

They also have four grandsons, five great grandsons and two great granddaughters.

Mr. and Mrs. Bannon are members of St. John the Evangelist Church, Pittston.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Bannon on the occasion of this honor. Mr. Bannon's lifelong service to his family, church and community illustrate his commitment and selflessness and serve as an example for others to emulate.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, on March 5, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes Nos. 119 and 120.

Rollcall vote No. 119 was final passage of H.R. 995. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote No. 120 was on final passage of H.R. 497. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO DR. PATRICK CRAWFORD

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Patrick Crawford of Bedford, Pennsylvania, who has been named "2007 Pennsylvania Superintendent of the Year" by a committee of his peers from the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators. This distinguished award is given annually and is part of the National Superintendent of the Year Program sponsored by the American Association of School Administrators. It is presented to further inspire exemplary leadership and promote a sense of confidence and pride in our Nation's public schools. Dr. Crawford will be recognized in March at the American Association of School Administrators Conference on Education, where the national recipient will be chosen among the State nominees.

Dr. Patrick Crawford has been superintendent of Bedford Area School District since 1996. His outstanding service to the Bedford area has included several noteworthy programs. The Superintendent's Leadership Academy, a 2 year leadership program for high school juniors and seniors; the Bedford Teacher Technology Academy, a staff development program that advances the use of technology in learning; and the Classrooms for the Future initiative which will place laptops on the desks of every high school student in the district. These initiatives all take precedence on the future of education in the Bedford area.

In addition to the time he spends as a superintendent, Dr. Crawford dedicates much of his schedule to the betterment of the Bedford community. He has worked through organizations such as the Pennsylvania Leadership Development Center, the Blended Schools Virtual Learning Consortium, and is serving on the Learning Lamp Board of Directors. He is

also active in community organizations, such as the Sunrise Rotary Club of Bedford and the Bedford County Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership Program and Education Foundation.

Nominators of Dr. Crawford cite his excellent vision and leadership in guiding his colleagues toward innovation and excellence, yet Dr. Crawford selflessly announced "what this award really demonstrates is that there is a whole team of people who are working to make Bedford Area School District a better place." This modest educator is truly a wonderful asset to the Bedford area, as well as the State of Pennsylvania, and is most deserving of this prestigious honor.

CONGRATULATING DR. THOMAS D. MEADE AS HE RECEIVES THE 2007 SWINGLE AWARD FROM THE GREATER PITTSBURGH FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Dr. Thomas D. Meade, M.D., who is the recipient of the 2007 Swingle Award from the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

Dr. Meade is an orthopedic surgeon and the senior managing partner and president of OAA Orthopedic Specialists, the oldest incorporated medical group in the Lehigh Valley of Pennsylvania. He created and serves as medical director of the OAA Human Performance Center, a nationally recognized medical fitness facility with over 3,500 members. He received the 2002 Founders Award from the prestigious Medical Fitness Association for his lifetime contributions to the field of medical fitness and the Sir John Charnley Award for Orthopedic achievement.

Dr. Meade is a 1975 graduate of Pittston Area High School where he was awarded numerous academic distinctions and still holds the high school diving record. He graduated from Penn State with High Distinction where a diving injury launched him on a career in orthopedic surgery. After nine years in Philadelphia at Jefferson Medical College and five years at Thomas Jefferson University, he traveled to Connecticut to complete a knee and sports medicine fellowship.

Dr. Meade is an avid cyclist and competitive swimmer. He has held top 10 U.S. Masters Swimming rankings and shares national and world records in men's freestyle events with fellow OAA physician, Dr. Charles Norelli.

As an author and educator, Dr. Meade has published articles and books and produced videos on sports injuries, nutrition and fitness related topics. He has also lectured extensively on those topics. He is currently the host of two popular cable television shows on orthopedic and medical issues. He also holds two academic posts at Thomas Jefferson University and Pennsylvania State University and he serves as director of orthopedic trauma residency education at Lehigh Valley Hospital.

He is a recognized expert in the field of knee ligament reconstruction, knee replacements and has developed surgical techniques

and instrumentation as part of a national research and education team. The Philadelphia Eagles have retained Dr. Meade's services as a consultant for summer camp since 1998.

Last July he realized his most ambitious vision by developing a 300,000 square foot integrated health campus offering traditional and alternative therapies in a holistic environment to improve quality of life and longevity. The facility is located in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and is a national showcase model for the future of private practice medical care.

Dr. Meade resides in Allentown with his wife and three children.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Dr. Meade on this special honor. His contributions to the field of medicine reflect his deep passion and commitment for improving the quality of life and the standards of human health care.

HONORING NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLYMAN MARK J.F. SCHROEDER

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I offer these remarks today in honor of Mark J.F. Schroeder, Member of the Assembly of the State of New York, on the occasion of his being named Irishman of the Year by Goin' South, a prominent civic organization in my constituency.

Rarely does one encounter a public servant so dedicated to the principles of good government and of selfless public service as Assemblyman Schroeder, who succeeded me in representing the people of the 145th Assembly District.

One marvels at the tremendous ability he has demonstrated, in his work in the assembly and previously in the Erie County Legislature, to use the resources of elective office to make tangible improvements to the neighborhoods he represents, and in the lives of the constituents he so ably serves.

While remaining vigilant with regard to his legislative responsibilities—Assemblyman Schroeder is highly regarded for the studiousness with which he considers each piece of legislation before him—Assemblyman Schroeder has also rolled up his sleeves and produced tangible results in the areas of neighborhood-based economic development and adult education in the communities he serves.

A prime example of his successes in the area of neighborhood-based economic development is his creation of, and ongoing support for, the Greater South Buffalo Chamber of Commerce. Through this agency, he had demonstrably reduced commercial vacancy rates and otherwise dramatically improved business districts in his constituency.

Now boasting 156 members, the Greater South Buffalo Chamber of Commerce encourages business development through the Irish Feis and Expo, a trade show and concert held in conjunction with Goin' South, a monthly newsletter, a high quality membership directory, a wide range of member benefits, involvement with a wide array of community events and projects, and enthusiastic and unwavering advocacy.

Let me point out, Madam Speaker, that Assemblyman Schroeder's tremendous efforts with regard to improving the economic conditions in the neighborhoods he serves is surpassed only by his commitment to providing the most vulnerable among his constituents with the educational tools they need in order to build better lives for themselves and their families.

I refer specifically to his creation of the South Buffalo Education Center, a school offering GED training to persons who had not completed high school. The South Buffalo Education Center has graduated more than 200 persons, and has the highest graduation and retention rates of any GED program in New York State, it is truly an accomplishment of which he should be proud.

Very few public servants can point to a series of tangible accomplishments as remarkable as those achieved by Assemblyman Schroeder, who has just begun his seventh year service to his community as an elected official. Despite this, the Assemblyman continues to expand the breadth and depth of his work with the development of Buffalo RiverFest Park.

Expected to break ground later this year, the new riverfront park will be an integral component of the redevelopment of Buffalo's waterfront. Assemblyman Schroeder and his partners at the Valley Community Association have attracted \$1.2 million in public and private funds to this important endeavor.

Simply put, Madam Speaker, as a constituent of Assemblyman Mark J.F. Schroeder, I am proud that he is my Assemblyman, I am proud that he is a close colleague in both government and politics, and I am proud to call him my friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF CALEB SCHMITT

HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Caleb Schmitt for winning the 135-pound individual Indiana wrestling State championship. This title is a fitting conclusion to an outstanding season and career for the Castle High School senior.

Schmitt has racked up many accolades in his 4 years wrestling for the Knights including school records for wins in a season, wins in a career, and technical falls in a career. He was a sectional champion all 4 years and his teammates voted him team MVP in three seasons. He also collected two conference championships and numerous invitational titles.

Schmitt displays his athletic versatility with his success on the soccer field, where he was a 4-year starter and letter winner on the varsity team. He will continue his soccer career in the fall at the University of Southern Indiana.

Congratulations to Caleb Schmitt for all of his achievements.

CONGRESSIONAL CONSTITUTION CAUCUS' WEEKLY "CONSTITUTION HALF HOUR"

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, we are here today to announce our support of the Enumerated Powers Act authored by our good friend from Arizona, Mr. SHADEGG. As the founder and chairman of the Congressional Constitution Caucus, I urge my fellow Members to cosponsor this legislation.

Article VI, Section 3 of the U.S. Constitution states: "The Senators and Representatives before mentioned . . . shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution." On January 4, each of us followed this constitutional mandate and swore such an oath. Yet in the past two months, we have passed legislation without first considering the very document that grants us legislative authority. As a result, taxpayer dollars are being wasted on programs and projects that overstep the constitutional jurisdiction of the Federal Government. And personal freedoms and State priorities are being overshadowed or even forgotten.

Unfortunately, this trend is not new to the 110th Congress. In recent decades, there has been a sharp escalation of funding for existing Federal programs and creation of new ones. The bloated bureaucracy we have today is certainly not the type of central government envisioned by our forefathers. As Thomas Jefferson wrote in an 1808 letter, "The same prudence which in private life would forbid our paying our own money for unexplained projects, forbids it in the dispensation of the public moneys."

It is time for us to explain our distribution of taxpayer dollars. Our constituents should be assured that we are upholding the document that protects their freedoms. Otherwise, the Federal Government will continue to overstep its boundaries, encroaching on the freedom of the people.

Our Founding Fathers deliberately wrote a constitution of enumerated powers. While some countries have attempted to limit government by writing constitutions that specify every single area in which the Federal Government does not have jurisdiction, the framers knew that such a constitution would be unnecessarily tedious. Therefore, in Article I, Section 8, the founders specifically listed congressional powers. The 10th Amendment grants all other legislative powers to the states.

It makes sense that Congress should perform only the duties prescribed by the Constitution. The United States has thrived as a nation precisely because the freedom of the people has been protected by a limited government. The Constitution is the anchor that protects American citizens from the storms of a controlling central government.

James Madison assured early Americans in The Federalist No. 45 that "the powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the Federal Government are few and defined." Madison continued to operate under that belief even after the Constitution was ratified. In fact, his last act as president was to veto the Bonus Bill, which authorized federal funds for public works projects.

Today, Members justify passing legislation that is even more expansive than the Bonus Bill. They argue that Article 1, Section 8 allows us to pass any legislation, as long as it provides for the "general Welfare" or is "necessary and proper." Madison would have been appalled by our liberal interpretation of these terms. In The Federalist No. 41 he asked, "For what purpose could the enumeration of particular powers be inserted, if these and all others were meant to be included in the preceding general power?"

James Wilson, the author of the General Welfare clause explained to the Pennsylvania ratification convention that the words "necessary and proper" are "limited, and defined by the following, 'for carrying into execution the foregoing powers.' It is saying no more than that the powers we have already particularly given, shall be effectually carried into execution."

For these reasons, Madison explained that he could not sign the Bonus Bill unless an amendment allowing such an expenditure were first added to the Constitution.

Mr. SHADEGG's commonsense legislation follows Madison's logic by ensuring that every bill introduced in the u.s. Congress include a statement declaring the specific constitutional authority under which the law is proposed to be enacted. Following such a guideline would help return our nation to the principles of limited government, Federalism, and the 10th Amendment. And, such a principle is not only consistent with our oath, but it is also a smarter use of our constituents' tax dollars.

The Enumerated Powers Act will stem the flow of unconstitutional legislation by compelling Members to reconsider the intended role of the Federal Government. I strongly urge all members of the Constitution Caucus to cosponsor this legislation. Congress must begin to justify its actions to the states, local governments, and, ultimately, the people themselves.

THE "SCOOTER" LIBBY CASE

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, if there is anything we learned from the conviction of "Scooter" Libby yesterday, it's that the First Amendment and freedom of the press are still behind bars.

The need for a federal media shield bill has never been more apparent.

Yesterday Mr. Libby was convicted of lying to a grand jury and obstruction of justice. This is reprehensible. Mr. Libby will be held to a high standard and he should be.

However, as the Washington Post editorial page points out this morning, Joe Wilson also lied about who sent him to Africa, what he found there, and about his wife being a covert CIA agent.

The Washington Post today even calls Mr. Wilson a "blowhard."

Ironically, while Mr. Wilson was lying to the press and creating a partisan furor, Mr. Libby was telling reporters the truth. Mr. Libby may have later lied to the grand jury and failed to own up to his sources in his testimony, but what he told the press was the truth. And, therein lies the real travesty that this case