

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.

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.

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.

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.

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;

November 1986–December 1987—Embarkation NCO Marine Wing Headquarter Squadron—1 Okinawa, Japan;

January 1988–December 1991—HQMC Programs and Resources Division, Assistant Security Manager ensuring the personnel, physical, and information security of a division of 60 persons, hundreds of highly-sensitive documents, and equipment;

January 1992–June 1995—Military Entrance Processing Station Montgomery, AL, Processing Specialist, interviewing and processing thousands of applicants into the U.S. Armed Forces;

July 1995–November 1997—Paris Island, SC, Senior Drill Instructor Third RTBN, K Company and, Operations Chief/Acting First Sergeant, Support BN, Special Training Company, a direct impact in the “Making of Marines”;

December 1997–April 2002—HQMC PP&O, Current Operations Branch, Marine Corps Command Center where he served as an Assistant Watch; Team Chief, SNCOIC Marine Corps Exercises Employment Program, and Post 9/11 Crisis Action Team Operations Chief. During this period he was also assigned various other duties, including service as a Member of the Headquarters Marine Corps, Inspector General’s Readiness Assessment Team, responsibility for globally inspecting Marine Corps units for deployment capability and, in the 2000 Presidential Inaugural Committee, SNCOIC of the Street Cordon.

Finally, from May 2002 through November 2005, Gunnery Sergeant Chance served the 435 Members of both the 108th and 109th Congress as SNCOIC Marine Corps Congressional Liaison Office. He was also the Senior Enlisted service member to the U.S. House of Representatives during this period. During this period, Gunnery Sergeant Chance was responsible for directing, and organizing numerous congressional and staff delegations around the world. His attention to detail in making these very important trips logistically successful is noteworthy.

Gunnery Sergeant Chance has been very effective in carrying the Marine’s message to the halls of Congress. By his exemplary professional competence, sound judgment, and total dedication to duty, Gunnery Sergeant Chance has reflected great credit upon himself and has always upheld the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps. He has made a lasting contribution to the capability of today’s Marine Corps and has helped shape the future of tomorrow’s Corps.

His superior performance of his duties highlights more than 22 years of honorable and dedicated Marine Corps service. I know that my many colleagues who have come to know and rely on Gunnery Sergeant Chance extend to him our warmest thanks for his service and our best wishes for happiness and success in his future endeavors.

HONORING A GREAT AMERICAN—
THOMAS WADSWORTH LITTLEFIELD

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, a constituent and respected businessman,

T. Jeffrey Littlefield, vice president of TRICARE North Region Operations for PGBA, LLC, will soon be joined by many members of his family in recognizing their patriarch, Thomas Wadsworth Littlefield, on the occasion of his 87th birthday, April 8.

The quote that his son Jeff recalls hearing his father say often is “this too shall pass.” In living by these words, Mr. Littlefield sought to give strength to his family when faced with challenges that seemed too great to bear. Like many of his generation, he knew firsthand the frequency and degree to which life could present great challenges.

It is the sad horror of human existence that there will always be evil leaders who would deprive others of life and liberty to satisfy their own zealous quest for corrupt power. Never was this more evident than during World War II.

Men such as Thomas Wadsworth Littlefield represent the very backbone of America—having sacrificed so much for the good of family, nation, and religious freedom—their collective actions singularly define them as our “Great-est Generation.”

When he joined battle and fought bravely in the last offensive against Japan while serving as a Private First Class in the U.S. Army’s 105th Infantry, H Company, at Okinawa, Japan, Mr. Littlefield faced threats and fears that most of us will, thankfully, never come to know. Like many American soldiers, his military service did not end there as he fought to defend liberty in numerous locations in and around Japan throughout World War II.

In living commemoration of the great Victory over Japan, known commonly as “VJ Day,” he named his second daughter, Vicki Jane Littlefield (“V.J.”) born in August of 1945, soon after Japan surrendered.

Not long after winning the peace, Mr. Littlefield returned to civilian life and worked to win the hearts and minds of faculty, parents and children as elementary school principal in the Weber County school district of Ogden, Utah. There, he labored for 30 years, laying the foundation for a new generation of American leaders; eventually retiring at age 65.

Before the war, Mr. Littlefield attended Weber State College (now Weber State University) in Ogden, where he led them to numerous victories as their football quarterback. Later, he attended Utah State University in Logan, Utah, where he received his educator’s degree.

An avid sports fan, he always enjoyed snow skiing, tennis and exploring the trails of Mount Ogden on his dirt bike several times a year.

Raised on a turkey farm in Morgan, Utah along with eight brothers and sisters, his mother, Kate Wadsworth Littlefield, helped to nurture leadership in their family by serving as an active Republican event organizer and as the first female United States Postmaster in Morgan County, Utah.

A faithful follower of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Mr. Littlefield was always active in church events and, together with his wife of 65 years this coming June, raised their family as Mormons. Thomas Wadsworth Littlefield and Myrtle Carrigan Littlefield have been blessed with nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. In August of this year, T. Jeffrey Littlefield and Tommy Starling will share another blessing, as this loving family will welcome grandchild number 10 into the world.

Throughout his life, Mr. Littlefield’s philosophy and outlook on life was to make sure that his children were raised with love and to instill in them the confidence, drive and an ambition to succeed. In so doing, it was his fervent hope to see his descendants achieve more than he could ever experience in his own life. A testament to his service, sacrifice and values, Mr. Littlefield will be joined by family members in presence and in spirit on April 8 to herald the celebration of his 87th birthday.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize, individually, the names of those so dear to this great American: Thomas Wadsworth Littlefield, Father; Myrtle Carrigan Littlefield, Mother; Joseph Littlefield, Paternal Grandfather; Kathryn Wadsworth Littlefield, Paternal Grandmother; Irvin Carrigan, Maternal Grandfather; Catherine Jones Carrigan, Maternal Grandmother; Patti Ann Fowers, Daughter; Norman George Fowers, Son-In-Law; Holly Fowers, Granddaughter; Heather Fowers Smedley, Granddaughter; Daren Smedley, Heather’s husband; Jonah Smedley, Great Grandson; Annabelle Smedley, Great Grandson; Nate Fowers, Grandson; Kaleb Fowers, Great Grandson; Mitch Fowers, Grandson; Vicki Jane Olson, Daughter; Brook Clyde Olson, Son-In-Law; Marci Olson Kiehl, Granddaughter; Sam Kiehl, Marci’s husband; Jake Kiehl, Great Grandson; Spencer Kiehl, Great Grandson; Alli Kiehl, Great Granddaughter; Kami Olson Howe, Granddaughter; Chad Howe, Kami’s husband; Conner Howe, Great Grandson; Hunter Howe, Great Grandson; Rylie Jo Howe, Great Granddaughter; Audri Ann Olson, Granddaughter; Jenni Olson, Granddaughter; Thomas Jeffrey Littlefield, Son; Thomas Brent Starling, Partner and future Son-In-Law; and Carrigan Shea Starling-Littlefield, if the latest addition to their family is a Granddaughter, or Hayden Thomas Starling-Littlefield, if the newborn is a Grandson.

War veteran, educator, father and grandfather, athlete, and loving husband, his life and service to our nation helped to forge a nation and spread Democracy the world over.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mr. Thomas Wadsworth Littlefield and his extended family on the occasion of his 87th birthday.

HONORING MIKE WALKER

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, all too often our local, State and Federal governments turn to tax increases rather than responsible budgeting in order to balance the bottom line.

In 1990, Mike Walker became city manager for Brentwood, TN, just after a property tax increase had been implemented. This was the last property tax increase in Brentwood. Mike has refused to use tax increases to balance the budget, instead he’s been a responsible steward of our tax dollars. It’s no wonder he was named City Manager of the Year by the Tennessee City Management Association. He’s done a great job.

With clear vision and detailed planning, Mike has increased the parkland in Brentwood