

Dr. Sam has been active in Mobile's medical community throughout his life. It was at the age of 59 when he left his private practice to become a medical professor at the University of South Alabama, where he still keeps an office.

In 1989, Dr. Sam was named Mobilian of the Year. He has also devoted much of his time to Mobile's art community. He has even served as a board member of the Mobile Symphony Orchestra, the Chamber Music Society, and the Mobile Opera Guild, among others. He was given a Greater Mobile Arts Award by the Mobile Arts Council in October, and an art gallery at Spring Hill College bears his name.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. I know Dr. Sam's colleagues, his family, and his many friends join with me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts over the years on behalf of Mobile and the First Congressional District.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR  
ENTERPRISE OPPORTUNITY

**HON. NATHAN DEAL**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 2006*

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the thousands of small businesses across the United States which, by definitional size, are classified as micro enterprises. More than one-half of the nation's economic engine is fueled by small businesses.

Micro enterprise embraces strategic economic development relative to the smallest of the businesses, generally with five employees or less. Once called "mom and pop" businesses, they no longer equate to the folksy moniker. In many cases across rural America, the micro enterprises become capital for human development and poverty alleviation. It is documented and recognized that micro enterprises create jobs, generate income, build assets and enhance interpersonal skills among its owners and their employees.

Micro enterprises utilize a valued conduit for financial training, business development and loans. Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) earn this designation through rigorous Department of Treasury standards. The CDFIs interface with the men and women who have a dream of owning and growing a small business; it is they who extend credit and become de facto partners in entrepreneurial enterprises throughout the land.

Micro enterprises and CDFIs also partner with foundations, community banks, regional banks, state economic development agencies, the Small Business Administration, the Federal Home Loan Bank and other like-missioned federal agencies such as the Appalachian Regional Commission. As traditional working capital is beyond the financial reach of many, a unique collaboration steers these business entities toward success and self-sufficiency.

The Association for Enterprise Opportunity strives to assist underserved entrepreneurs in starting, stabilizing and expanding businesses. As its national conference is held in May in Atlanta, the economic capital of the southeastern United States, I welcome them to my state.

The host of the national conference is the Georgia Micro Enterprise Network, a nonprofit organization dedicated to making a difference in the economic lives of Georgians. The conference will celebrate the vision of micro enterprise success, and we, as Members of Congress applaud that success and commend the myriad venturous fibers which make our nation's great economic quilt as strong as ever.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HONORING LISA ROTEN

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 2006*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of Tennessee's exceptional teachers. Lisa Roten of Adamsville received the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year Award for our state in 2005. Her award is accompanied by a \$10,000 education grant for her school. I know that everyone at Adamsville Elementary School is thrilled for Lisa and proud of her achievement.

She has shown herself to be an enthusiastic and dedicated teacher while working with our sixth grade students. As a mom, I know the importance of a good teacher. Lisa clearly knows that nurturing the unique gifts in each of our kids is critical to education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Lisa for her exceptional work.

RECOGNIZING THE FAIRFAX COUNTY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2006  
VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 2006*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce annually recognizes individuals who have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety with the prestigious Valor Award. Several members of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office have earned this highest honor that Fairfax County bestows upon its public safety officials.

There are several types of Valor Awards that are awarded to a public safety officer: the Lifesaving Award, the Certificate of Valor, or the Gold, Silver, or Bronze Medal of Valor.

It is with great pride that I enter into the RECORD the names of the recipients of the 2006 Valor Awards in the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office. Receiving the Lifesaving Award: Private First Class Nicole L. Arnett; Private First Class Laval L. Collins; Private First Class Clifton Cooley; Private First Class Michael D. Ford; Master Deputy Sheriff Marvin S. Johnston; Private First Class Thomas V. Kyle; Private/Deputy John J. Roth; Second Lieutenant Gregory E. Schossler; Deputy Ryan E. Tasse; the Certificate of Valor Award: Second Lieutenant Brian Johnston; Private First Class Teena M. Putman.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County Sher-

iff's Office. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Fairfax County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL ON THEIR  
2006 5A GIRLS' STATE INDOOR  
TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 2006*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor St. Paul's Episcopal School on their 2006 5A Girls' State Indoor Track and Field Championship.

Head Coach Jim Tate has led St. Paul's to 32 state championships. Since 1983, Coach Tate's teams have claimed 74 separate state team championships in track and cross-country. Twenty-five of his former athletes have gone on to compete at the collegiate level in either track or cross-country. In 1999, Coach Tate was selected as the national cross-country coach of the year.

The St. Paul's girls' cross-country team holds the national record for the longest consecutive state championship streak in the nation, winning the state championship for 16 consecutive years (1983-1998). This year's girls' team proved to be champions in their victory on February 4, 2006, at Celebration Arena in Priceville.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating St. Paul's Episcopal School on a great season and their state championship. This school deserves public recognition for this great honor, and I extend my congratulations to each member of the team and coaching staff.

St. Paul's Girls' Varsity Indoor Track Roster, Emily Bender 9th, Eleanor Brown 9th, Malise Collins 8th, Emily Collins 11th, Paige Cunningham 12th, Maggie DeLaney 12th, Sophie Eldred 8th, Norah Gufstason 8th, Margaret Harkness 7th, Angelica Howard 11th, Kayleigh Hudson 7th, Mary Carleton Johnston 10th, Hannah Jones 7th, Allison Kneip 11th, Allison Lerner 11th, Taylor Luckey 8th, Mary Win McCarthy 10th, Molly McGee 11th, Brenna McGee 10th, Jordan McMullan 11th, Coco Montgomery 7th, Kelsey Outlaw 7th, Hannah Samman 7th, Jeannie Schottgen 7th, Katelyn Simpson 12th, Mae Stimpson 10th, Ellie Stimpson 8th, Victoria Strange 8th, Nancy Taylor 9th, Summer Thomas 7th, Neal Tisher 9th, Sydneyjane Varmer 10th, Angel Watson 9th, Katherine White 7th, and Morgan Yeager 10th.

Coaching Staff: Head Coach: Jim Tate, Assistant Coaches: Kelli Etheredge, Lyndell Farmer, Erin Moore, and Bill Quina.

HONORING RHONDA KENNEDY

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 2006*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Rhonda

Kennedy. Rhonda was named Tennessee Principal of the Year in 2005.

We all know how important principals are to our communities. Anyone with children can tell you it's the principal who sets the tone for a school and the huge impact that has on the quality of education our kids receive. Rhonda has shown that she is innovative, energetic, and dedicated to our kids and we can't thank her enough for that.

Among her achievements is the successful implementation of a program to assist special needs students. Rhonda also created a "Learning Lab" to improve literacy skills at her school.

Principal Kennedy's work has helped improve achievement at her school and brought parents, students, and our teachers together.

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HONORING DEWBERRY'S 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 2006*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Dewberry Companies' 50th anniversary.

Dewberry was established as a small land design and survey practice on Friday, April 13, 1965, in Arlington, Virginia. Currently, Dewberry has more than 1,800 employees in 30 offices nationwide. The company has expanded from a small business to a nationwide company with over 1,800 employees and 30 offices. Dewberry provides an array of services, including civil engineering, surveying, design-build, environmental sciences, land development, security and homeland defense.

The company has assisted in major projects in the Northern Virginia area including the full planning and engineering of services for Kings Park (a residential community in Fairfax County), Tysons II, the Dulles Toll Road, and assisted with work for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Moreover, Dewberry has consulted for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development during presidential-declared disasters.

Dewberry has been a strong member of the community through various charitable and scholarship programs. An example would be the Dean Meyers Scholarship fund, named for a Dewberry engineer who tragically lost his life in the DC sniper attacks of 2002. This scholarship which is awarded annually to a civil engineering student from a rural Pennsylvania high school has grown to \$100,000. Dean Meyers was a civil engineer who worked for Dewberry until his tragic death in October of 2002 when he became a victim of the Washington, DC area sniper attacks. Dewberry has also donated \$20,000 to the victims of the tsunami and another \$20,000 to the victims of the 2005 Gulf Coast hurricanes.

The founder of Dewberry, Sidney O. Dewberry, has not only propelled the success of Dewberry, but has served in numerous positions within the community including the Blue Ribbon Commission on Higher Education, and the Commission on Transportation. Additionally, he has served as member of the Commission on Fiscal and Spending Priorities in Fairfax County, as chairman of the Arlington

County, Virginia Planning Commission, and as chairman of the Fairfax County, Virginia Engineering Standards Review Committee. Currently, Mr. Dewberry is the Rector of George Mason University Board of Visitors and part of the George Mason University Foundation Board of Trustees.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate Dewberry on all of its contributions and accomplishments. They have served their community well, truly meriting recognition. I call upon my colleagues to join me in the applauding Dewberry's past accomplishments and in wishing the company continued success in the years to come.

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HONORING RETIRED NEW YORK  
STATE ASSEMBLYMAN RICHARD  
J. KEANE

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 2006*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me a tremendous sense of pleasure to honor the personal accomplishments and the long career in public service of a great elected leader and wonderful friend, former New York State Assemblyman Richard J. Keane.

Dick Keane is, as I said, a close friend of long standing. In point of fact, I succeeded Dick Keane as a member of the New York State Assembly in the 145th District. In all truthfulness I can say that no new member had a better mentor than I did.

Like me, Dick Keane is a lifelong—and tremendously proud—resident of South Buffalo, New York. A product of a large and politically prominent family in South Buffalo, Dick's career began protecting the public as a Buffalo Firefighter. From there, Dick went on to serve on the Erie County Board of Supervisors and was the first Democrat to serve as Chairman of its successor body, the Erie County Legislature. Dick was elected to a vacant seat in the State Assembly in 1976, and served in that seat proudly for 22 years.

But in Albany, Dick had two official duties that brought him great joy—his management of the Assembly's baseball team, and the Presidency of the American Irish Legislators Society of New York State, the latter being an organization in which I would later serve as Historian.

Each year, the American Irish Legislators Society of New York State honors one of its own, a former member of the State Legislature who made a significant contribution both to public service and, usually, to the Society itself. On Monday, March 13th, in Albany, NY, Dick Keane will be the Society's 2006 honoree. That that event, it will be my distinct honor to present Dick with a commemorative copy of these remarks and to join with my successor in the State Assembly, Assemblyman Mark Schroeder, in honoring Dick Keane's service to New York State and to his community.

Mr. Speaker, owing to my past service as Historian, I want to close with a bit of history. Ireland provided to the United States a number of wonderful gifts, but none more valuable than its people. Since the first days of landing on American soil, the Irish people have demonstrated a commitment to public service that

is unrivalled by any other ethnic group. From police and fire service to elective office, Irish Americans represent what is best about America—that if you work hard, play by the rules, love your family and your community and give as much as you can back to that community, the vaunted American Dream can be yours.

Dick Keane is a public official and a private citizen utterly worthy of that description and of the respect of those whose lives he made better for that service. It is my distinct honor to recognize him here today.

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HONORING NANCY SANDERS  
PETERSON

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 2006*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is always a privilege for me to rise and acknowledge outstanding Tennesseans. Today I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Nancy Sanders Peterson, the president and CEO of Peterson Tool Co. Inc., for her contribution to our community in Tennessee.

Nancy has been recognized many times for her business success and she was recently inducted into the YWCA's Academy for Women of Achievement. This distinction honors women for their community leadership and Nancy is a wonderful addition.

She is a dedicated volunteer who has contributed her time and talents as a mentor for young women. Whether teaching money-management skills to Girl Scouts or speaking on university campuses, Peterson is a wonderful role model. And Nancy has counseled fellow female entrepreneurs on how to expand their businesses.

Congratulations and many thanks to Nancy Peterson for her unlimited energy and enthusiasm and her service to so many young women.

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THE RETIREMENT OF U.S. MARINE  
CORPS GUNNERY SERGEANT  
LORENZO V. CHANCE

**HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 7, 2006*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gunnery Sergeant Lorenzo V. Chance, who is retiring after more than 22 years of service in the United States Marine Corps.

Gunnery Sergeant Chance was raised in Fayetteville, North Carolina where he graduated from Cape Fear High School in 1983. He began his military career at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, South Carolina, where he attended basic training in 1984. His assignments included the MOS's of Rifleman, Administrative Chief, Drill Instructor, and Marksmanship Instructor.

Throughout his distinguished career, Gunnery Sergeant Chance has served in a wide variety of assignments in the Marine Corps including:

September 1984–1986—Administrative Clerk, HQMC Manpower Branch;