

**DYAN WADE ALLEN MAKES HIS
MARK ON THE WORLD**

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Matt and Jennifer Allen on the birth of their child, Dyan Wade Allen. Dyan was born on Tuesday, August 7, 2007, and weighed 6 pounds and 12 ounces. My wife Faye joins me in wishing Matt and Jennifer great happiness upon this new addition to their family.

As the father of three, I know the joy and pride that Matt and Jennifer feel at this special time. Children remind us of the incredible miracle of life, and they keep us young-at-heart. Every day, they show us a new way to view the world. I know the Allens look forward to the changes and challenges that their new son will bring to their lives while taking pleasure in the many rewards they are sure to receive as they watch him grow.

I welcome young Dyan into the world and wish Matt and Jennifer all the best as they raise him.

**RECOGNIZING THE HEPATITIS B
FOUNDATION**

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Hepatitis B Foundation and its founders for their many accomplishments in Hepatitis B advocacy. The foundation, which this year celebrated its 15-year anniversary, also recently unveiled the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center right here in Bucks County. The Hepatitis B Foundation started in 1991 around a kitchen, as an effort to help a local family suffering from Hepatitis B. Today it is a one-of-a-kind, world-renowned organization.

Over 2 billion people are infected with Hepatitis B world-wide, including 12 million people in the United States. The disease causes liver infections, leads to cancer, and is particularly dangerous for children. Hepatitis B is 100 times more infectious than HIV, but safe and reliable vaccines are available. Because Hepatitis B can be prevented and treated, the Foundation has always believed that education is just as important as research.

The Hepatitis B Foundation is the only non-profit organization solely dedicated to Hepatitis B education, research, and advocacy. The Foundation's O'Liver the mascot, hotlines and multilingual literature all promote awareness and understanding of Hepatitis B. Partnerships with government officials helped Pennsylvania become one of the first states to require student vaccinations. Madam Speaker, because of the efforts of ongoing Hepatitis education, there are now 47 States that have Hepatitis B vaccine requirements.

The new Biotechnology Center opened in October of 2006 as a result of a partnership between the Hepatitis B Foundation and Delaware Valley College. Their scientists conduct research in molecular biology, drug discovery,

and early detection of cancer in order to find treatment options and a cure.

Madam Speaker, I would like to individually recognize Founders and Board Members Paul and Janine Witte, Timothy and Joan Block, and Executive Director Molly Conti for their dedication to Hepatitis B awareness and medical achievements. I thank them on behalf of the countless people who have learned and benefited from the Foundation. Their compassion for one family truly became a desire to change the world for the better.

**CONGRATULATING MR. JOSHUA
BARNHILL**

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents Mr. Joshua Barnhill of Aurora, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Barnhill to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Barnhill and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

**KINGWOOD CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, outside of Houston in 1969 a group of developers set out to create a suburban paradise hidden amongst the trees. From these humble beginnings, Kingwood has grown into a viable economic and residential force in southeast Texas. Now known as the "livable forest," locals work together daily so they may progress successfully into the future while at the same time preserving their unique surroundings.

Spearheading this progress is the Kingwood Chamber of Commerce. Founded in 2003, this group strives to meet the needs of the local community and encourage local trade. Since its inception, these fine Texans have participated in numerous business and community service projects. Sparky Nolan currently serves as the president of this organization, and has been an inspirational community leader from the start. Kingwood Chamber mem-

bers recognize the importance of their consumer's quality of life in correlation with economic growth.

Last January the group organized "Travis McCormick Kleenwood Day." Members of the chamber worked together in teams with other local residents to help make their community more visually appealing. At the end of the event, hundreds of pounds of litter near sidewalks, greenbelt trails, and curbs were properly disposed of.

The Kingwood Chamber of Commerce also supports projects such as the Wildflower Project 2007, another demonstration of their commitment to bettering surrounding neighborhoods. In April the chamber organized the planting of wildflowers throughout the Kingwood area. The pride these Kingwood residents take in their community is certainly commendable, and is demonstrated not only in sponsorships like the Wildflower Project but in their support for local business and community organizations.

In addition to business growth, the Kingwood Chamber supports the entire community and stands for patriotism at its finest. Their support of local organizations like the Blue Star Mothers shows the chamber's concern and support for families with children who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

It gives me great pride to recognize the Kingwood Chamber for all they do. By working to better the community, Kingwood Chamber members understand the fundamental aspects of being Texan and I congratulate them on a job well done.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING MR. T. VANCE LITTLE

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the contributions of an outstanding member of our Williamson County community, Mr. T. Vance Little. A descendent of pioneer settlers, graduate of Vanderbilt Law School, and member of several historic, preservation, and patriotic organizations, Mr. Little has dedicated himself to providing leadership in his community.

This distinguished citizen is a noted author, journalist, and host of local historic television programs. He is the historian for the city of Brentwood, chairman of the Friends of the Williamson County Museum, secretary of the Williamson County Records Commission, and a member of Brentwood United Methodist Church. He has also sponsored a monthly program on local history at the Martin Center for the past 10 years.

Mr. Little has received many honors including the Heritage Foundation "Patron of the Year," the Williamson County Historical Society "Volunteer of the Year," the Brentwood Chamber of Commerce "Citizen of the Year," and the Leadership Brentwood "Civic Award." Recently, in 2006, he received the prestigious "Living Legend" award from the Williamson County Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Little has reminded us that we have no more important obligation to our children and to ourselves than preserving our history. We

appreciate all that he has done and thank him for the exceptional example that he has provided for others. I ask that you please join me in honoring Mr. T. Vance Little.

HONORING JAMES VASSAL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James Vassal in honor of his 100th birthday. A celebration was held at United Bethel Methodist Church on his birthday in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

James Vassal was born on August 18, 1907, in Amory, MS, the middle of 5 children. He worked for Frisco Railroad in Memphis for 25 years. During these years he met President Franklin D. Roosevelt twice. In 1945 he moved to Flint and went to work at the Chevrolet V-8 Engine Plant in Flint for 26½ years. He retired in 1971 and is a member of UAW Local 659.

He is a devoted member of United Bethel Methodist Church. He started attending services in 1946 in the basement of its future church on 12th Street. He worked as an usher and sang in the church gospel choir. James credits his grandfather for providing the foundation for his future devotion to United Bethel Methodist Church. He attends the 11 a.m. worship services every Sunday and is still a member of United Methodist Men and the Bible Study Group. In June, William Kornegay presented him with a certificate from the United Methodist Men's national office recognizing Vassal's "outstanding achievement" in the church. He was honored by the church's senior adult ministry at a luncheon on August 16. On his birthday, a dinner was held in his honor and attended by over 200 people. Many of James's relatives from Tennessee, Mississippi, Texas, Indiana, and Kentucky traveled to Michigan to join in the celebration. Sunday's worship centered on his contributions and featured remarks by Reverend Russell, McReynolds, Reverend Alonzo Vincent, Reverend Tara Sutton, and James's great-grandnephews and nieces.

James married Mae Berta Carter on July 16, 1927. They had one son, Charles, and one granddaughter, Reverend Delphine Vassal, an African Methodist Episcopal minister in Dallas. Devoted to each other until the end, James was by Mae's side when she passed away in 1996.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating James Vassal and wishing him the best for the coming year.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF R. JOHN HERRINGTON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of R. John Herrington, and to celebrate all his contributions to Cleveland. John passed away July 24, but he will live on in the hearts of everyone he touched.

As a soldier in the U.S. Army, John worked the night desk for the Associated Press in Tokyo, as well as with Stars and Stripes. After completing his service to our country, John worked in California, Missouri, and even London, England. By the time he arrived in Cleveland in 1968, John was already a seasoned and well-traveled reporter. And for the next 25 years, Cleveland had the fortune of benefiting from all that experience. After 3 years at WKBF, John joined the team at WKYC Channel 3, and was even the anchorman for Cleveland's first 10 p.m. newscast. In 1995, the Cleveland Regional chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences recognized John's contributions by inducting him into their Silver Circle.

John stayed just as active in retirement, acting in community theater and serving in various capacities in his church community.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering R. John Herrington, a mainstay of Cleveland broadcasting for over 25 years. John is survived by his wife of 27 years, Carol Ann, and my thoughts go out to her and their whole family. May John's spirit and live on in the lives of those who were fortunate enough to know him.

MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTION DIGITAL AND WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 694, the Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act of 2007.

Minority Serving Institutions include Historically Black Colleges and Universities, HBCUs, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, HSIs, Tribal Colleges and Universities, TCUs, and Asian American/Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities produce a disproportionately high percentage of African American science, engineering and technology professionals with advanced degrees. Even though they struggle with limited resources, HBCUs are institutions that provide special opportunities for educational enrichment for minority students.

HBCUs graduated 40 percent or more of all African Americans who, in 2000, received degrees in physics, chemistry, astronomy, environmental sciences, mathematics and biology.

In fact, African Americans who graduate from HBCUs are more likely to go on to graduate school and complete doctoral degrees than African-American undergraduates from other institutions.

HBCUs and other minority-serving institutions offer unique learning experiences, instill confidence, and impart a "can-do" attitude among minority students who matriculate there.

Congressman EDOLPHUS TOWNS of New York has devised a strong bill to assist minority-serving institutions in acquiring, and augmenting the use of digital and wireless networking technologies to improve the quality and delivery of educational services.

This legislation is appropriate, considering the very small appropriation given to these institutions to help carry on their legacy.

I strongly support this bill and appreciate Chairman BART GORDON and Ranking Member RALPH HALL, of the Committee on Science and Technology, for their partnership to facilitate it through the Committee process.

Again, I am pleased to support the Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act of 2007, and I urge my colleagues to support it also.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL A. FILARDO FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, proudly pause to recognize Michael A. Filardo, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 900, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael A. Filardo for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING MS. BROOKE ARNOLD

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDI

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. TANCREDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents Ms. Brooke Arnold of Centennial, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Arnold to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Arnold and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.