

to the intrinsic nature of corn farming, any increase will heavily impact the health of the watershed and could undo many of the great achievements we have made in the past few years.

Fifty years from now our energy makeup should be fundamentally different. At that point we should no longer be relying on fossil fuels to drive our economy. Yet, the fact remains we must rely on them today. Neither the technology nor the infrastructure exists to do otherwise. In the intervening years we must not only develop a green energy sector, but we must also shift from foreign sources of energy to domestic ones. Therefore, we must not hinder the development of our oil and natural gas fields. I am pleased this bill discarded the troublesome tax package that would have been a disincentive on domestic production.

Madam Speaker, contrary to what its champions claim, this bill does not fundamentally change our Nation's energy policy. While I will vote for this bill, I look forward to working with my colleagues to finish the job that has been left undone.

RECOGNIZING OHIO'S 2008  
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007*

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable teacher from Ohio's Fourth Congressional District.

Her name is Deborah Wickerham. A teacher for 32 years, Ms. Wickerham has taught at Chamberlin Hill Intermediate School in the Findlay City School system since 1992, currently teaching both deaf and hearing fifth graders in her inclusion classroom.

In 2001, Ms. Wickerham achieved National Board Certification, and currently works as a facilitator and mentor to help other teachers achieve certification. In addition to this and to her regular duties at Chamberlin Hill, she spends many after-school hours tutoring students who struggle with homework, organizational skills, and test preparation.

She has received numerous awards and recognition throughout her teaching career, including the Presidential Award for Elementary Science Excellence, the Vernier National Science Teacher of the Year Award, the Rotary Golden Apple Award, Jaycees Teacher of the Year honors, and the 2007 VFW Regional Teacher of the Year title.

Today, I am proud to announce to the House that Deborah Wickerham has been named the 2008 Ohio Teacher of the Year by the Ohio Department of Education.

According to her colleagues, Ms. Wickerham's secret to success is her ability to demonstrate, through her dedicated work in the classroom, the most important mission of teachers: to help even child succeed.

We all recognize the increasing challenges facing today's students. Now more than ever, they need the benefit of dedicated teachers like Ms. Wickerham.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Deborah Wickerham in earning this distinction, through which she will serve as a spokesperson for Ohio teachers, make public appearances and speeches

across the state, and continue her outstanding work in the classroom.

FEDERAL FOOD DONATION ACT OF  
2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. JERRY MORAN**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 17, 2007*

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today the House of Representatives is considering an important piece of legislation. H.R. 4220, the Federal Food Donation Act of 2007 is a step in the right direction towards feeding the hungry in our nation. It is unacceptable that here in the richest nation in the world American children go to bed hungry while perfectly good food goes to waste. I am proud to be a sponsor of this bill—a bill that will not solve all hunger, but will solve some people's hunger.

I want to thank Mrs. EMERSON for introducing the Federal Food Donation Act. The bill will help the efforts of nonprofit organizations serving the hungry. Agencies and contractors are encouraged to donate safe and wholesome food to nonprofit organizations that provide assistance to food-insecure people, while avoiding another mandate or further layer of bureaucracy. In order to help protect donors, the bill provides that executive agencies and contractors making donations are protected from civil or criminal liability.

While donating unused food is a good step in combating hunger in America, the fight is not over.

TRIBUTE TO NOUVEL CATHOLIC  
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007*

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Madam Speaker, today I would like to congratulate and pay tribute to Nouvel Catholic Central High School for winning the Michigan High School Athletic Association 2007 Division Six Football State Championship. It is the team's second consecutive state title.

The Nouvel Panthers Defeated Blissfield 12-7 in the state final game on November 23. The win was a fitting cap to a successful season. The Panthers finished with an impressive 10-3 record. The ability of the Panther players to regroup after these losses and ability to win the close games down the stretch is a clear indication of the dedication these young men have for their sport.

This tremendous group of student athletes has proudly carried on their school's tradition of excellence.

On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Michigan, I congratulate the Nouvel Catholic Central football team on this milestone achievement and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING KINGLAND-HANSON

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carolyn Kingland-Hanson as the recipient of the Golden Apple Award for her commitment and enthusiasm as a teacher in the Hampton-Dumont School District in Iowa.

Carolyn says she is humbled by the honor and believes all her fellow teachers at Hampton-Dumont are equally deserving of the award.

Carolyn has taught high school English and literature for 22 years and has a gift in working with teens. She is able to transform difficult literature into exciting and easy to learn lessons. Carolyn turns her classroom into a stage as students have the opportunity to act out scenes and dances that are in the books they are studying. Her recipe for success is her love of, and commitment to, her students. Her passion for literature and the teaching profession will continue to have a significant impact on her students for years to come.

I congratulate Carolyn Kingland-Hanson on her well-deserved award, and I'm certain that she will continue to touch the lives of many students in her community. It is a great honor to represent Carolyn in Congress, and I wish her continued success.

HONORING A NORTH CHICAGO  
POLICE OFFICER

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007*

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Detective Luis Rivera of the North Chicago Police Department Tactical Narcotics Team. Besides fulfilling his duties as a narcotics and gang investigator since May 2005, Detective Rivera also serves on the North Chicago Police Department Major Crime Evidence Team, as a firearms instructor, tech officer, bike patrolman and former SWAT officer. Beyond his tireless dedication to the department, Detective Rivera has consistently displayed an extraordinary commitment to his community.

In January of this year while working undercover, Detective Rivera purchased 4 ounces of cocaine from a criminal resulting in four arrests and the seizure of 116.6 grams cocaine, one Chevy Blazer and \$4,977. Detective Rivera also developed a narcotics gang conspiracy case on members of the Four Corner Hustler street gang operating in North Chicago that came to a conclusion on February 28, 2007. Through the use of confidential informants and undercover officers, 39 indictments were issued on 12 of the Four Corner Hustler street gang members by the Lake County States Attorney office. This investigation halted violence in the area.

In June he developed an informant that infiltrated a crew that was robbing local drug dealers. While gathering information to make a case, the leader of the group and member of the Gangster Disciples street gang committed a home invasion, resulting in the violent death of a young female along with 2 males who

were seriously wounded. Lake County Major Crimes Taskforce investigated the crime and had murder warrants. Detective Rivera then developed an operational plan to take the suspect into custody. The detective used his informant to lure the suspect to a location on July 3, 2007, to discuss doing another robbery. Members of the North Chicago SWAT team arrested the suspect upon his arrival.

Last August Detective Rivera used an informant to infiltrate another armed robbery crew along with an undercover ATF agent. On October 25, 2007, the North Chicago Tactical Narcotics Team, agents from ATF and their SWAT officers as well as Waukegan Net Agents conducted a sting on this crew, arresting four Gangster Disciples and the recovery of a hand gun. All 4 subjects were charged through the United States Attorneys office.

Detective Rivera is truly taking criminals off the streets, making our community safer. Our district is fortunate to have police officers, like the detective, who risk their lives every day. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring him today.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO ANTONIO MELONI

##### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Antonio Meloni, a tireless, energetic and effective civic activist. Antonio Meloni is devoted to his community and his family, and in recognition of his selfless dedication to the well-being of others, he was honored by the Taminent Regular Democratic Club of the Borough of Queens in New York City at its 76th Annual Dinner Dance.

A resident of Astoria for forty-two years, Antonio Meloni has distinguished himself for his outstanding service to the community. He has been a leader in local crime-fighting and neighborhood beautification efforts, working with at-risk youth in the Second Chance Task Force, serving as an instructor in women's self-defense courses, and working to prevent and clean up the urban blight of graffiti. Mr. Meloni has been extraordinarily active in numerous civic organizations, ranging from the Astoria-Long Island City Kiwanis Club; the 114th Precinct Community Council; the local New York City Community Emergency Response Team; the Variety Boys and Girls Club; the Knights of Columbus; the Church of the Immaculate Conception, where he serves as a Minister of Welcome; the Astoria Civic Association, which he currently serves as Vice President; and Queens Community Board 1, on which he has chaired the Public Safety Committee for many years, among many other organizations. Of Antonio Meloni's many accomplishments in service to the community, one of which he is particularly proud is the design and completion of the "Greater Love Than This" memorial to veterans of our nation's armed forces, a monument that is located next to the existing World War I Memorial in Astoria Park. In recognition of his many civic contributions, Mr. Meloni has been honored over the years by former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, the New York State Crime Prevention Coalition, the New York City

Council, and numerous community organizations.

Next year will mark two full decades of distinguished service by Antonio Meloni as Executive Director of Immigration Advocacy Services. In this capacity, he has developed and managed countless worthwhile initiatives that have provided essential services to new arrivals to our nation's greatest city. While devoting his time and attention to this incredible range of activities, Antonio Meloni has also remained devoted to his beloved family, including his wife Denise and his two children Michael and Angela.

In being honored by the Taminent Regular Democratic Club, Antonio Meloni's achievements were recognized by one of the largest and most vibrant political and civic organizations in our nation's greatest city. The Taminent Club represents voters in the neighborhoods of Astoria and Long Island City in the New York State Assembly's 36th District and is led by its able District Leaders, the Honorable Gloria DeMarco Aloise and the Honorable George Onorato, a distinguished New York State Senator. The Taminent Club proudly carries the banner of the world's oldest political party in one of the most diverse counties in the United States of America. Borough of Queens.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the outstanding contributions to our cultural and civic life made by Antonio Meloni.

#### A TRIBUTE TO THE MODELL FAMILY

##### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor the work and accomplishments of the Modell family. The Modell family migrated from Russia in the 1870s settling on the Lower East Side of New York City. They soon began peddling clothing, jewelry, and other odds and ends from a pushcart.

George Modell opened a store at 79 Cortland Street in 1893. The business moved to Nassau Street during the 1930s when George's son Louis joined and established their pawnbroking business. Louis successfully expanded and assumed leadership of the company during World War II. In 1956, Gerald, Louis' eldest son had completed his studies at Columbia University and was commissioned into the army as an officer. In 1959, he joined the Modell Jewelry & Pawnbroker business.

Gerald Modell opened a second location in 1960 on West 47th Street, in the heart of the "Diamond District," where Modell began to extend financing to the diamond and jewelry industry. In 1965, Gerald expanded by starting a diamond importing company operating in Antwerp, Tel Aviv, and Bombay.

Gerald Modell's son Eric graduated from the University of Virginia's McIntire School of Commerce in 1997. After a 3-year career as a management consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers, Eric joined the family business in 2000. Today Eric is the executive vice president and is committed to expanding the business even further.

Gerald Modell has been associated with the creation and operation of many charitable and philanthropic causes, mostly in the medical field. He currently serves on an Advisory Board at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York City and is the founder and former vice president of the Mental Illness Foundation.

Today the Modells have six pawnshop locations in operation throughout New York City: the Diamond District; Gramercy Park; Spanish Harlem; Brooklyn Heights; Brownsville; and Bay Ridge. Annually, Modell makes tens of thousands of loans to the public for their short-term financing needs.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize and thank the Modell family for their nearly 115 years of service to the residents of New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Modell family.

#### A LETTER FROM GOVERNOR MITCH DANIELS OF INDIANA

##### HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007*

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, I wish to submit into the RECORD a letter from Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels expressing his concerns regarding H.R. 2046, the Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act, which would legalize Internet gambling and undermine the ability of states to make and enforce their own gambling laws. I share Governor Daniel's opposition to this bill, and will fight to make sure H.R. 2046 does not pass the House.

STATE OF INDIANA,

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,

*Indianapolis, Indiana, November 9, 2007.*

Re Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act of 2007 (H.R. 2046)

Hon. HARRY REID,  
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,  
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,  
Minority Leader, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR REID, SENATOR MCCONNELL, SPEAKER PELOSI AND REPRESENTATIVE BOEHNER: As Governor of the State of Indiana, I wish to express my concerns about a bill currently in the U.S. Congress known as the Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act of 2007 ("H.R. 2046"), which would legalize Internet gambling and undermine the ability of states to make and enforce their own gambling laws.

In contrast with limited, state-regulated forms of gambling such as horse tracks and riverboat casinos, gambling via the Internet is available from virtually any location (e.g., homes, offices, schools) twenty-four hours per day in an anonymous environment. Research and studies have indicated that Internet gambling is more accessible to minors, more attractive to college-age individuals, more susceptible to fraud and other criminal activity, and harder to regulate. These are some of the reasons why Indiana recently updated its gambling laws to specifically prohibit Internet gambling. Using the Internet