

The advice from his father stayed with him throughout his life. In his younger years Jack Stephens worked on the family farm behind a mule drawn plow and picking cotton. By age 15, he held summer jobs as a bellhop and shoeshine boy at the Barlow Hotel in Hope, Arkansas. He added the delivery of telegrams to his duties when he realized he could do so after his normal hotel shift was finished.

A bright student, Mr. Stephens attended public schools in Prattsville and graduated high school from Columbia Military Academy in Columbia, Tennessee. He attended the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1946. (Class of '47.)

Poor eyesight prevented Mr. Stephens from active duty in the Navy so he took a job offered to him on his graduation day by his brother W.R. "Witt" Stephens. With a simple handshake in his room at Annapolis, Mr. Stephens agreed to join his brother in Little Rock at a municipal bond house.

Witt was outgoing, a natural salesman. Jack was quiet, unassuming and studious. A decade later, in 1956, Jack became an equal partner with his brother and became President and Chief Executive Officer the following year (1957). The two brothers acquired the Fort Smith Gas Company and renamed it the Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Company.

The pair also acquired an oil and gas exploration firm and named it Stephens Production Company.

Both investments proved to be the catalyst for expansion from a municipal bond business to a diversified financial group that became Stephens Inc.

Jack Stephens served as President and CEO of Stephens Inc. from 1957 until 1986 when Stephens Group, Inc. was formed and became the parent company of Stephens Inc. His son, Warren, assumed the leadership of Stephens Inc. at that time. Mr. Stephens became Chairman of Stephens Group, Inc. that year, a title he carried for the remainder of his life.

Over the decades, Mr. Stephens led the company to great heights. Under his leadership, Stephens Inc. invested or assisted in many enterprises including the former Union Life Insurance Company, the former Systematics, Donrey Media (now Stephens Media Group), Dillards, Alltel, Wal-Mart, Tyson Foods and many more. Jack Stephens' leadership and business acumen was responsible for the creation of hundreds of businesses in America and thousands of jobs. Many of those enterprises have become Fortune 500 companies, and a number of them are located in his native Arkansas.

In recent years, Mr. Stephens has been recognized for his philanthropy but it is something he did all his life. He once told a reporter, "There are only two pleasures associated with money, making it and giving it away." For over 20 years Jack Stephens has been the principal benefactor for The Delta Project, a program designed to assist and educate underprivileged children in Arkansas' delta. When he sold the Little Rock cable franchise in 1985, he put the profits into the City Educational Trust Fund. For 20 years the Trust Fund has provided scholarships for students and incentive awards for innovative teachers. His gift of \$48 million built the Jackson T. Stephens Spine and Neurosciences Institute on the campus of the University of Arkansas for

Medical Sciences (DAMS) campus and financed the purchase of equipment for the institute as well as support programs and research.

The Stephens family has been a life long supporter of the Arkansas Arts Center and Jack Stephens donated a portion of his personal art collection to the Center as a permanent display. The Stephens Gallery currently boasts the works of Degas, Monet, Picasso, Wyeth and more. The Stephens display, valued at \$22 million at the time of the gift, has been recognized as one of the most important art collections in the country. It is perhaps the finest art collection in the nation for a city the size of Little Rock. Mr. Stephens was also the lead contributor for the construction of a new 30,000 square foot wing at the Arkansas Arts Center.

The Episcopal Collegiate School, the campus of which bears his name, occupies 31 acres near downtown Little Rock. The total amount of this gift has never been made public but Mr. Stephens donated the money to purchase the land that comprises the campus. In April 2004, he donated \$20 million of the announced \$30 million endowment for the school. His son Warren and Warren's wife, Harriet, donated the remainder of the gift. Mr. Stephens also donated \$20.4 million for the construction of the Jackson T. Stephens Special Events Center on the campus of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR). The facility will become the home court for the UALR Trojan basketball team.

The list of contributions to his community also includes a \$5 million dollar endowment to Harding University, establishment of the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Arkansas, and the Bill and Skeeter Dickey Scholarship at the University of Arkansas Athletic Department.

Mr. Stephens's love of sports (football and golf in particular) led to a \$10 million gift to the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation in Annapolis, Maryland. The donation funded the recent renovation at the Navy Marine Corp Stadium near the campus which has been renamed Jack Stephens Field. The gift is the largest ever made to the Naval Academy.

When asked by the PGA Tour if he would support the launching of a new program to teach golf and its values to children by creating affordable and accessible golf facilities, Mr. Stephens surpassed their expectations with a \$5 million donation to help start The First Tee. The program serves children who have not previously been exposed to the game of golf.

Mr. Stephens loved the game of golf and once told a reporter, "Golf is a great teacher in life. The same skills needed to master this game are the same skills needed to master life, a life full of unseen obstacles and excitement."

In 1962, Mr. Stephens was invited to become a member of the Augusta National Golf Club. Mr. Stephens served as its fourth Chairman (1991–1998) with the responsibility of overseeing the golf club and the most prestigious tournament in golf, the Masters. After turning over the duties of chairman to Hootie Johnson in 1998, Mr. Stephens was named Chairman Emeritus.

Mr. Stephens won numerous awards and recognitions during his lifetime. He was honored with the Horatio Alger Award in 1980 and he was the first recipient of the J. William Ful-

bright Award given for international trade development in 1989.

Mr. Stephens served on the board of the Little Rock Boys Club, The Quapaw Council of The Boy Scouts of America. He served 10 years on the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Law Degree and a University of Arkansas Distinguished Alumnus citation. He was inducted into the Arkansas Business Hall of Fame, the Arkansas State Golf Hall of Fame, and the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame.

Jack Stephens was a proud and loving father and grandfather. He is survived by two sons: Jackson T. "Steve" Stephens, Jr.; Warren Stephens, and his wife, Harriet Stephens; six grandchildren: Caroline Stephens, Jackson T. Stephens III, Mason Stephens, Miles Stephens, John Stephens and Laura Stephens; two great-grandchildren: Sydney Stephens and Bruce Stephens, Jr.; and two adopted children: Kerry LaNoche and James Stephens. Mr. Stephens is also survived by two sisters: Jewel Mays of Prattsville, Arkansas and Wilma Thornton of Searcy, Arkansas.

Jack Stephens was an original American success story with roots deep in the soil of his home state of Arkansas and his other great devotion, the Augusta National Golf Club. His life was filled with many successes and his compassion, commitment and dedication resulted in an extraordinary journey that touched many lives.

He was a great Arkansan, American, and friend.

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A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
WANDA KAFURY

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**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Wanda Kafury has been designated as the AAA District 9 Elder Caregiver of the Year; and

Whereas, Wanda Kafury has been acknowledged by the Ohio Department of Aging for her several years of faithful service; and

Whereas, Wanda Kafury should be commended for her compassion and dedication.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in honoring and congratulating Wanda Kafury for her outstanding accomplishment.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. ROB SIMMONS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I was regrettably detained in a meeting regarding the Base Realignment and Closure process affecting SUBASE New London in my district, and was unable to be on the House Floor for roll-call votes 390 and 394.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 290, an amendment offered by Rep. KING (IA), and "yea" on rollcall 294, an amendment offered by Rep. WATSON.

SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH  
FAIRNESS ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

## HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2005

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 525, which would authorize small businesses around the country to establish Association Health Plans. An estimated 45 million people are uninsured in the United States, and the number has grown since 1989. Eighty-five percent of these people are in working families where the price of premiums have increased so much that they cannot afford the coverage that will give them peace of mind.

The majority of Americans receive health insurance coverage through their employers, but with rising health care costs, many small businesses can no longer afford to provide coverage for their employees. H.R. 525 would remedy this by allowing small businesses to band together to garner greater buying power when bargaining with health care providers. Let's give Americans access to more affordable health care and support Association Health Plans.

TRIBUTE TO THE MOUNT  
CLEMENS ROTARY

## HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Mount Clemens Rotary as they plan a unique local celebration of the 100th anniversary of Rotary International.

The Mount Clemens Rotary Club, organized in 1920, is the oldest and largest service club in Macomb County. The Mount Clemens Rotary and many individual rotarians have been at the forefront of activity in their community. A few of the many projects over the years include: assistance through the Cripple Children Society and the Boy Scouts; providing aid to the Clinton River Flood victims; working in the Relief Store during the Great Depression; leading the Urban Renewal Program in the 1950s and 60s; and helping to establish both Rotary Park in Downtown Mount Clemens and the Playscape on the old Wilson School property.

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of Rotary International, the Mt. Clemens Rotary is preserving a bit of history in downtown Mt. Clemens. Two cannons, donated by the United States Government in 1901, were originally in front of the old Macomb County Court Building. The cannons were placed on pedestals and remained there until 1942 when at the request of the U.S. Government they were donated as part of the World War II scrap metal effort.

For sometime the Macomb County Historical Commission has wanted to replace the missing cannons, but the cost was always a major hurdle. Members of the Mount Clemens Rotary Club decided this worthy project could both commemorate local history and the history of Rotary.

The two cannons are accurate representations of a cannon used by General Alexander Macomb in 1812 and a cannon used by Colonel Stockton in the Civil War. General Alexander Macomb was the hero of the battle of Plattsburg and Lake Champlain during the War of 1812. General Macomb with only 3,000 troops was able to rout 13,000 British troops. The other cannon was dedicated to the memory of the Michigan Eight Calvary Regiment and their commander, Colonel John Stockton. The Regiment along with the Battery M of the 1st Michigan Artillery was organized and trained at Camp Stockton in Mount Clemens from the Fall of 1862 to May 1863.

Mr. Speaker, on August 27, 2005, the Mount Clemens Rotary, working with the Macomb County Historical Society, will replace and rededicate the two cannons at a grand ceremony during the Bath City Festival. I look forward to joining with them, and ask my Congressional colleagues to join me in saluting a major community asset, the Mount Clemens Rotary, on this important and historic occasion.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING EVA  
J. DENNEY ON HER 100TH BIRTH-  
DAY

## HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Eva J. Denney was born on June 19, 1905; and Whereas, Eva J. Denney is celebrating her 100th birthday today; and

Whereas, Eva J. Denney, is a long-time active participant in the social and civic life of her community; and

Whereas, Eva J. Denney has exemplified a love for her family and friends and must be commended for her life-long dedication to helping others.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in wishing Eva J. Denney a very happy 100th birthday.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC-CENTRAL  
AMERICA-UNITED STATES FREE  
TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMEN-  
TATION ACT

SPEECH OF

## HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I voted against the Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement. As negotiated by the Bush Administration, it fails the fundamental tests that our trade agreements should meet.

First, our trade agreements must be structured to raise labor standards, not put downward pressures on the rights and protections of American workers. All workers—in the U.S., the Dominican Republic and Central America—deserve fair wages, safe workplaces, and reasonable working conditions.

Second, all citizens—in the U.S., the Dominican Republic and Central America—deserve

clean air and clean water. Polluting factories that poison our environment should not be located in San Salvador or San Jose, any more than they should be in Baraboo or Beloit, or Waunakee or Wisconsin Dells.

The United States should be a leader in the world in raising standards for everyone. DR-CAFTA was an opportunity to enshrine these fundamental protections in a model trade agreement that could have served as a template for raising working standards, wages, safety and environmental protections around the world. Instead, it is an opportunity squandered.

Unfortunately, even more than an opportunity squandered, it threatens to undermine those very protections that American workers and their families have every right to expect. We need a truly fair trade deal. DR-CAFTA isn't fair, and it isn't a deal.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL "MIKE"  
WALKER OF LOWER LAKE, CALI-  
FORNIA

## HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize California Highway patrolman, Michael "Mike" Walker of Lower Lake, California as he retires from 33 years of public service.

Born in Vallejo, California, and raised nearby in Benicia, Mike learned at an early age the importance of public service and the necessity of helping others. Compelled to serve our country, he enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1972. He served as an instructor teaching jungle survival techniques overseas. His hard work and commitment were duly noted as he earned four promotions during his three years in the United States Marine Corps.

In 1975, Mike joined the Benicia Police Department as a reserve officer. One year later, he transferred to the Alameda County Sheriff's Department where he served as Deputy Sheriff. Three years later, in 1978, he joined the California Highway Patrol and went through the academy in Sacramento. Upon graduation Officer Walker was assigned to the Glendale law enforcement team. In 1980 he transferred to Newhall and in 1984 to Clear Lake where he has spent the past 21 years serving the citizens of Lake County.

Officer Walker served as an instructor, training and arming his fellow officers with the proper knowledge and skills needed for fieldwork, including physical methods of arrest and advanced accident investigation.

Officer Walker is a kindhearted man, who has selflessly devoted his life to helping others. He is revered throughout Lake County as someone always willing to lend a hand whenever it is needed.

In retirement, Mike and his beloved wife of 29 years, Dorrie, plan on spending more time with their children, Christopher and Patricia, and their 2 grandchildren, Denim and Katie.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate that we honor and thank California Highway Patrolman Michael "Mike" Walker for his hard work and dedication to public service and extend our best wishes to him in retirement.