

In the midst of his demanding professional schedule, Mr. Wynne also found time to serve on a number of national committees: the Automation and Technology Users' Group; the Probation and Pretrial Services Case Management and Statistics Umbrella Group; the Ad Hoc Task Force on Allotment Simplification; the committee on the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System; the Electronic Public Access Working Group; the Chiefs' Advisory Group; the District Court Advisory Group; the Budget and Finance Advisory Group; and the Law Enforcement Formula Group.

Mr. Wynne is an outstanding example of the quality of individuals who have devoted their lives to the field of law enforcement. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating him on this remarkable achievement. I know Bill's colleagues, his wife Laura, his family, and many friends join with me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts over the years on behalf of the citizens of the First Congressional District and the state of Alabama.

ALLISON BIGGS—2005 PAMELA
HARRIMAN FOREIGN SERVICE
FELLOWSHIP

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to recognize and commend my constituent, Ms. Allison Biggs of Front Royal, Virginia, upon being selected as one of three recipients of the 2005 Pamela Harriman Foreign Service Fellowship. In 1999 the College of William and Mary in Virginia, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of State, established the Fellowship program to encourage top students to pursue careers in public service.

The fellowships are offered to three outstanding undergraduates from across the nation. Ms. Biggs, a senior at William and Mary, is an accomplished student and community leader. She was accepted for a highly competitive internship in the State Department's Office of Policy Planning, working on non-proliferation and arms control issues.

Now more than ever, as a nation we need to do everything we can to encourage our best and brightest young people to explore the call of public service, especially in serving our international interests. The Harriman Foreign Service Fellowship program will help Ms. Biggs gain invaluable work experience, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Allison for receiving this outstanding recognition.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF
COLE CHANDLER SWANSON
CONATSER

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I am happy to congratulate Elizabeth and Blake Conatser of Washington, DC, on

the birth of their new baby son. Cole Chandler Swanson Conatser was born on November 20, 2005 at 2:51 p.m., weighing 9 pounds and measuring 20.5 inches long. Cole has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future. His birth is a blessing.

HONORING RETIRING EDEN TOWN
COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY WALKER

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, on December 31, 2005, a dedicated public servant will end his years of service as a member of the Eden Town Board. That day will be the last day of Councilman Tim Walker's service, and I want to take a moment to commemorate his service here today.

Tim Walker is a solid public official whose dedication both to his constituents as well as to the law is inspiring. With more than fifteen years of private sector legal experience, and after a stint as Eden Town Prosecutor, Tim Walker has concurrently served as a member of the Eden Town Board and as a member of that town's school board. Tim's service has been exemplary, as Eden has crept ever so slowly from its status as a very rural town to its status today, as a featured destination for many who seek to escape the hustle and bustle of city or first ring suburban life. Many people do this because Eden is a great place to live and raise a family; it is that way because of dedicated public servants like Tim Walker.

Tim Walker leaves the Eden Town Board because he chose to run for judicial office. Though unsuccessful in that run, many local residents are hopeful that Tim will remain an active member of the local community, and indeed, there is no reason to assume that he will not. Tim Walker is a fine public servant, and I am proud to honor him here today.

I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, for offering me this opportunity to honor the public service of Tim Walker, and I hope that you will join me in offering to Mr. Walker the House's best wishes of good luck and Godspeed in all of his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 629, I would have voted "aye." Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING ADOPTION ANGELS,
WILLIAM AND MARGURITE
ADDISON

HON. C. A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to bring before the House of Rep-

resentatives a couple who made the selfless commitment of improving the lives of five children from Maryland's foster care system. I rise before you today to recognize the generosity of Adoption Angels, William and Margurite Addison.

In the year nineteen hundred ninety-eight, the Pikesville couple officially adopted one of their nephews, Ralph, who would be the first of five children to find a permanent home with them. Between the years of nineteen hundred ninety-nine and two thousand four they opened their home to Malik, Kevin, Warren, and Bryleigh who range in ages from three to nine.

Mr. Addison works in Rockville, Maryland, at the Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents as an educator and administrator. The institute is a state-run facility for emotionally disabled young people. His wife, Mrs. Addison, formally worked as a truant officer for the Baltimore City Public School System. Together they have opened their hearts and their home to five children seeking a permanent, safe, and loving family.

As a result of their generosity, the Addisons are recipients of the Two Thousand Five Congressional Angels in Adoption Award, which recognized unsung heroes who have dedicated their lives to helping the future of our most vulnerable children.

Mr. Speaker, I stand before you humbled and honored to recognize the kindness of these two individuals. Because of their humanity five children from Maryland's foster care system will be given an opportunity to experience true family life. By investing in our children, we invest in our future and make our community stronger. Please join with me to commend Mr. and Mrs. William Addison for their extraordinary kindheartedness.

TRIBUTE TO MR. TONY STEWART

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Tony Stewart, winner of the 2005 NASCAR Nextel Cup Championship.

On November 20, Mr. Stewart won his second NASCAR Championship, becoming only the second active driver to win multiple NASCAR championships.

Today we recognize this Hoosier who has placed himself among the greatest drivers in the storied history of American racing.

Tony Stewart's passion for the track began as a young boy racing go-karts in his hometown of Columbus, Indiana. His win at the national karting championship in 1987 was a springboard to the Indianapolis Racing League, and a sign of triumphs to come.

In 1999 Mr. Stewart joined the NASCAR circuit, where he has ranked in the top 10 every season since. 2005 marks his most successful year on tour, with a total of five first-place finishes.

In August, Mr. Stewart underscored his strong and deep roots in the Hoosier state by winning the Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Today let us remember that Tony Stewart is respected by both fans and competitors not only for his racing prowess, but for his respect for and dedication to the sport of car racing.

I am proud to call Tony Stewart a fellow Hoosier, and I once again congratulate him on this remarkable accomplishment.

HONORING RETIRING HAMBURG
TOWN SUPERVISOR PATRICK H.
HOAK

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and great pleasure to rise today to honor one of Western New York's premiere elected leaders, and someone who has given nearly twenty years of dedicated service to the residents and taxpayers of the town of Hamburg. I rise today to honor retiring Hamburg Town Supervisor Patrick H. Hoak.

Pat Hoak's love for government service was sparked by the example of his father, the late State Senator Bertrand H. Hoak. Through the years, Pat has served Hamburg as a community leader, a sports and youth league coach, a teacher and a longtime businessman. In 1987, however, he assumed more official duties in the town as a member of the Town Board.

First elected to the Town Board in 1987, Pat served as Councilman until his initial election as Town Supervisor in 1993. As Councilman, Pat put a great deal of focus on the expansion of recreational programs and facilities for town residents, including the expansion of the town's golf course.

Starting in 1992 and for thirteen years afterward, Pat Hoak presided over one of the most efficiently-run town governments in New York State.

As Supervisor, Pat's leadership resulted in the creation of nationally acclaimed programs for Senior Citizens. His administration resulted in an unprecedented level of cooperation between government and the private sector in quality of life issues, including combating drug addiction and family violence. Working with other dedicated town leaders, Pat helped turn the town of Hamburg into a model for town governments statewide, winning awards for fiscal responsibility and making Hamburg into a premiere suburban town for residents to live, work and raise a family.

The Hoak family has been very blessed over the years, and the family has given much back to the community it loves so dearly. For his nearly twenty years of public service and his many decades of community service, the town of Hamburg is better for the contributions made to it by Pat Hoak. We thank him for his service to our community, and wish Pat and his family all the best of good luck and God-speed in all of his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LOXLEY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON BEING
NAMED "STATE CHAMPION" BY
THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON
PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to congratulate

Loxley Elementary School on receiving the State Champion Award by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

The President's Challenge Physical Activity and Fitness Awards program, available to the Nation's schools since 1966, offers presidential recognition and awards for fitness to all participating young people.

The State Champion award is presented annually to three schools in each state having the highest number of students scoring at or above the 85th percentile on the President's Challenge Physical Fitness Test.

As a State Champion, Loxley Elementary School is a role model for other schools because of its dedication to helping students encourage physical activity and gain fitness skills along with an understanding of the health benefits of being regularly active. Encouraging adequate amounts of daily physical activity is an excellent way to instill healthy lifestyle habits at an early age.

The five assessments of the President's Challenge Physical Fitness Test measure four components of physical fitness: a one-mile run/walk for heart and lung endurance; curl-ups for abdominal strength and endurance; a "sit and reach" stretch for muscular flexibility; pull-ups for upper body strength and endurance; and a shuttle run for agility.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Loxley Elementary School in Loxley, Alabama, for this honor. This school deserves public recognition and our appreciation for their concerted efforts to instill healthy lifestyle habits in the youth of south Alabama.

HONORING SSGT DANIEL CLAY,
USMC

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this week I attended the funeral of SSgt Daniel Clay. Sergeant Clay was from my district and one of ten Marines killed by an IED in Fallujah, Iraq on December 1, 2005.

Dan's father, Bud Clay, shared with me a letter his son wrote to his loved ones before he was killed. Accompanying his son's letter was a letter Bud had written to President Bush. Mr. Clay asked me to take this to Congress and share with you so that we could all see Dan's final thoughts and wishes.

May God Bless SSgt Daniel Clay, his family, our veterans, our troops, and the United States of America.

MOM, DAD, KRISTIE, JODIE, KIMBERLY, ROBERT, KATY, RICHARD, AND MY LISA: Boy do I love each and every one of you. This letter being read means that I have been deemed worthy of being with Christ. With MaMa Jo, MaMa Clay, Jennifer . . . all those we have been without for our time during the race. This is not a bad thing. It is what we hope for. The secret it out. He lives and His promises are *real!* It is not faith that supports this . . . But fact and I now am a part of the promise. Here is notice! Wake up! All that we hope for is *Real*. Not a hope. But *Real*.

But here is something tangible. What we have done in Iraq is worth any sacrifice. Why? Because it was our duty. That sounds simple. But all of us have a duty. Duty is defined as a God given task. Without duty life is worthless. It holds no type of fulfillment.

The simple fact that our bodies are built for work has to lead us to the conclusion that God (who made us) put us together to do His work. His work is different for each of us. Mom, yours was to be the glue of our family, to be a pillar for those women (all women around you), Dad, yours was to train and build us (like a Platoon Sgt) to better serve Him. Kristie, Kim, Katy you are the five team leaders who support your Squad ldrs, Jodie, Robert and Richard. Lisa you too. You are my XO and you did a hell of a job. You all have your duties. Be thankful that God in His wisdom gives us work. Mine was to ensure that you did not have to experience what it takes to protect what we have as a family. This I am so thankful for. I know what honor is. It is not a word to be thrown around. It has been an Honor to protect and serve all of you. I faced death with the secure knowledge that you would not have to. This is as close to Christ-like I can be. That emulation is where all honor lies. I thank you for making it worthwhile.

As a Marine this is not the last Chapter. I have the privilege of being one who has finished the race. I have been in the company of heroes. I now am counted among them. Never falter! Don't hesitate to honor and support those of us who have the honor of protecting that which is *worth* protecting.

Now here are my final wishes. Do not cry! To do so is to not realize what we have placed all our hope and faith in. We should not fear. We should not be sad. Be thankful. Be so thankful. All we hoped for is true. Celebrate! My race is over, my time in war zone is over. My trials are done. A short time separates all of us from His reality. So laugh. Enjoy the moments and your duty. God is wonderful.

I love each and every one of you.

Spread the word . . . Christ lives and He is *Real*.

SEMPER FIDELIS,

PENSACOLA, FL,
December 7, 2005.

President GEORGE BUSH,
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR PRESIDENT BUSH: My name is Bud Clay. My son, SSgt Daniel Clay—USMC was killed last week, 12/01/05, in Iraq. He was one of the ten Marines killed by the IED in Fallujah.

Dan was a Christian—he knew Jesus as Lord and Savior—so we know where he is. In his final letter (one left with me for the family—to be read in case of his death) he says "if you are reading this, it means my race is over." He's home now—his and our real home.

I am writing to you—to tell you how proud and thankful we (his parents and family) are of you and what you are trying to do to protect us all. This was Dan's second tour in Iraq—he knew and said that his being there was to protect us.

I want to encourage you. I hear in your speeches about "staying the course". I also know that many are against you in this "war on Terror" and that you must get weary in the fight to do what is right. We and many others are praying for you to see this through—as Lincoln said, "that these might not have died in vain".

You have a heavy load—we are praying for you.

God bless you,

BUD CLAY.