attention of the Memphis Red Sox of the Negro American League, who signed him to his first professional contract in 1937. After a year of playing for the Red Sox, Mr. O’Neil’s contract was purchased by the Kansas City Monarchs—the team with which he would spend the rest of his playing career.

The Monarchs were the most successful team in the history of the Negro Leagues, winning the most titles and producing the best players. While playing for Kansas City, Mr. O’Neil won batting titles in 1940 and 1946 and led his team to a convincing victory in the 1942 Negro World Series. He batted .353 as the Monarchs swept the Homestead Grays, 4–0. He was also selected to play in three Negro American League All-Star Games, and would likely have accomplished more during his playing career had it not been for World War II; Mr. O’Neil dutifully served his country for 2 years by completing a tour in the United States Navy from 1943–1945. Buck stayed with the Monarchs through, the end of the 1955 season, serving both as a player and as the team’s manager for the final 8 years of his time in Kansas City, all the while fighting segregation and discrimination in a country that was still segregated. Thanks in part to the significant accomplishments of his Monarchs teammates.