

IN REMEMBRANCE OF GEORGE  
BECKER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of George Becker, a man who was an activist, a respected union organizer and a tireless champion that protected worker's rights.

George Becker was the sixth international president of the United Steelworkers. For 7 years George provided a booming voice that expressed the frustrations and concerns of the steelworkers, while demanding that they be treated with dignity and decency. He sought to unite the workers by educating them, and launched a program aimed at involving the workers in addressing their interests to politicians.

When his brothers and sisters faced job insecurity, George courageously fought for their rights. The campaign by George and the union workers was victorious, and showed Americans that a union still had the ability to protect the rights of members. He believed that only a union could protect the working class, a sentiment he expressed after visiting the workers of many non-unionized corporations.

George's concern for the mental and physical well-being of union workers led to the proposal of Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) safety standards for those exposed to lead and arsenic. Because of his endless work on implementing OSHA safety standards, workers whose health was affected by their job would not suffer loss of pay when taking time off.

George died February 3rd, 2007 after a long battle with cancer. He is survived by his loving wife, Jane; his wonderful sons, George, Greg and Matthew; his ten grandchildren; his great grandchildren and his sister Jacqueline Straus.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of George Becker, a major proponent for worker's rights in the industrial workforce.

RECOGNIZING TYLER R. RUOFF  
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF  
EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tyler Ruoff, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 60, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tyler has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tyler R. Ruoff for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM L. ROSS

**HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, with great appreciation and delight I rise today to honor a respected and dedicated legislator, educator and community member who for more than 50 years continues to serve his hometown of Wheatfield, New York.

Niagara County Legislator William L. Ross has led a life deeply connected and committed to Niagara; the place where he was born and raised, where he became an educator and a mentor, and where he is now a respected and effective leader.

Through his distinguished professional career, his athletic talent and his spirit to make his community a better place, Bill Ross has left a lasting mark since graduating from the Niagara Falls School System. After graduation, Mr. Ross took a football scholarship to Michigan State University where he went on to win a National Championship in 1952 and play in the esteemed Rose Bowl game in 1954.

After serving as an R.O.T.C. Officer after college, Bill would take his football prowess, military discipline and love of education back to Niagara County. In 1956, Bill began a career in education that would span 47 years and shape a countless number of young lives in Wheatfield. Bill became the first football coach at Niagara Wheatfield in 1958, and in 1977 became the Director of Physical Education, athletics and recreation of the Niagara Wheatfield School District. Both in the classroom and on the field, Bill was devoted to teaching and improving the youth of Niagara County, believing in the importance of a well-rounded education and the duty of schools to not only help produce good students, but good citizens.

That sense of dedication and service culminated when Bill Ross was elected to represent his Town of Wheatfield in the Niagara County Legislature. Twice elected Chairman, first in 1989 and again in 2004, Bill, through it all, has been an insightful and vital leader for Niagara County. In times of tremendous challenges for his town and his region, Bill has been strong and steady, making his home a better place. To this day, Bill serves his constituents and his neighbors with skill and tremendous care, earning respect as he has moved his community forward.

Thus, Madam Speaker, in recognition of his more than 50 years of serving the Niagara region, as an educator, an administrator, a legislator, a leader and a neighbor, I ask that this Honorable Body join me in honoring Mr. William L. Ross.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OHIO  
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD'S 112TH  
ENGINEER BATTALION

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Ohio Army National Guard's 112th Engineer Battalion, and to cele-

brate the commitment of this patriotic group of individuals that has defended our country valiantly.

The Ohio Army National Guard's 112th Engineer Battalion is one of the oldest regiments in the Nation. It is also the most decorated military organization in the State of Ohio. During the American Civil War, the Ohio National Guard played a crucial role in the watershed defeat of Morgan and his Confederate cavalry. During World War I and World War II the 112th Engineer Battalion was deployed overseas and was later regarded as being one of the "most well disciplined and highly competent" engineer units.

Ever humble about their job, the 112th, when deployed to support an Air Force unit, sent tokens of appreciation to those that offered assistance during the Battalion's deployment. The 112th Engineer Battalion unit exemplifies the honor that comes to mind when looking toward the past, present, and future of the Ohio Army National Guard.

The courage of the Ohio Army National Guard's 112th Engineer Battalion does not merely extend to matters abroad. When disaster shook the South, the 112th Engineer's Battalion swiftly acted to help the victims of Hurricane Rita. This unit was and is always ready to help when needed. When called to help their brothers and sisters fight the war on terrorism, the 112th Engineer Battalion exemplified the National Guard mantra to "Respond when called and be ready." The never waning support and readiness to help has made the 112th Engineer Unit the pride of their community.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Ohio National Guard's 112th Engineer Battalion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, March 15, 2007, I was unable to attend votes due to illness.

Were I present, I would have voted in the following manner: (1) H. Res. 242—providing for the consideration of H.R. 1362, Accountability in Contracting Act—"yea"; (2) On motion to recommit H.R. 1362 with instructions—"nay"; (3) H.R. 1362—The Accountability in Contracting Act—"aye."

HONORING JUDGE ROBERT M.  
STEPTOE

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to respectfully request that my colleagues here in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Robert M. Steptoe for being named the 2007 Distinguished Citizen by the Shenandoah Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Born on May 15, 1920 in Clarksburg, WV, Robert M. Steptoe has spent his entire life in

service to his family, community, and country. He and his wife, Sarah, will soon celebrate 65 years of marriage and are the proud parents of 4 children, Robert, Philip, Sally, and James. They also have 9 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren with one on the way.

He served his country faithfully during World War II in the United States Navy in both Europe and the Pacific, attaining the rank of lieutenant commander. His long list of public service also includes a stint as assistant prosecuting attorney for Berkeley County, four terms in the West Virginia House of Delegates, and two terms in the West Virginia State Senate. The Honorable Judge Robert M. Steptoe also served on the West Virginia Court of Claims from 1989 to 2001. In addition, Mr. Steptoe served as chairman of the board for Peoples National Bank for several decades and has been an active member of Trinity Episcopal Church since 1949.

Throughout his life, Robert Steptoe has been an active supporter of the Boy Scouts of America. As a youngster, he was a Boy Scout and all four of his children followed in his footsteps as Scouts with his wife, Sarah, serving as den mother. His contribution to Scouting will always be appreciated and I am pleased to see that he is being recognized for his lifelong service to his community.

In closing, I want to thank my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives for joining me in recognizing Mr. Robert M. Steptoe as the 2007 Distinguished Citizen of the Shenandoah Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JAMES BROWN

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the lifelong achievements of the Godfather of Soul, James Joseph Brown, who changed American music forever. Over his more than five-decade-long career, Mr. Brown affected and evolved countless music genres while leaving his enduring signature style and grace for everyone to admire.

Born in rural South Carolina during the Great Depression, Mr. Brown learned very quickly the value of hard work and dedication, from picking cotton to shining shoes to washing dishes. A self-taught musician and performer, Mr. Brown arrived on the music scene in 1955 and soon started releasing hit records. Mr. Brown's influence was not isolated to merely music, but extended into local communities by sponsoring youth programs, investing in African American businesses, and speaking at high schools across the country. Throughout the 1960's, Mr. Brown was not only a frequent name atop the music charts by releasing singles like "Papa's Got a Brand New Bag" and "I Got You (I Feel Good)," but also an outspoken advocate for the Civil Rights movement.

Mr. Brown's trendsetting stage performances and groundbreaking musical innovations are just a few of the many legacies he has left behind. From his Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction in 1968 to being a 2003 Kennedy Center Honoree, Mr. Brown not only

has paved the way for numerous artists, but also has left a lasting impact on music that is still being felt today.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Hardest Working Man in Show Business, James Brown, whose inspiration and genius will continue to touch the lives of generations to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF WINNIE DOSS

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today—Mrs. Winnie Martha Doss's 100th birthday. Mrs. Doss will gather with her friends and family to mark the occasion on March 17, 2007.

Mrs. Doss currently resides in the Jacksonville Health and Rehabilitation Center in Jacksonville, Alabama. Mrs. Doss spent 30 years working at Avondale Textile Mills. She has four children, 12 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and 22 great-great-grandchildren. Mrs. Doss spends her time working on word search puzzles and crocheting. She enjoys receiving cards and uses them to decorate the walls of her room.

I salute this remarkable woman for her long life, and dedication to family.

MARKING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, marking Women's History Month, I would like to commemorate the life of a woman in our district, Joyce Snow Feather Mahaney. Though she passed away last year, her memory and her spirit continue. She is truly a woman who made a difference, and whose efforts echo beyond her lifetime.

The great-great-granddaughter to Chief Kaishpa Gourneau, great-great-granddaughter to Chief Sasswain, Henry Poitra and great-great-great-great-granddaughter to Chief Gaytay Manomin (Old Wild Rice), a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, Joyce Mahaney grew up on the Turtle Mount Reservation in Belcourt, North Dakota. Her Indian name Snow Feather (Koonea Meguen) was given to her by her great-grandmother, Cecelia Malaterre. A Naming Ceremony was done by her adopted father, Francis Eagle Heart Cree of Turtle Mountain, who is also the local spiritual leader and medicine man in the area.

She attended the Ojibwe Indian School, Turtle Mountain Community High School, and Minot State University where she received a degree in Education. She also attended the American Indian Training Institute in Albuquerque, New Mexico and the University of Toledo. She came to Ohio in the 1970s following her marriage to Toledo native, Russell Mahaney. They raised two children.

In 1988, Joyce Snow Feather Mahaney founded the Toledo-based American Indian Intertribal Association. The purpose of the organization is to preserve and showcase American Indian culture through community activities. Her incredible leadership has developed the Association as a premiere showcase of Native American culture, language, and spirit. Several hundred Native Americans participate in the organization's ongoing activities such as: The Toledo Pow Wow, cultural programs, and the annual summer solstice ceremony at the site of the Battle of Fallen Timbers of 1794.

An adult education teacher, she was also Executive Secretary at the Toledo Museum of Art, served as executive director of the Cleveland Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program, and director of the Eagle Wing Program in Toledo and other Native American programs in northern Ohio.

Although she spent the last three decades of her life in Ohio, Joyce Snow Feather Mahaney has maintained her deep roots in the Turtle Mountain area, visiting family and friends and offering presentations in the community which captured the spirit of the indigenous people, the sacred land of her ancestors and the rich cultural heritage of the Plains Ojibwe.

An award-winning poet, she has written and self-published poetry books, *Prairie Winds and Spirit of Dakota*. In fact, the threads of this Ojibwe Prayer were woven deep into the fabric of the life of Joyce Snow Feather Mahaney, and describe her legacy most eloquently.

OJIBWE PRAYER

Oh Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds And whose breath gives life to everyone, Hear me.

I come to you as one of your many children; I am weak ... I am small... I need your wisdom and your strength.

Let me walk in beauty, and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunsets Make my hands respect the things you have made.

And make my ears sharp so I may hear your voice.

Make me wise, so that I may understand what you have taught my people and The lessons you have hidden in each leaf and each rock.

I ask for wisdom and strength Not to be superior to my brothers, but to be able to fight my greatest enemy, myself.

Make me ever ready to come before you with clean hands and a straight eye.

So as life fades away as a fading sunset.

My spirit may come to you without shame.

IN RECOGNITION OF SERBIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY "VUK STEFANOVIC KARADZICH"

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Serbian National University "Vuk Stefanovic Karadzich", which is affiliated with the Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio. Founded in 1987, this prestigious university has dedicated itself to promoting and educating the public on Serbian culture and history.