

the generous land donation from Martha and Josh Morriss, became a reality last year.

The school does not have an attendance zone, and any elementary-age student living in the vicinity is eligible to apply for enrollment on a first-come basis without charge. The school is designed for approximately 400 students, with three sections each in grades K–1, 2–3, and 4–5. Due to a very high demand, a waiting list has been established for most of the primary grades.

Texas A&M University—Texarkana Arts and Sciences and Education faculty assist the TISD curriculum personnel and teachers to design the mathematics and engineering integrated curriculum and electives. University faculty develop content and pedagogy courses to train the elementary teachers to deliver the curriculum using effective teaching strategies that promote mastery of the curriculum by all students. All of the Morriss Elementary teachers are required to obtain a Masters Degree and either the Texas Master Mathematics Teacher Certification or Texas Master Technology Teacher Certification through preparation programs offered at A&M—Texarkana.

I am proud of the success of Morriss Elementary and wish to commend TISD Superintendent James Henry Russell and school Principal Rick Sandlin for the wonderful job they are doing. I also wish to congratulate the students and the teachers on the completion of their first year and look forward to monitoring the progress of these students as well as the continued success of Morriss Elementary. Our Nation's ability to continue to lead the world in innovation and competitiveness will depend in large part on our ability to motivate students to succeed and pursue careers in STEM fields. Morriss Elementary is an example of how that thrust can succeed at the local level with the vision and support of educators, parents, community leaders and students.

RACHEL MEIS OF RENTON,
WASHINGTON

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam speaker, I rise today in recognition of Rachel Meis, a young woman from my home district, the Eighth District of Washington, who earned the Congressional Medal. I honored her achievements at my district office during the Memorial Day recess and I do so again today.

Rachel didn't just showcase her selfless and wonderful spirit to earn congressional recognition. She has consistently lived her life in a way that is inspiring and a wonderful example for young people everywhere. Aside from her Congressional Medal, Rachel is a National Merit Finalist, a member of the National Honor Society at Tahoma High School and a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the National Honor Society of Green River Community College—where she participated in Running Start Program courses to supplement her education.

Rachel is also a star on the track. She is a sprinter and qualified for the Washington State championships in four separate events. She finished 11th in the 100 meter, 13th in the 200 meter, 11th in the 4 x 100 meter relay and medaled in the 4 x 200 meter relay.

Most recently, Rachel scored in the top 1 percent of more than 46,000 students in the Department of the Treasury's newly minted National Financial Literacy Challenge—an initiative recommended by the President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy.

Rachel will attend George Fox University in Oregon starting this fall and plans to major in mechanical engineering. So far in her young life, she has succeeded due to a wonderful attitude and a positive work ethic. I am excited to see what she will accomplish in her future.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER
JORGENSEN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jennifer Jorgensen on her exemplary basketball career and congratulate her on receiving the honor of being named Iowa's 2008 Miss Basketball.

Jennifer recently graduated from Southeast Webster-Grand High School and will be attending Pacific University to continue her illustrious basketball career. Jennifer has been recognized with a variety of accomplishments including a three-time first team all-state basketball choice as well as the IBCA all-region team.

Jennifer leaves behind a stellar basketball career, finishing as Iowa women's second all-time leading scorer, fourth in rebounds, and fifth in assists.

Jennifer is a shining example of the dedication and determination present in today's youth and their promise as tomorrow's leaders. It is an honor to represent Jennifer and her family in the United States Congress and I know my colleagues join me in wishing her the best of luck in her upcoming journey into higher education and collegiate athletics.

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT HENDERSON

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Scott Henderson for years of tireless service in my office and to the people of the Fourteenth Congressional District of Florida.

I've had the pleasure of knowing Scott for over 8 years. Throughout that entire time he has been a dedicated public servant, a strong advocate for the principles we share and cherish, and most importantly, a true friend.

I first met Scott when I was running for the Florida Legislature and Scott was working for the Republican Party of Florida. I soon hired him and he helped me win my first race for State Representative in 2000. After taking office, I hired him to be my assistant, and he quickly proved to be an invaluable friend and colleague as we navigated the challenges and opportunities of serving in Tallahassee.

When I decided to run for Congress in 2003 Scott stayed by my side and helped implement a winning campaign. After I was elected to the House, Scott became my Deputy Chief

of Staff. His has been a diverse role—managing special projects, meeting with constituents, and providing critical support for a number of important initiatives.

Among Scott's many accomplishments—and the one I am most proud of—was his critical work to secure the release of two Cuban dentists from Bahamian custody who fled Cuba seeking freedom. Because of Scott's efforts, these dentists were reunited with their loved ones in Florida and today live in freedom.

But after 8 years of working by my side, Scott has been afforded a wonderful professional opportunity that will allow him to continue to grow and flourish in his career.

Scott is moving to New Jersey to become a Manager of State Government Affairs for Covanta Energy, a waste-to-energy company. While we will all miss Scott's presence and good nature in the office, we are excited for him as he begins the next phase of his life and career. I'm certain that he will make significant contributions to his new company and his new community, and know that he will always have a special place in his heart for the State he loves so much.

Madam Speaker, the State of Florida and the people of southwest Florida are better off today because of Scott Henderson's diligent efforts to ensure it remains a great place to live, work and visit.

On behalf of the people of Florida's Fourteenth Congressional District, I want to thank Scott for his years of service to the people of Florida and the Nation. He is my friend, he is a true public servant in every sense of the word, and I wish him all the best as he and his wife Betsy begin this new and exciting chapter of their lives.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FREDERICK
GRASSLE

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. SAXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Frederick Grassle. On June 16, 2008 Dr. Grassle will be celebrated for his years of service as he steps down from his role as the Director of the Rutgers University Institute for Marine and Coastal Sciences after nineteen years.

Dr. Grassle has been instrumental in the tremendous success of the Institute for Marine and Coastal Sciences (IMCS). A well-published and involved member of the science community, Dr. Grassle has worked tirelessly to establish Rutgers University and the IMCS as a premier institution for the study of oceanic and aquatic sciences. He has fought for various causes, including the elimination of deep sea dumping, watershed-scale approaches to coastal management, and ensuring we safeguard of our coastal habitats.

In the past two decades, I have been fortunate enough to work with Dr. Grassle to bring about positive change to our precious coastal habitats. Through our collaboration, the Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve was designated and the Barnegat Bay Estuary began receiving much-needed assistance by developing and implementing various programs designed to restore its ecological integrity. In addition, we worked

to bring about funding for the National Undersea Research Program, the Integrated Ocean Observing Program, and a range of fisheries research programs.

No stranger to the community, Dr. Grassle is a member of numerous professional organizations, including the New Jersey Academy of Sciences, the American Society of Naturalists, the Estuarine Research Federation, the National Association of Marine Laboratories and the Oceanography Society, to name a few. He also served as Past President of the International Association of Biological Oceanographers.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Grassle's infectious enthusiasm and abiding loyalty to our coastal regions are only surpassed by his genuine desire to embrace and enhance the community around him. As he celebrates his time with Rutgers University, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for Dr. Grassle's leadership, commitment, and service.

ON RESOLUTION REGARDING IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT BUSH

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I do not think the House should today take up the question of exercising our Constitutional authority to impeach the President and asking the Senate to try him on charges that, if proved, would result in his removal from office.

That does not mean I have turned or will turn a blind eye to the numerous misjudgments of President Bush or that I think his administration has been above reproach. On the contrary, I think that the Bush Administration has been a distinct failure. I am convinced that this President will not be treated well by historians. His failures of judgment and leadership span domestic and foreign affairs in a way that will likely haunt future generations for years to come—failures which are cited in the resolution proposed by the gentleman from Ohio.

But the question now before the House is not what we think of President Bush's actions and those of his Administration. Instead, we are being asked whether we should now, today, proceed to charge that he has violated his constitutional oath to faithfully execute the duties of his office and to defend the Constitution and thus should be impeached and brought to trial in the Senate.

The resolution sets forth what its author says are the specific statements and actions of the president that constitute violations of his oath. I also find those statements and actions deeply troubling and agree that they draw a picture of an Administration that has been characterized by hubris, bad judgment and arrogance. The picture is an unattractive one; but bad judgment, hubris and arrogance are not the constitutional grounds for impeachment.

The resolution raises serious questions about the way this president has used his position, both in communicating with the American people and in shaping policy. But as of today I am not prepared to say that there are adequate grounds to conclude that the failures

of this Administration in fact constitute grounds for impeachment—and I do not think that Members of the House should be called upon to reach that conclusion today.

Before the House is asked to reach such a draconian conclusion, the president should have an opportunity to respond to the resolution's charges and the statements and actions it cites in support of those charges. Before we are asked to vote on the resolution, we should have the benefit of hearing from appropriate legal experts and other qualified witness and the Judiciary Committee should prepare a report that will provide the basis for any debate here on the floor of the House.

Impeachment is not entirely a legal question. It is partly political, which is why the Constitution entrusts it to Congress and not the courts. But I think it is essential that any decision to impeach any federal official should come only through a careful, thorough process that provides adequate due process for the accused and lays the proper foundation for a sound decision.

That was the process followed by the Judiciary Committee, under the able leadership of Chairman Peter Rodino, when it considered and ultimately approved articles of impeachment against President Richard Nixon in July of 1974. In my opinion, that set the example of how the process should work. I think to do otherwise, as the author of this resolution seeks to do, would further weaken the civility toward our colleagues and respect for those with whom we disagree that should be the basis for our service in Congress and would only add to the polarization and rancor that are all too prevalent in the nation's political debates. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I must oppose consideration of this resolution at this time.

SALUTING THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF THE LATE BO DIDDLEY

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the life and legacy of a man whose work in Rock 'n' Roll has been called "ground breaking." Bo Diddley was born Ellas Otha Bates in McComb, Mississippi, on December 30, 1928 and passed away on June 2, 2008 at the age of 79.

Diddley was raised by his mother's cousin, Gussie McDaniel, whose surname he legally adopted. The family moved to Chicago when Diddley was seven. Bo broke new ground in rock and roll's formative years with his unique guitar work, indelible African rhythms, inventive songwriting, and larger-than-life persona. He will forever be known for popularizing one of the foundational rhythms of rock and roll: the Bo Diddley beat. He employed it in his namesake song, "Bo Diddley" (which earned him a rightful place in the Grammy Hall Of Fame). This African-based rhythm pattern was picked up from Diddley by other artists and has been a distinctive and recurring element in rock and roll through the decades. His beats have influenced the music of artists such as Buddy Holly, the Rolling Stones, Johnny Otis, the Strangeloves, the Who, and Bruce Springsteen.

Diddley is the author of a body of songs—including "Who Do You Love?" "Road Runner," "Mona," "Before You Accuse Me" and "I'm a Man"—that are among the earliest examples of rock and roll rising out of rhythm and blues. Diddley married into his music two worlds he knew well—the Deep South and the streets of Chicago. He formed a band called the Hipsters while in high school and landed a regular spot at the 708 Club on Chicago's South Side in 1951.

Diddley's earliest records were contemporaneous with those of label mate Chuck Berry. He signed with the Checkers label in 1955 and his debut single was a two-sided classic that paired "Bo Diddley" with "I'm a Man." It was the first in a string of groundbreaking songs that walked the fine line between rhythm & blues and rock & roll. Others included "Diddley Daddy," "Pretty Thing" and "Road Runner," which were all Top Twenty R&B hits. Oddly, Diddley's only crossover success came with "Say Man," a laugh-filled exchange of jive talk between Diddley and his maraca player, Jerome Green. Their verbal sparring derived from the African-American pastime of "signifying" or "doing the dozens" and foreshadowed the battle rapping of the present day.

Diddley was also an inventor, devising his own tremolo effect and playing a unique, rectangular "cigar box" guitar that he designed in 1958. His ever-fertile mind also inspired him to set up one of the first home studios. The prolific singer/guitarist released a string of albums whose titles—including Bo Diddley Is a Gunslinger and Have Guitar, Will Travel—bolstered his self-invented legend.

Diddley also traveled with the rock and roll revues of the day. He retained his iconic status as a rock and roll pioneer, steadily releasing albums on Checkers through the mid-Seventies. Meanwhile, Diddley continued to work the live circuit in tireless fashion.

Bo Diddley was one of rock 'n' roll's true pioneers. He has been righteously outspoken on the subject of underpayment, bad contracts and other rip-offs that denied many early rock and rollers (he among them) what was due them and in 1987 he was inducted into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame.

A regular at Harlem's Apollo Theatre, Bo Diddley has indelibly stamped his mark on rhythm and blues, rock 'n' roll and popular music. His innovative trademark rhythm, his electric custom built cigar box guitar, and his wild stage shows predate all others. Diddley leaves a permanent mark on American music and culture, and our deepest sympathies go out to his family, friends and fans. The 'Bo Diddley beat' surely will continue on.

HONORING THE AIR FORCE ESSAY CONTEST WINNER—ASHITA GANGULY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following winning essay, which Ashita Ganguly, a Senior at Paris High School in Paris, Texas, submitted to the Air Force Essay Contest.