

CD's, and has been dubbed: a "Texas legend in entertainment."

Happy is one of the top twenty-five Latino comedians in the United States. Happy's performances have delighted thousands of diverse audiences who attend his comedy concerts, conventions, and private events throughout the United States, Mexico, and Puerto Rico.

Happy is a member of the Texas Magician's Association and uses a level of magic in his shows and presentations, for which he has also won numerous awards.

He has written and produced five comedy CD's: Happy Live Disconnected, El Pachuco Dude, Dale Gas, Happy Live! Chisquitito . . . and his most recent CD, Barely Reality. Happy also released two comedy DVD's, Happy Live! I and Happy Live! II.

On screen, Happy was featured in *Harvest of Redemption* (April 2005), an independent film about the journey of an angry young man in the Rio Grande Valley, circa 1920. Happy was the original host and co-producer of the comedy show *Que Loco!* on Galavision's network.

Happy's recent comedy show, *La Migra Gone Wild!* is a Tejano comedian's hysterical perspective of the chaos immigration is causing on both sides of the border . . . his latest installment of illustrating and illuminating through humor.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending my friend, Efrain Guerrero "Happy," for his intense and hysterical comedy that gives us all a hard look at ourselves and the world around us.

RECOGNIZING LAWSON CARDINALS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the outstanding achievement of the Lawson Cardinals high school football team on defeating Blair Oaks, by a score of 38-17, to win the Class 2 State Championship.

The Cardinals finished their incredible season by posting an unblemished record of 14-0 this season while scoring 501 points and only allowing 145 points. In the Championship game, the defense forced seven turnovers, resulting in 24 points from turnovers, third most in Show-Me Bowl history.

Also, I want to recognize the great leadership of the team, including Head Coach Todd Dunn and the work of his assistance coaches. I also want to acknowledge the work of school administrators, Superintendent Craig Barker, Principal Don Edwards and Assistant Principal Clint Ross, and Athletic Director Scott Harrold, as additional keys to success.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the achievement of Lawson Cardinals High School football team on their perfect season and state championship. It is an honor to represent this team in the United States Congress.

CONGRATULATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SPECIAL OLYMPIAN JESSICA CROOK OF LOGANSPORT, INDIANA

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. DONNELLY. Madam Speaker, I am so proud to rise before you today to offer a word of congratulations to Special Olympian Jessica Crook of Logansport, Indiana for her accomplishments at this year's World Games in Shanghai, China and for being selected as a member of the 2007-2009 class of Sargent Shriver International Global Messengers.

Not only is Jessica the first Global Messenger to be selected from the State of Indiana, but she is an accomplished athlete as well. She became involved with the Special Olympics in 1999, with the Cass County Aquatics program. In June 2005, Jessica won a Gold Medal in the Summer Games, and followed up with two more in 2006. Also in 2006, Jessica won top honors in three events at the National Games.

This year, Jessica was one of seven Hoosiers representing Team USA at the World Games in Shanghai, China. She competed in three events at the World Games, held in November, placing 6th in the 50-meter Freestyle, winning a Silver Medal as part of the 4x50-meter Medley Relay team, and winning a Gold Medal in the 50-meter Butterfly.

As an International Global Messenger, Jessica will serve for two years as a voice of the Special Olympics. Sargent Shriver International Global Messengers (IGM) are a group of twelve Special Olympians from around the world that speak on behalf of the Special Olympics, appearing in various national and international media outlets. The new class, consisting of athletes from across the globe, is committed to the vision and benefits gained from participation in athletics. Jessica is the first Special Olympian athlete from Indiana to receive this distinguished appointment, and she is eager to relay the powerful declarations of hope, acceptance, dignity and courage of Special Olympics Athletes around the world.

Again, it is my honor to join with the constituents of Indiana's Second Congressional District and around the country in congratulating Jessica Crook of Logansport, Indiana, for her accomplishments at the 2007 Special Olympics World Games and for being selected as a Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger.

CONGRATULATING RILEY BELL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Riley Bell, of Trinity Christian Academy, on qualifying for induction into the Spring 2007 National Honor Roll. Riley resides in The Colony, TX and is in her third year of high school at Trinity Christian.

The National Honor Roll offers several benefits that can contribute to the success of its student members. The National Honor Roll

chooses students based upon their academic performance. Each student that qualifies for induction must have a B average or better, and show ambition in areas such as grade point average, interests, activities, and future goals.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Riley Bell for her remarkable dedication to education and exemplary learning. Her commitment to her studies, her school, and her future should serve as an inspiration to all. I am honored to represent her in the 26th District of Texas.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH SIMONE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Elizabeth Simone of Gladstone, Missouri. Elizabeth will be celebrating her 78th birthday on November 22nd and it is my privilege to offer her my warmest regards.

Elizabeth raised three children and has eight grandchildren, including my legislative attorney Dominic Lackey. Elizabeth is a talented pianist and now spends her days retired after serving as an accomplished secretary for the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to represent Elizabeth in the United States Congress, and I wish her all the best on this birthday and many more in the future.

VIOLENT RADICALIZATION AND HOMEGROWN TERRORISM PREVENTION ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably out of town on October 23, 2007, when a vote was taken on H.R. 1955, the Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism Prevention Act. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted against this misguided and dangerous piece of legislation. This legislation focuses the weight of the U.S. government inward toward its own citizens under the guise of protecting us against "violent radicalization."

I would like to note that this legislation was brought to the floor for a vote under suspension of regular order. These so-called "suspension" bills are meant to be non-controversial, thereby negating the need for the more complete and open debate allowed under regular order. It is difficult for me to believe that none of my colleagues in Congress view H.R. 1955, with its troubling civil liberties implications, as "non-controversial."

There are many causes for concern in H.R. 1955. The legislation specifically singles out the Internet for "facilitating violent radicalization, ideologically based violence, and the homegrown terrorism process" in the United States. Such language may well be the first step toward U.S. government regulation of

what we are allowed to access on the Internet. Are we, for our own good, to be subjected to the kind of governmental control of the Internet that we see in unfree societies? This bill certainly sets us on that course.

This seems to be an unwise and dangerous solution in search of a real problem. Previous acts of ideologically-motivated violence, though rare, have been resolved successfully using law enforcement techniques, existing laws against violence and our court system. Even if there were a surge of "violent radicalization"—a claim for which there is no evidence—there is no reason to believe that our criminal justice system is so flawed and weak as to be incapable of trying and punishing those who perpetrate violent acts.

This legislation will set up a new government bureaucracy to monitor and further study the as-yet undemonstrated pressing problem of homegrown terrorism and radicalization. It will no doubt prove to be another bureaucracy that artificially inflates problems so as to guarantee its future existence and funding. But it may do so at great further expense to our civil liberties. What disturbs me most about this legislation is that it leaves the door wide open for the broadest definition of what constitutes "radicalization." Could otherwise non-violent anti-tax, antiwar, or anti-abortion groups fall under the watchful eye of this new government commission? Assurances otherwise in this legislation are unconvincing.

In addition, this legislation will create a Department of Homeland Security-established university-based body to further study radicalization and to "contribute to the establishment of training, written materials, information, analytical assistance and professional resources to aid in combating violent radicalization and homegrown terrorism." I wonder whether this is really a legitimate role for institutes of higher learning in a free society.

Legislation such as this demands heavy-handed governmental action against American citizens where no crime has been committed. It is yet another attack on our Constitutionally-protected civil liberties. It is my sincere hope that we will reject such approaches to security, which will fail at their stated goal at a great cost to our way of life.

IN HONOR OF THE VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM AT CANYON CREEK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly recognize the Varsity Volleyball team at Canyon Creek Christian Academy (CCCA) for winning the 2007 Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) Volleyball State Championship.

Last weekend, CCCA defeated Austin Regents 3-1 in the semi-finals and then proceeded to face the Tyler All Saints in their final match. On November 10, 2007, CCCA emerged triumphant with the score of 3-0 and won the coveted title of 4A State Champions. This title speaks loudly of their hard work and discipline, which led to their victory. I commend them for dedicating the time and effort

to enhance their ability to perform as a team and skills and techniques of this great sport.

I congratulate the members of the volleyball team for their well-deserved victory and wish them all the best in future endeavors.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING STELLA GIRKINS FOR PLACING SECOND IN THE MANCHESTER UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Stella Girkins competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and

Whereas, Stella Girkins showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Stella Girkins has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Stella Girkins was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Stella Girkins always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Stella Girkins on placing second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

TRIBUTE TO BEN AND MARTHA BIDEWELL

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ben and Martha Bidewell for receiving the 2007 Missouri Community College Association Award of Distinction. Their vision and commitment to education has had an enduring impact on their community, State and Nation.

Three Rivers Community College (TRCC) has played a critical role in helping people of all ages develop the skills necessary to begin and sustain a productive career. For four decades, the Bidewells have generously contributed their time, efforts and financial resources to the betterment of TRCC, ensuring a brighter future for our State and Nation.

Mr. and Mrs. Bidewell both possess a deep sense of community and true desire to improve the lives of their neighbors. Their friendliness and optimism have positively impacted countless people both in and out of the college. Their leadership, dedication and generosity serve as an example to all, particularly young students enrolled at TRCC. Poplar Bluff and the entire southern Missouri region owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Bidewell for their significant contributions to higher education and their community.

Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor Ben and Martha Bidewell on winning this prestigious award. I ask that you join me along with the people of southern Missouri to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Bidewell on this wonderful achievement and to wish them a happy and productive future.

RECOGNIZING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SHERWOOD INN

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 200th anniversary of the Sherwood Inn in Skaneateles, New York.

Founded by Isaac Sherwood in 1807 the Sherwood Inn has served as a fixture in the Central New York community for two centuries. Throughout its long history, the Sherwood Inn has seen many renovations and expansions and been known by many different names and owned by numerous people, but it has constantly been dedicated to serving travelers and diners in the area. During the influenza epidemic of 1918 the Sherwood Inn went above and beyond its call of public service by serving as a temporary hospital.

Owned by William Eberhardt since 1974, the Sherwood Inn is one of the oldest, continuously operating inns in New York State. It has served as a place for community activities, business meetings, family gatherings, and special events. Throughout its operation, the Sherwood Inn has employed hundreds of area citizens and has served as a crucial leader in the revival of the village of Skaneateles and the Finger Lakes region.

The Sherwood Inn has always strived to maintain the highest standards of public service, and I am proud to recognize them today. I congratulate the past and present employees of the Sherwood Inn on reaching this milestone, and I thank them for their two centuries of dedicated public service that has been such a positive influence on the community.

HONORING GERALDINE GENNET

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Ms. Geraldine Gennet for her diligent service to the Office of General Counsel for the House of Representatives. Ms. Gennet joined the General Counsel's office 12 years ago, and served in the capacity of General Counsel for more than a decade.

Ms. Gennet worked tirelessly to carry out her office's mandate to provide legal assistance and representation without regard to political affiliation. The advice and guidance she has provided to Speaker PELOSI, as well as to former Speakers Gingrich and Hastert, was unfailingly rooted in sound legal judgment and an impartial reading of the law. In carrying on an important tradition of nonpartisanship, Ms. Gennet significantly advanced the long-term, institutional interests of the House. Specifically, her vigorous defense of the Constitutional Speech or Debate clause has preserved the rights of Members, committees, and staff in their official capacities.

Ms. Gennet's capable leadership of the General Counsel's office through an era marked by partisan conflict is a testament to her integrity and professionalism. I consider it an honor to have formed both a personal and