

attend classes and finish their educations. These are just two examples of the many acts of generosity and kindness he performed for the citizens of Baytown. He also served as board chair for the Baytown Museum and served on the boards of the American Diabetes Association, the Lee College Foundation, the Hospice Advisory, and the Texas Exes of Baytown, receiving several awards from these organizations in recognition of his service.

Honored as the 1999 Baytown Sun Citizen of the Year and the 2001 ExxonMobil Refiner of the Year, Mr. Tucker was best known for his uncanny fundraising abilities, his exceptionally happy demeanor, and his dedication to his family, especially his wife Jane.

He will be greatly missed by the citizens of Baytown and all those who knew him, and I ask that you remember the Tucker family in your thoughts and prayers.

RECOGNIZING WORLD WAR II AND
KOREAN WAR VETERANS AR-
THUR NIELSON

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arthur Neilson, a proud veteran who served during both World War II and the Korean War.

Within two days of the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, Mr. Neilson volunteered to serve and defend America. During his eight years in the Marines, Mr. Neilson served in the Solomons, Bismarck Island and the Philippines.

Following his retirement from the Marines in 1949, Mr. Neilson once again answered the call to duty and volunteered to join the Army in 1950. Deployed to Korea, Mr. Neilson was wounded by North Korean soldiers during a gun battle. Hiding in a foxhole and covered only by a tarp, Mr. Neilson hid from the approaching North Korean troops and the massive snowfall that enveloped his hiding spot.

Suffering from the gunshot wound and frostbite, Mr. Neilson was eventually saved by passing American troops. For his sacrifices over his twenty-five year military career, some of Mr. Neilson's awards include the Purple Heart, three Bronze Stars and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

I know that Mr. Neilson's wife of more than 50 years, Joyce, and their four children are extremely proud of the career and accomplishments of Mr. Neilson. They have traveled throughout the world with him and have been at his side when he has been recognized with many awards for a job well done.

Mr. Speaker, true American heroes like Arthur Neilson should be honored for their service to our Nation and for their commitment and sacrifices in battle. They are truly part of America's greatest generation.

A TRIBUTE TO BERNARD B. BEAL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bernard B. Beal, a distinguished

member of the business community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, Bernard B. Beal is Chief Executive Officer of M.R. Beal & Company, a nationally recognized investment banking firm. Mr. Beal founded the minority-owned firm in 1988 following a successful career in municipal and corporate finance at Shearson Lehman Hutton. The oldest continuously operating African-American investment bank in the United States, the firm offers investment banking, financial advisory and broker-dealer services to municipalities, state governments and numerous corporations in the telecommunications, media, technology, energy and financial services industries.

M.R. Beal & Company is headquartered in New York City, with offices in Sacramento, Chicago, Dallas, Baltimore, New Orleans and Washington, DC. Through the end of 2004, the firm has co-managed municipal financings exceeding \$450 billion, senior-managed over \$7 billion and has served as an underwriter in over 3,200 municipal transactions. For the past decade, M.R. Beal & Company has been ranked as one of the top twenty underwriters of municipal securities nationwide. In addition, the firm has consistently been a member of the Black Enterprise 100 List and was named BE's Finance Company of the Year in June of 2001.

Mr. Beal serves on several boards. He is the Chairman of the A Better Chance Foundation whose mission is to increase the number of well-educated minority youth capable of assuming positions of responsibility and leadership in American society. Mr. Beal serves on the Municipal Executive Committee of the Bond Market Association and is a Trustee of the National Foundation for Affordable Housing.

Mr. Beal has received numerous professional and civic awards. He has the distinction of being one of only three people listed on both the Black Enterprise list of the 25 Hottest Blacks on Wall Street in 1992 and the Top 50 Blacks on Wall Street in 2003.

A graduate of Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics, Mr. Beal also received a Masters of Business Administration with a concentration in Finance from the Stanford University School of Business. He was recently awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the Sacred Heart University.

Mr. Beal is married to Valerie Lancaster Beal and is the proud father of two children, Michael, a senior at Harvard University and Erica, a senior at Horace Mann High School.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Bernard B. Beal as he offers his talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of our local and national communities.

Mr. Speaker, Bernard B. Beal's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

HONORING SAMANTHA "SAM"
DIXION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my thanks and appreciation to Ms. Samantha "Sam" Dixon for her exemplary public service as Westminster City Councilwoman for the past sixteen years. Her tireless efforts have made a positive difference in the lives of many people in Westminster and the surrounding communities. Although she is stepping down from the Westminster City Council, I know that she will continue to stay involved in important community matters.

Ms. Dixon began serving on the Westminster City Council in 1989 and has served as mayor pro tem twice, from 1995 to 1997 and again from 2000 to 2002. In addition to serving on the City Council, she has been involved in a variety of community boards and councils. Among these include the Economic Development and Private Industry Councils of both Adams and Jefferson Counties, Arvada High School's Cooperative Occupational Education Program, Westminster Community Artist Series, Colorado Municipal League's Policy Committee, and the Westminster Human Services Board. She is also a founding member of Front Range Foundation for Educational Excellence and Westminster DARE Foundation. She served as a council liaison to the city Human Services Board and the City's representative to the Adams County Economic Development Board, which she chaired in 1997.

Ms. Dixon's passion for her community extends to important issues affecting the entire region, especially the cleanup and closure—and future use—of the former U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Rocky Flats nuclear weapons production facility west of Westminster. She has been an early and active voice on addressing the environmental issues at this site, and has been working with her colleagues in the surrounding communities to make sure the cleanup and closure of this site is thorough, safe and effective. The expertise she developed on this issue resulted in her being selected as the City's primary liaison on Rocky Flats issues. In that capacity, she has been a member of the Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments (Coalition) since its creation and also served on many predecessor community oversight groups and committees.

Her work at Rocky Flats led to her selection as Chair of the Energy Communities Alliance (Alliance) in 1999 after having served as vice-Chair from 1998 to 1999. The Alliance is composed of local governmental officials and others from across the country to advise DOE on the environmental aspects and other issues associated with nuclear weapons production facilities. Her work on the Alliance is a testament to her dedication to making sure that the public's health and safety is protected around these facilities.

Ms. Dixon also finds time to be a teacher-tutor with the Cooperative Occupational Education Program at Arvada High School. Her commitment to quality education can be observed through her participation in the Arvada Senior High School's Drop-Out Program and the Jefferson County District 1 Judicial Review Committee where she is a past chair.

Ms. Dixon is a well-recognized leader in the Westminster community. Her honors and awards include Jefferson County Mother of the Year, Metro North Chamber Volunteer of the Year and several marketing achievement awards.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in expressing my gratitude to Ms. Dixon for her tireless work. Although her work and the issues she has championed are serious and important, she brought a refreshing, positive outlook that was infectious. Through all of this work—at times difficult and controversial—she maintained a sense of humor and humility in her interactions with others, without compromising professionalism or respect of others and their views. In a time when faith in our political system is faltering, we should recognize and acknowledge people like Ms. Dixon who have an innate devotion to enhancing the quality of life in our communities. I am proud to offer my appreciation for her work and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AUBURN
EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Congressman BACHUS, we would like to extend our sincerest congratulations to the Auburn Early Education Center in Auburn, Alabama, for its receipt of the prestigious Intel Corporation and Scholastic "School of Distinction" Award. This school, through the hard work of its faculty and staff, has set a national standard in literacy achievement through innovation. We are proud to commend its laudable accomplishments.

The Auburn Early Education Center serves the needs of all kindergarten students enrolled in Auburn City Schools. This school, in developing its curriculum, focuses on a child-centered approach to learning. It is this focus, along with the integration of reading in all subject areas, that led Intel and Scholastic to recognize the Auburn Early Education Center from among 3,000 excellent competitors as one of twenty schools worthy of being designated as a "School of Distinction."

Mr. Speaker, because of the Auburn Early Education Center's success in the area literacy achievement, they will receive a grant of \$10,000 and will share in a host of technological prizes designed to further improve learning opportunities at the school. It is our sincere belief that this institution will continue to serve as a guiding example to primary schools across the United States of what is possible in literacy education when faculty, staff and parents come together with the common purpose of providing the best education to students. We are honored to recognize the Auburn Early Education Center before this body and this nation for their devotion and commitment to quality education. Congratulations on your well deserved recognition as a "School of Distinction."

HONORING CHANNEL INDUSTRIES
MUTUAL AID ON THEIR 50TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the largest mutual aid organizations in the world, Channel Industries Mutual Aid, for their 50 years of service to Houston and the surrounding areas.

Formed in 1955 under the name of the "Houston Ship Channel Industries Disaster Aid Organization," in 1960 it became the non-profit corporation "Channel Industries Mutual Aid." Its objective remained the same: to provide mutual assistance in case of emergency situations, whether natural or man-made.

With over 100 industrial, municipal, and governmental members such as Shell Oil, Celanese, the City of Houston Fire Dept., and the U.S. Coast Guard, CIMA joins these together to respond to fire, hazardous material, rescue and medical emergencies along the Houston Ship Channel.

CIMA provides disaster assistance not only to the Houston Ship Channel, but cooperates with mutual aid organizations all along the Texas and Louisiana coastlines, and has shared its response readiness procedures with international organizations such as the International Red Cross, and countries such as Germany, Switzerland, and Austria.

For its invaluable service to the City of Houston, the 29th District of Texas, the Gulf Coast, and the rest of the world, I extend CIMA my deepest gratitude, and my heartfelt congratulations on 50 years of excellence.

RECOGNIZING WORLD WAR II VET-
ERANS OF POLK COUNTY, FLOR-
IDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the brave soldiers of Polk County, Florida who served during World War II.

At a ceremony to be held Saturday, October 22, 2005, Congressman ADAM PUTNAM and I will present representatives from each of the five United States Armed Forces with commemorative coins honoring their service during World War II.

As General George Patton once said, "Wars may be fought with weapons, but they are won by men. It is the spirit of the men who follow and of the man who leads that gains the victory."

The Polk County veterans we are honoring this weekend clearly met General Patton's description above. They proved themselves in battle in Europe, Africa and the Far East. Their sacrifices on the battlefield preserved liberty and freedom for millions throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, true American heroes like these Polk County World War II veterans should be honored for their service to our Nation and for their commitment and sacrifices in

battle. They are truly part of America's Greatest Generation.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. ATUL B.
CHOKSHI

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 20, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a member of the Brooklyn community and distinguished member of the healthcare profession, Dr. Atul B. Chokshi. It is an honor to represent Dr. Chokshi in the House of Representatives and it behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader in American Medicine.

Mr. Speaker, on Dr. Atul B. Chokshi's resume he states that his life's goals are to "be as complete a cardiologist as possible" and "to be as nice and loving a human being as possible." To the thousands of people of the Interfaith Medical Center community who have been touched by Dr. Chokshi's gentleness and caring nature, he has already met his life's goals.

Born and trained in India, with an 18-month stint in England, Dr. Chokshi has been with Interfaith Medical Center for nearly his entire medical career. Joining one of Interfaith Medical Center's predecessor hospitals, Jewish Hospital and Medical Center of Brooklyn, or "Brooklyn Jewish" in the summer of 1978 as an Intern in Internal Medicine. Dr. Chokshi has served in a variety of positions leading up to his being named the Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Lab.

As head of Interfaith Medical Center's Cardiac Cath Lab since 1993, Dr. Chokshi has pioneered thoughtful and gentle cardiac care. In November 2004, Dr. Chokshi launched the City's first Walk-in-Walk-out transradial cardiac catheterization program. Virtually painless and allowing the patient to go home to resume normal activity within an hour, Interfaith Medical Center's Walk-in-Walk-out service involves inserting the catheter into the radial artery at the wrist for complete cardiac evaluation and even a peripheral angiogram can be done at the same time without the use of the femoral artery.

In addition to being a brilliant physician, Dr. Chokshi is an ardent student of the Bhagawad Gita, which inspired him to combine his devotion to the teachings of Lord Krishna with his cardiology expertise to help establish The Krishna Heart Institute in Ahmedabad, India. Since its opening in 2000, The Krishna Heart Institute has performed more than 4,000 open heart surgeries and 25,000 other life-saving procedures.

Dr. Chokshi is married to Dr. Vandana Chokshi, a radiologist with a subspecialty in Nuclear Medicine and Chief of both Radiology and Nuclear Medicine at Interfaith Medical Center. Drs. Atul and Vandana Chokshi have a daughter, Krishna.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments and selfless service of Dr. Chokshi as he offers his talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of our local and national communities.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Chokshi has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication