

the incredible commitment he has made, he simply says, "I wanted to take the next step."

I was thrilled to meet with Stuart and his five sons in Washington on Thursday. I know we both hope that this award and Stuart's recognition will raise awareness about the importance of adoption and foster care. Stuart has been able to create a stable, brighter future for his children, who might otherwise have drifted from family to family in the foster care system; never really having someone to call "Dad." For me, Stuart's words have the most resonance—"I just hope this encourages other folks to adopt."

RECOGNIZING MRS. OLA MAE
McFATRIDGE

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I am honored to pay tribute to Mrs. Ola Mae McFatridge, a long-time member of the district, on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Born Ola Mae Kerr outside of Celina, TX, on September 25, 1907, she was raised on a farm where she learned early on the importance of education, family, and hard work. In 1931 she married the late Carl McFatridge and went on to have two children, Bill McFatridge and the late Martha Dobson.

Following graduation in 1926, she taught for 5 years before marrying Carl. While Carl was serving as a marine in the Pacific Theatre in World War II, Ola Mae assumed the role of store manager of the family business. Though she retired from full-time work in 1994 at the age of 87, she continues to be an active and valued member of her community. She is the loving and beloved matriarch of 36 descendants. Among these descendants are educators, ministers, law enforcement and safety personnel, and business professionals.

Ola Mae's life has been marked by an unwavering dedication to family, education, hard work, and faith. This last century has been a remarkable one, and she has borne witness to it all. On behalf of her family, friends, and all those she continues to touch and inspire, I would like to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mrs. Ola Mae McFatridge on this, the centennial of her birth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 949 on H. Res. 32 I am not recorded because of flight delays from Michigan to Washington. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 32.

HONORING BOB LARGESS AND THE
FOOTSTEPS IN HISTORY PROGRAM

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and pay tribute to Mr. Robert Largess who has completed a historic 4-day stage coach journey from the scenic shores of the Narragansett Bay in Rhode Island to beautiful Kelley Square in my hometown of Worcester, Massachusetts.

Mr. Largess has driven an 1800's style horse-drawn stagecoach along the Blackstone River Valley National Corridor to commemorate the third annual Footsteps in History Program. This program is a week-long celebration of the cultural and historic heritage of the Blackstone Valley. Footsteps in History was created by the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council, the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, and the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Long before the railroad and canal boats came to the Blackstone Valley, people used stagecoaches to make the journey between Providence and Worcester. His 4-day journey will be the first such trip in about 180 years and aims to raise public awareness about the Blackstone Valley and its place in history. Mr. Largess's ride has also served to educate our children and our community about the important role that the Blackstone River and the Blackstone Canal have played in the industrialization of the United States. He will end his journey at the starting point of the Canal and he has been at the center of a communitywide effort to restore the section of the canal that is now buried under the streets of Worcester.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I honor the work of Mr. Largess and members of the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council for the work they do to help bring alive the rich history of the Blackstone Valley.

RECOGNIZING THE LAKE MURRAY
JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize the South Carolina Junior Chamber of Commerce and, specifically, the Lake Murray Junior Chamber for their leadership and service in our community during this year's Junior Chamber Mission Week.

In 1929, the United States Junior Chamber established Junior Chamber Mission Week, or "Jaycee Week", to celebrate its founding with seven days of public relations opportunities for its member chapters. Each day of the week, they highlight a different basic tenet that the chamber has adopted. These tenets are as follows: a faith in God, the purpose of brotherhood, free enterprise, government laws, human personality, and service to humanity.

For over 70 years, the South Carolina Junior Chamber has been actively involved in our community by devoting time to developing fu-

ture community leaders. Over those seven decades, it has contributed to humanitarian projects such as Jaycee Camp Hope, Family Talk and JAYS. As a former member of the Jaycee-West Columbia Jaycees for over 20 years and as former state legal counsel of the South Carolina Jaycees, I know firsthand of the positive impact of South Carolina Jaycees.

I wish to thank Lake Murray Chapter President Angie Wedekind, South Carolina State President Scott Bryant, the National Junior Chamber President Chris Oldham, and the Junior Chamber International President Scott Greenlee. Their leadership is helping to shape today's young people into successful leaders of tomorrow.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
HERMAN M. MAISEL

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Mobile and indeed the entire state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend. I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to the memory of Mr. Herman M. Maisel, a devoted family man and dedicated community leader.

A native and lifelong resident of Mobile, Mr. Maisel was a standout athlete at Murphy High School in football, basketball, and baseball. After graduating in 1942, he enlisted in the Marines. He served in the Pacific theater until the end of World War II and was cited for his bravery.

After returning home, he attended the University of Alabama using the G.I. Bill and received a degree in education. Once again, he was a standout athlete, named to the all-star teams in intramural football, basketball, and baseball. While in graduate school at the university, he coached both the freshman football and basketball teams.

In 1952, Mr. Maisel was named assistant football coach and head basketball coach at his alma mater, Murphy High School. Under his leadership, the Murphy High School basketball team racked up 91 wins and only 12 losses, winning three city championships and tying for another. The team also won three district titles and the 1956 Alabama State Basketball Championship, a first for a Mobile school. He also coached the Murphy golf team, which won the state championship in 1956.

With a desire to be a better provider for his family, Mr. Maisel entered the real estate business. In 1971, he acquired Staples, Pake & Griffin Real Estate in Mobile, changing the name to Herman Maisel & Company. This company became one of the top 100 shopping center developers in the United States, with holdings in 14 states. Additionally, he was a founding partner in Mobile Greyhound Park.

Mr. Maisel was actively involved in his community, contributing to numerous civic and charitable endeavors. He was a member of the Mobile Sports Hall of Fame, serving on its board of directors, and a past president of the Ahavas Chesed Synagogue in Mobile.

There is no doubt—Mr. Herman Maisel's contributions to Mobile and the state of Alabama will be long remembered. He loved life

and lived it to the fullest, and his passing marks a tremendous loss for all of south Alabama. He will be deeply missed by many, most especially his wife of 60 years, Freida Gutlow Maisel; his three children, Kathy M. Bronstein, Elliot B. Maisel, and Ivan B. Maisel; his ten grandchildren; as well as countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

HONORING THE LIFE OF U.S. CONGRESSMAN GEORGE SANG-MEISTER

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our former colleague, George Sangmeister, who passed away last weekend. George was a stalwart of Illinois politics for over 30 years and served in this body from 1988–1994. He embodied the hard-working decency of the Midwest and I extend my condolences to his family.

George committed a great deal of his life to public service, beginning with his service in the Army during the Korean War. He graduated from Elmhurst College and the John Marshall Law School, becoming a Will County Magistrate in 1961. He later served as the county's District Attorney and was elected to both the Illinois House and Senate. In 1986, he was tabbed by Adlai Stevenson III to run as his Lieutenant Governor. They lost that race, but George went on two years later to win election to Congress.

George had a warm personality and was a results-oriented politician, looking for consensus wherever he could. He was not concerned about grandstanding, but always seeking out a way to bring people together for the greater good. He led the efforts to create the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery and the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, both projects distinct to and emblematic of Illinois.

Madam Speaker, we can all learn from the example of George Sangmeister, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. VISCOSKY. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, October 4, 2007, I was absent from the House due to a family illness and therefore missed rollcall votes 939 through 948.

Had I been present for rollcall 939, H.R. 2740, on the motion to recommit the MEJA Expansion and Enforcement Act of 2007, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall 940, H.R. 2740, on passage of the MEJA Expansion and Enforcement Act of 2007, I would have voted “aye.”

Had I been present for rollcall 941, H. Res. 704, on ordering the previous question providing for the consideration of H.R. 3246, the

Regional Economic and Infrastructure Development Act, I would have voted “aye.”

Had I been present for rollcall 942, H. Res. 704, on agreeing to the resolution providing for the consideration of H.R. 3246, the Regional Economic and Infrastructure Development Act, I would have voted “aye.”

Had I been present for rollcall 943, H. Res. 703, on ordering the previous question providing for the consideration of H.R. 3648, Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act, I would have voted “aye.”

Had I been present for rollcall 944, H. Res. 703, on agreeing to the resolution providing for the consideration of H.R. 3648, the Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act, I would have voted “aye.”

Had I been present for rollcall 945, H.R. 3246, on the motion to recommit the Regional Economic and Infrastructure Development Act of 2007, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall 946, H.R. 3246, on passage of the Regional Economic and Infrastructure Development Act of 2007, I would have voted “aye.”

Had I been present for rollcall 947, H.R. 3648, on the motion to recommit the Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act, I would have voted “no.”

Had I been present for rollcall 948, H.R. 3648, on passage of the Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act, I would have voted “aye.”

EXPANDING STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today strong support of my resolution—H. Res. 651—which recognizes the expanding strategic relationship between the United States and Brazil. This resolution also commends Brazil on successfully reducing its dependence on oil by finding alternative ways to satisfy its energy needs and recognizes the importance of the March 9, 2007 United States–Brazil Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on biofuels cooperation.

For years, Brazil has flown below the radar in the United States. We never paid much attention to what was happening in the largest country in South America. But I believe that we are reaching the end of this period of ignorance and neglect and that we, in America, are finally waking up not only to Brazil's importance, but also to how natural this relationship should be.

Brazil occupies almost half of the continent of South America and is the fifth most populous country in the world. Its economy is the eleventh largest in the world, the largest in Latin America, and one of the largest in the developing world. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has called Brazil “the regional leader and our global partner.” These are words we reserve for only a few countries—those where partnership is truly advantageous for both of us.

Brazil is also the right country with which to cooperate on alternative energy sources.

Brazil and the United States are by far the world's largest ethanol producers. In 2006, the two countries together produced 69 percent of ethanol in the world. And Brazil has become a global leader on alternative energy. By the end of 2006, 80 percent of new car sales in Brazil were flex-fuel, meaning they can run on a mixture of ethanol and gasoline.

On March 9th, the U.S. and Brazil signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote greater cooperation on ethanol and biofuels in the Western Hemisphere. Our bilateral partnership is establishing both countries as leaders in the energy field in the hemisphere. I am particularly pleased by joint U.S.–Brazilian efforts to provide technical assistance to build biofuels industries in third countries, including the Dominican Republic, Haiti, El Salvador and St. Kitts and Nevis. This resolution commends these efforts and also encourages U.S. and Brazilian officials to quickly move to a second wave of countries to receive similar technical assistance.

Many argue that for too long, the U.S. has focused its agenda in the hemisphere on “trade and drugs” at the exclusion of other elements. The deepening of our energy cooperation with our friends in the hemisphere—particularly Brazil—is helping us to develop a positive agenda that I hope will continue to grow in the coming years.

I am also pleased to announce today that I will be leading a bipartisan congressional delegation to Brazil on November 25th and I encourage my colleagues to join me on this trip.

I want to close by noting that there is a cynical, old adage about Brazil that says, “Brazil is the land of the future, and always will be.” Brazil's leadership at home, in the Americas and throughout the world is proving this statement to be false. I truly believe that Brazil's time has come. As Western Hemisphere Subcommittee Chairman, I look forward to continuing to focus intensively on Brazil—a vital partner and friend.

I urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 651.

CHARLES H. HENDRIX POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of renaming the Cantonment Post Office in Cantonment, FL, the Charles H. Hendrix Post Office. It is fitting that we rename this post office after Mr. Hendrix as he retired from the U.S. Postal Service as Postmaster of the Cantonment Post Office with 37 years of service.

Charles Harold Hendrix was a man of service. He dedicated his life to the Lord, his family, and his community. Born and reared in Molino, FL, where he met his wife of 55 years, Barbara; they had three children: Chuck, Rusty, and Cheryl.

He was a member of Highland Baptist Church, where he served as the church treasurer, chairman of the board of deacons, and as a Sunday school superintendent. Charles Barton, the current Sunday school superintendent, said that Mr. Hendrix “had moral