

Century Ranch, an honor reserved for ranches operated by the same family for more than 100 years and certified by the Commissioner of the Texas Department of Agriculture. The Ranch continues to be run with family love and values. Mollie Stevenson, Sr. is still the matriarch of the ranch, cared for by six of her children and their families who live on the property. The Black Professional Cowboy & Cowgirl Association and also the Black Go Texan Committee recognized Mollie, Sr. as a "Living Legend."

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mollie Stevenson, Sr. and Mollie Stevenson, Jr. who have lived their lives as true stewards of their land and community. They are the driving force behind the ongoing success of the ranch and museum. They stand tall over their corner of Houston and give as much to the community as they give to the land. Their ranch is not only a part of Houston's heritage, but it is also a part of a heritage forged by the ceaseless contributions of African-American cowboys and ranchers.

HONORING THE GIRL SCOUTS ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to pay tribute to the Girl Scouts on their 90th Anniversary.

The Girl Scouts are the world's preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls—all girls. In a nurturing environment, girls are able to build character and skills for success in the real world. Girl Scouting began on March 12, 1912, when founder Juliette Gordon Low assembled 18 girls from Savannah, Georgia, for a local Girl Scout meeting. She believed that all girls should be given the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually.

Today, Mr. Speaker, that small group of 18 girls from Savannah has blossomed into 3.8 million Girl Scouts nationwide. The Detroit Metro Girl Scouts currently have 32,000 girls involved and it just keeps growing. Not only have the Girl Scouts continued their dedication to building good citizens and leaders, but their organization has established a research institute, received government funding to address violence prevention and is addressing the digital divide with activities that encourage girls to pursue careers in science, math and technology. The Detroit Metro Girl Scouts have set up a program with Lawrence Technological Institute in Detroit, Michigan to further the involvement of young women in the field of technology.

In the Girl Scouts, girls discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together, through a myriad of experiences, such as extraordinary field trips, sports skill-building clinics, community service projects, environmental stewardships and numerous other character building activities. They provide young women with the opportunity to build a strong mind, body, and spirit through various programs dealing with nutrition, diet, exercise and several other health campaigns including the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids and Child Health Day.

Mr. Speaker, the Girl Scouts are an asset to communities all over the United States. I want to thank them for their tireless effort to provide young women with the personal, emotional and intellectual foundation that is essential for building good citizens and leaders. On the occasion of their 90th Anniversary, I would like to ask all my colleagues to salute the Detroit Metro Girl Scouts and their fellow Girl Scouts across the country.

IN HONOR OF THE GIRL SCOUTS' 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an outstanding organization that is dedicated to helping girls throughout the world. This organization is the Girl Scouts.

Specifically, I would like to honor the Girl Scouts of Kentucky, and especially the members of Kentucky's 4th Congressional District, which I represent. Founded on March 3, 1912, by Juliette Gordon Low in Savannah, GA, the Girl Scouts have earned the admiration of this great Nation. Juliette Gordon Low had a vision. She wanted all young women to be given the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. After 90 years, Juliette Gordon Low's vision remains the basic mission of the Girl Scouts.

Working as a grassroots organization, the Girl Scouts have changed the lives of millions of girls. Worldwide, the Girl Scouts have over 10 million members, both women and girls, in 140 countries. In Kentucky alone, there are over 44,000 Girl Scouts and 13,000 adult volunteers. And right in the Licking Valley of Kentucky, there are 5,000 Girl Scouts and 1,300 adult volunteers. Mr. Speaker, this is an outstanding organization.

As the Girl Scouts celebrate their 90th anniversary, I would like to conclude with the Girl Scouts promise: "On my honor, I will try: To serve God and my country, To help people at all time, and to live by the Girl Scouts Law."

I ask my colleagues to join me to honor this incredible organization that has changed the lives of millions of Americans and people throughout the world.

HONORING THE DEDICATION OF THE DELAINE EASTIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN UNION CITY, CALIFORNIA

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize California State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Delaine Eastin, on the dedication of the Delaine Eastin Elementary School in Union City, California.

Delaine Eastin once stated, "I'll never stop fighting for children and education, it's my life's work." As a strong defender of top-quality education in California, Delaine Eastin has proven immeasurably successful at this admirable goal.

As State Superintendent, Delaine Eastin has fought for safer and healthier schools, modern facilities, cutting-edge technology, family-school partnerships, teacher training and professional development, tighter graduation requirements, and increased resources for schools.

She is a dedicated advocate for reduced class sizes, improved reading and mathematics instruction, and the implementation of statewide standards, assessment, and increased accountability for what students should accomplish. She has tirelessly advocated for improved library facilities, strong arts programs, and librarians, counselors, and nurses in all California schools.

Delaine Eastin is currently serving her second term as State Superintendent. Prior to this position, she served as an educator, a Union City city councilwoman, and a four-term State Assemblywoman for Southern Alameda County. She was chair of the Assembly Committee on Education, where she voiced early support for the charter school concept and for strengthened technical and vocational training.

Delaine Eastin is the recipient of many distinguished awards and recognitions, notably the President's Crystal Apple Award from the American Library Association, the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of California, Santa Barbara, the Woman of Achievement Award from the Women's Fund, and the Leader Award from California Leadership. In addition to the Delaine Eastin Elementary School, a day care center also carries her name.

I am honored to congratulate Delaine Eastin on all of her remarkable accomplishments. Her tireless dedication to improving education in California has assured every child in the state the opportunity for a bright and successful future.

TRIBUTE TO CALVIN RAPSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Calvin Rapson on his retirement as Director of UAW Region 1-C. Cal will be honored at a testimonial dinner on May 8th in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Cal Rapson began his career with the UAW in 1965 working for the Chevrolet Engine plant. Through his employment with Chevrolet Cal earned a Machine Repair Machinist skilled trades Journeyman classification. After graduating from the UAW-GM apprenticeship program Cal became active in UAW Local 659.

UAW Local Unions are the front lines in providing assistance and better jobsite conditions for workers. Through the various elected positions Cal held with Local 659, he was able to learn every aspect of the Local's day-to-day operations. From grassroots political action, solving health and safety problems and negotiating local contracts, Cal was at the forefront of every fight for justice and equity for the members. In 1982 he was the chair of the UAW Negotiating Team that successfully bargained the UAW-GM Master Agreement.

This success led to his appointment to the UAW International staff that same year. Working with a wide variety of organizations and

plants, Cal participated in the global efforts of the UAW to bring fair wages, human rights, and a new approach to international trade to workers in the United States and worldwide. In 1988 Cal was promoted to Coordinator of Active Training Programs at the UAW-GM Human Resources Center. He went on to serve in the UAW GM Department as Administrative Assistant to then UAW Vice-President Stephen Yokich from 1989 to 1995.

Following up his appointment as Assistant Director of Region 1-C in 1995, Cal was named the region's director in 1998. With these two positions Cal came back to his early roots. His service to the Flint community reflects Cal's vision of a better life for workers and their families. He serves on the board of many community organizations including Healthplus of Michigan and the Greater Flint Health Coalition.

A huge Spartan fan, Cal attended Michigan State University. Realizing the importance of education and history Cal now works with Michigan State University, Mott Community College and Lansing Community College to preserve the history of the labor movement and to foster better relations between labor and educational institutions.

Cal Rapson has a deep and abiding respect for the workers in Region 1-C. Having come up through the ranks with most of the workers in this area Cal stated in his director's report, "I have never been prouder to be from this region than after the events of September 11." Under his leadership the local unions raised over \$500,000 to benefit the victims of that tragedy. UAW Region 1-C workers donated their time and labor to build vehicles for the New York City recovery operation, replacing those destroyed in the collapse of the World Trade Towers.

Mr. Speaker, I consider Cal Rapson a dear friend and superior advisor. I appreciate his expertise, his common sense, his judgment, his guidance, and discernment. The UAW will miss his contributions to the labor movement. I ask the House of Representatives join me in wishing him the best as he begins his well-deserved retirement.

COMMEMORATIVE BUCKS OF MICHIGAN SCORES BIG FOR HUNTERS

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Commemorative Bucks of Michigan on the occasion of its 20th anniversary. I am proud to have written during my years as a state lawmaker the resolution that established Commemorative Bucks as the official record-keeping organization for big game hunters in my home state or Michigan. I am prouder still to be a member of such an outstanding organization and to have one of my hunting achievements included in its record book.

As a non-profit organization, Commemorative Bucks of Michigan collects and maintains records on trophy class Whitetail deer, black bear, elk and turkey taken by legal hunting means in the state of Michigan. Under the strong leadership of President Richard Wilt and previous top officials, Commemorative Bucks has become a premier organization in the state for the promotion and advancement

of big game hunting. In addition to its record books, the organization's official publication, "Buck Fax," has become an excellent resource for hunters throughout the state.

The magazine provides a top-notch forum for successful hunters to pass on their personal hunting strategies and display their trophies with their own pictures. It also provides a guide for young novice hunters through information and articles included in "Buck Tail Basics." Moreover, in the interest of community service, "Buck Fax" is mailed free of charge to every high school library in the state and to veterans hospitals.

In addition, both through the magazine and through informational events held across the state, Commemorative Bucks plays a vital role as an advocate for deer management and the cultivation of wildlife as a renewable resource. As all outdoors enthusiasts understand, hunting greatly benefits our efforts to sustain wildlife populations and foster an environment that will protect our resources for future generations. Commemorative Bucks also takes an active role in promoting hunters' rights to ensure that the ability to hunt is not infringed upon by those who fail to understand the importance of hunting.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Commemorative Bucks of Michigan, President Richard Wilt and the entire membership for the significant contributions to hunting made by the organization during the past 20 years. I am confident Commemorative Bucks will continue to honor the achievements of Michigan Hunters and act as an advocate for responsible hunting and wildlife management for many years to come.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN— MADISON MALE BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the University of Wisconsin—Madison male basketball team who through a season of intense hard work made the 2002 NCAA basketball tournament. After being picked to finish ninth in their league by most pre-season publications, the UW Badgers ended the season with a share of the Big Ten Championship, and a number one seed in the Big Ten Tournament. This championship title was the first the school has seen since the 1946-'47 season.

The team began the season with a new coach, Bo Ryan, and had graduated four out of its five starters from last season, and before the season even got underway, lost two of its star freshmen. Under the motivating leadership of Ryan, however, the team finished its regular season with an impressive six-game winning streak to finish the Big Ten season with an 11-5 record and an 18-11 mark overall.

Ending Michigan State's, fifty-three home game winning streak in January, and their one-point victory over Indiana, providing the first UW victory over Indiana at Indiana in twenty-five years, were just a couple of the highlights of this exciting Badger season. Their last game, in which the team beat Michigan by twenty points, ended with a sold-out crowd chanting "Big Ten Champs. Big Ten Champs." These Big Ten Champs ended up with an

eight seed in the NCAA tournament and will be playing their first game against St. John's University on the evening of Friday, March 15, at the MCI Center in Washington, DC.

I wholeheartedly congratulate the University of Wisconsin Males Basketball Team on their successful season and wish them the best of luck in the NCAA tournament.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GERTRUDE L. BENZEL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today to recognize the life and contributions of Gertrude L. Benzel of Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Gert peacefully left us on a Saturday morning, March 9, 2002. Gert was a popular member and patriarch of the community and was often sought by many for her listening ear, advice, and warm smile.

Gert was a native of her state, born in 1911 in Delta, Colorado and resided in Grand Junction. In 1942, Gert, along with her late husband Alex, moved to Glenwood Springs and purchased a sheep ranch. Gert soon thereafter found herself desiring to improve the lives of her fellow community members. She was often found spending her time as President of the State Woolgrowers Association, as a charter member of the Glenwood Springs Golf Club, or at various charitable and volunteer organizations throughout the area. What I find truly amazing is how Gert was able to stay completely involved in her pursuits and still be able to raise a family that appreciated and valued the importance of hard work, honor, and perseverance. She raised her children John and Joanne to be respectful and hardworking individuals determined to succeed in their own pursuits. Gert's influence touched many lives outside of her immediate family and she was a well-revered and loving mother, grandmother, wife, sister, and friend to many.

Gert's passing is especially hard for me as she was like a second mother to our family. I have such warm memories of those days of my youth that I spent visiting our neighbors, the Benzels. Whether it was hunting with John, handling sheep up Storm King with Shep (Alex), talking with JoAnne, or watching Jeannie with baby Julie, they were all wonderful times. But truly, I will miss that special time with Gert. The ranch, the golf course, the kitchen (baking cakes for my parents birthday), the kittens, all of it was good living and we will miss her very much.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Gertrude L. Benzel for the great strides she took in establishing herself as a valuable leader and patriarch of the Glenwood Springs community. Her dedication to family, friends, work, and the community certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation. Although Gert has left us, her good-natured spirit lives on through the lives of those she has touched. I would like to extend my regrets and deepest sympathies to Gert's family and friends during this sad and difficult time. We're going to miss you Gert.