

RECOGNIZING PHILLIP EARLEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Phillip Earley, of Chillicothe, MO. Phillip is an active student at Chillicothe High School by participating in many extracurricular activities. During his time at school, he has received many outstanding athletic and academic achievements.

Phillip has been actively serving his student body and teammates by participating in C-Club and football. For his excellence in football, he was selected for the All District First Team Offense and the All Conference Second Team Offense and Defense. He also received the honor of being selected by the Missouri Sportswriters to the Class 3 All State Football Team.

Not only has Phillip been honored with many awards for his dedication and service to his football team, but also has been honored for his academic excellence. This includes receiving the academic letter twice at his school.

Also, I would like to recognize the coaches that have inspired Phillip to achieve his best in athletics and academics. These notable coaches are Phil Willard, Jeff Staton, and Dave Mapel.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Phillip Earley. His dedication and service to his school has been extremely important to the success of his team record and to his academic achievement. I commend his exemplary record for all of his athletic and academic honors, and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING THE 5TH GRADE STUDENTS OF PECAN CREEK ELEMENTARY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the superior community service and dedication of the 5th grade students from Pecan Creek Elementary School in Denton, Texas. These students volunteered many hours to illustrate a children's book, *More Than Just a Mvule Tree*, which raised money to plant trees in Uganda.

The students' teacher, Ms. Natalie Mead, helped with the project, which sold 600 copies of the 24-page first edition book. The sales of those books, along with sponsorships, filled the village of Wonkonge in Uganda with 170 Mvule trees.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize these students and their teacher. The students of Pecan Creek Elementary School's 5th Grade class have shown commitment to their local and international community. I am honored to represent them in the 26th District of Texas.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING CASEY CLIFF 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, Casey Cliff competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and Whereas, Casey Cliff showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and Whereas, Casey Cliff has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and Whereas, Casey Cliff was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Casey Cliff 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 Casey Cliff on placing second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

IN RECOGNITION OF COMMANDER PAMELA MELROY

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 on behalf of myself and Mr. Kuhl of New York to recognize Pamela Melroy; Commander of the Space Shuttle *Discovery* Mission STS-120.

Ms. Melroy has become just the second female shuttle commander in NASA's history. Despite NASA being comprised of approximately 19 percent women, there are currently no other female pilot-astronauts within the agency, which makes it probable that Commander Melroy may also be the last woman to command a space shuttle before the program ends in 2010.

As a member of a military family, Melroy spent her childhood living in many towns, but considers Rochester, NY, her hometown. She graduated from Bishop Kearney High School in Rochester and earned her bachelor's degree in physics and astronomy from Wellesley College. Melroy continued her education and received her masters of science degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Commander Melroy served in the United States Air Force from 1983 until 2007. During her career in the Air Force, she flew combat missions in Iraq, and eventually graduated from the Air Force's exclusive test-pilot school. Over the span of her 24-year career, she logged 5,000 hours of flight time in 45 different aircrafts.

Pamela Melroy began her astronaut career in 1994 when she was selected as a candidate by NASA. Prior to her becoming Commander of *Discovery*, Melroy worked on a number of projects and took on a number of roles within NASA. She served on the Columbia Reconstruction Team, as deputy project manager for a crew survival investigation team, and as a pilot on two space shuttle missions.

Pamela Melroy became the second female space shuttle commander on October 23, 2007 when mission STS-120 launched. This delivered the Harmony module to the International Space Station in order to prepare the station for future missions. Melroy follows in the footsteps of fellow Upstate New York native Eileen Collins, who was the first female space shuttle commander.

Throughout her career Commander Melroy has served as a valuable co-worker and leader and is highly respected by those who work with her. Her contributions to her country as a member of the Air Force and as an astronaut are invaluable. Inspired by Apollo missions when she was younger, Melroy herself serves as an inspiration by showing how far women have come in the space program.

Representative Kuhl and I thank Pamela Melroy for her dedication and service to her country as a member of the Air Force and as an astronaut and congratulate her on a successful career thus far. She has and will continue to be a true leader and an excellent role model for young people today.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. MAGGIE BAKER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay to Mrs. Maggie Baker.

Mrs. Baker was born in Alabama and migrated to Brooklyn, NY, where she married Jessie Baker, Sr. She and her husband of 45 years are the proud parents of 5 sons, 1 daughter, and 20 grandchildren.

Mrs. Baker is most recognized for her years of service with the board of education until 2004. A dedicated member of New Canaan Baptist Church, Mrs. Baker has served as president of the usher board and as a Sunday school teacher for more than 31 years. Although she is actively involved in other community organizations, Mrs. Baker enjoys spending quality time with her family and traveling.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the impressive achievements of Mrs. Maggie Baker for her commitment to the Brooklyn community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a great individual of high morals, ethics, and integrity.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA PARISH IN OAK LAWN, ILLINOIS

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Parish as they celebrate 50 years of community, faith, and service. Throughout their history, the parishioners of St. Catherine's have served commendably as a pillar of the Oak Lawn community, and I am pleased to honor their 50th anniversary.

The story of St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Parish began in 1957, when the Roman Catholic population of the Ranch Manor District of Oak Lawn began looking for a new place to worship. They petitioned the Archdiocese of Chicago to establish a new church in their area, and on August 21, 1957, St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish was canonically erected.

While men in the parish built a chapel and an office, services were temporarily held at Brother Rice High School. Through hard work and dedication throughout the years, the parish has expanded to accommodate the large increase of worshippers. When the parish was dedicated on November 23, 1958, the parish facilities consisted of the church and an eight-room school for 367 families. Today, there are 12 additional classrooms, a convent, and a rectory to serve the 2200 families who worship there.

From their first pastor, Reverend John M. Kane, to their current pastor, Father Patrick Henry, the parishioners of St. Catherine's have enriched the lives of their fellow citizens by providing community outreach, a strong grade school, and an unwavering commitment to their faith. The members of St. Catherine's continue to develop their community, building gyms, kitchens, and meeting rooms to provide a safe environment for area children and a focal point for their community.

I rise today, Madam Speaker, to commend the hard work, dedication, and faith that have characterized the first 50 years of St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Parish. I am proud to have in the Third District such a strong example of the great contributions that Catholic parishes and schools make to this country. My prayers and best wishes are with the parishioners of St. Catherine's as they celebrate their 50th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING CLINT MACOUBRIE

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 Clint Macoubrie, and all of his numerous athletic and academic honors at Chillicothe High School in Chillicothe, MO.

Clint is actively involved in his school by participating in many extracurricular activities. He has played golf, basketball and football all throughout his sophomore, junior, and senior year, and has received many awards and honors for his exemplary skills and character. He has been given the KWK Outstanding Athletic Achievement Award and has also been named to the KMZU Dream Team with the title of Class 3/4 Football Defensive Player of the Year. Clint also holds the school record for the most rushing touchdowns at Chillicothe High School.

Clint is as dedicated to his athletics as he is to his academics. He has excelled in his studies by receiving the Top 10% of Class Academic Excellence Award, the George Washington Carver Award for Excellent Academic Achievement, and the President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence. Not only is he an example and leader on the field, but also in the classroom.

Also, I want to recognize the great leadership of Clint's exemplary coaches Phil Willard, Jeff Staton, and Dave Mapel who took great lengths in assuring his outstanding athletic and academic performances.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the achievement of Clint Macoubrie for all his accomplishments in athletic and academic excellence. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING CARNEGIE HALL'S CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to a very special occasion that will take place in New York's 14th Congressional District this week. Eight New York City high schools, including the Life Sciences Secondary School and Company High School for Theatre Art, will participate in a musical and cultural exchange event at New York City's world-renowned Carnegie Hall on December 5, 2007.

Carnegie Hall's cultural exchange program will bring together a select group of eight classrooms in New York City and an equal number in Istanbul, Turkey. Students in both countries have worked in their respective classrooms for the past ten weeks to learn about each other's nation and culture. On Wednesday, students and teachers will meet face to face via teleconferencing technology to share a real-time cultural exchange using music as the common language. American and Turkish teachers and students in the program will continue to communicate with one another on a dedicated internet space for the duration of the school year. Carnegie Hall has developed this unique exchange program in partnership with the U.S. Department of State, and I am pleased that this public-private partnership will produce a meaningful, enriching and lasting experience for students in New York City and Istanbul.

Music is a universal language through which improved understanding among our Nation's respective citizenry can be found. I commend Carnegie Hall, the U.S. Department of State, and the private sector sponsors of this program. Most importantly, I congratulate the young men and women participating in this program and add my encouragement for their continued pursuit of improved cultural understanding through music and the arts.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CAREER, AN EXTRAORDINARY CITIZEN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I stand today to recognize the career and contributions of a longtime friend and newspaperman in Maryland's Fifth Congressional District, John Rouse, the editor of the Bowie Blade News.

For 36 years, the citizens of the City of Bowie, Prince George's County, and the State

of Maryland have benefited from John's skill as an editor, insight as a writer, and dedication to the community that he has served for so long.

Many in Bowie recognize John by his long association with the Editor's View column he writes for the paper. Through this column and other writings, John has earned distinction for his thoughtful, objective style of journalism that has helped drive the Bowie Blade-News to significant acclaim.

After serving in the Air Force during the Vietnam era, John joined the Bowie News as editor in 1971 and became the editor and general manager of the new Bowie-Blade News in 1978 when the Bowie News merged with the Bowie Blade.

Madam Speaker, under John's leadership, the Bowie-Blade News has earned numerous recognitions, among them the Newspaper of the Year award in 1999 from the SEQ Chapter of the Maryland-Delaware-District of Columbia Press Association. The paper has also won the Best in Show award for several investigative pieces over the years as well as awards for newspaper design.

John has earned several accolades of his own for his individual achievements in the news industry, including first place awards for his Editor's View column. He has been a longtime member of the Society of Professional Journalists (Sigma Delta Chi). John is also a lifetime member of both the Disabled American Veterans and the American Legion.

During John's 36 years in Bowie, he has remained resolute in his commitment to truth and fairness as guiding journalistic principles. John has served as an effective watchdog of the public interest in his community, and for that alone, he should be lauded.

Among John's most admirable qualities is his keen sense of humor. Although sometimes the target of that humor, I recognize that John is an equal opportunity satirist who adeptly uses the power of the writer's pen to make sound and insightful observations. And while John and I have sometimes fallen on different sides of a debate, we have grown to be friends over the years, and hold each other in high mutual respect and esteem.

After all, Madam Speaker, we have both witnessed the City of Bowie's evolution into the vibrant and diverse community that John is proud to call home, and I am proud to represent in Congress. All the while, John has maintained an innate ability to keep his finger firmly pressed on the pulse of the community, knowing better than most what makes Bowie such a great place to work and live.

As a resident of Bowie, John has served with countless community organizations and played a pivotal role in the formation of the Bowie YMCA. For his work in the community, John has been honored by a number of civic groups, including the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Committee of Bowie, the Bowie Civic Affairs Committee, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Madam Speaker, John's career is significant not only in years and accomplishments, but also for the impact he has had in the City of Bowie. For three and a half decades, he has dedicated himself to working for the interests of his fellow Bowie residents and the good of the community. In recognition of his retirement as editor of the Bowie Blade-News and a public life filled with distinction, I ask my colleagues to join with me in offering him our