

session of this Congress to deal with energy. We should round up all those members of Congress that have fled the scene, bring them back and solve this energy crisis—specifically high gasoline prices.

"Where oh where has Congress gone,
Where o where can they be?
With gas so high and this recess so long,
Where oh where can they be?"
And that's just the way it is.

HONORING JULIE EUBANK

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Julie Eubank, a Smyrna, Tennessee native who has served the people of Middle Tennessee as a trusted member of my staff for the past six years. Julie has worked with me in a number of capacities. She started as an intern in my Murfreesboro District office and then moved to Washington as my scheduler. Julie ultimately became my Press Secretary, where she has served for the past four years.

A Press Secretary has a position of great trust with a Member of Congress. They are responsible for keeping the lines of communications open between citizens and their representatives. Julie has done an exceptional job keeping the people of the 6th District informed on the many issues being debated in Congress.

As a graduate of Smyrna High School and Middle Tennessee State University, Julie brings a special knowledge of the 6th District to her job that has been invaluable to me. She has treated every media outlet, regardless of size, with the same level of attention and care.

Julie has been a source of levity when deadlines were tight, and her opinions are valued by my staff and me. She is leaving us next Thursday to head to Montana for the fall, and I know she will bring the same humor, professionalism, and talent to the "Treasure State" that she has shared with the people of the "Volunteer State." Julie is a good friend and advisor and we will miss her in Washington, but wish her well as she pursues this new challenge.

COMMENDING THE MEDAL OF HONOR HOST CITY PROGRAM IN GAINESVILLE, TEXAS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Medal of Honor (MOH) Host City Program in Gainesville, Texas. The program was established in 2001 to recognize the contributions of MOH recipients. In order to honor their accomplishments, invitations are extended to former MOH recipients to visit Gainesville; all their expenses are covered during their stay. The city has hosted more than a dozen medal recipients since the program's inception.

The Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor that can be bestowed upon a member of

the United States Armed Forces for action against an enemy of the United States. The people of the United States will always be indebted to the recipients of the Medal of Honor for their courage, selflessness, and sacrifice.

The first MOH recipient to visit Gainesville was Colonel Don "Doc" Ballard, a Vietnam recipient. Impressed by that 2001 visit, Ballard has returned each successive year. Recipient Mike Thornton, another Gainesville guest, was generous enough to set up a college scholarship fund for the local high school. As the Gainesville program has gained momentum, an annual, three-day celebration was established around March 25th, Medal of Honor Day. MOH recipients have the opportunity to speak at local schools, play in the Host City golf tournament, and visit the city's historical Victorian homes.

Madam Speaker, it is truly an honor to rise today and commend this outstanding program. Its volunteers have shown great leadership and hospitality in hosting these honorable veterans. I am proud to represent the Medal of Honor Host City Program in the 26th District of Texas.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1338) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, in 2008, a year in which women have made unprecedented gains in public and private leadership—Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; chairwomen of powerful committees and subcommittees; chief executive officers and chairwomen of Fortune 500 Companies, among many others—it is simply unforgivable and unacceptable that women, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, continue to make only 77 cents for every dollar earned by a man. Over a lifetime, this is anywhere from \$400,000 to more than \$2 million dollars that cannot be spent by a woman on food for her children, clothing for her grandparents, for decent housing for her and her family. In an era in heightened economic challenges, we should not, we cannot undervalue, underappreciate and marginalize the hard work that women do each and every day.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS, FOR BEING RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO LIVE AND RAISE A FAMILY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Johnson County,

Kansas, for being recognized by Forbes Magazine and CNN/Money as one of the best places to live and raise a family in the United States of America.

On June 30, 2008, Forbes ranked Johnson County as the third best place in the country to raise a family. Similarly, CNN/Money.com has called Overland Park, Kansas, a city of nearly 170,000 people located in Johnson County, the ninth best place to live in the U.S.

As a resident of Johnson County myself, I am particularly pleased that the county has earned such high praise. These media outlets have highlighted what my fellow Johnson County residents and I have known for years: great schools, affordable homes, and a growing economy have made Johnson County a great place to live.

Located in Northeast Kansas, in suburbs of Kansas City, Missouri, Johnson County is home to more than 500,000 people spread across 21 different municipalities. Six school districts enroll nearly 80,000 K-12 students each year. Major businesses, including Yellow Freight, Applebees Restaurants, and Sprint Nextel have been headquartered in the county. The strong schools and impressive job growth, along with affordable homes, short commutes, and the low cost of living led Forbes to rank Johnson County third out of more than 90 counties from across the U.S. that the magazine surveyed.

I'm proud to say that I have lived and worked in Johnson County for more than 30 years. I'm even more proud to have served the citizens of Johnson County, first as District Attorney for 12 years, on the Board of Trustees for Johnson County Community College for 7 years, and as their U.S. Representative for the past 9 years. I want to commend the many city and county officials, public service workers, business leaders, investors, and above all, the numerous parents and grandparents who have worked so hard to help make Johnson County the wonderful place that it is today.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIRAG SHAH AND KORI LORICK

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am grateful for this opportunity to wish a fond farewell to two extraordinary members of South Carolina's Second Congressional District Staff—Chirag Shah and Kori Lorick.

Hailing from the great State of Wisconsin and son of Kamal and Jagruti Shah and brother of Chintan, Chirag was first an intern in the Second District office during college at the University of Wisconsin. We were fortunate that he chose to return to Capitol Hill and serve first as scheduler and then as legislative correspondent for the people of the Second Congressional District. Chirag will be heading to the University of Missouri for law school this fall.

A native of Lexington, South Carolina, and daughter of Mary Alice Lorick and Neville Lorick, Kori joined the second district staff at the beginning of this year as a staff assistant following graduation from the College of William and Mary. Her important work on behalf

of constituents visiting the United States Capitol and directing the day-to-day activities of the front office have been a very special part of helping our office better serve the constituents of the Second Congressional District. Kori will be joining the Federal Bureau of Investigation in August.

The people of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina have been well-served by Chirag and Kori. Their dedication, hard work, and good humor will be missed. We wish them both good health and happiness in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO KARA LAWSON AND
DELANO THOMAS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and send the best wishes of California's fifth district to Kara Lawson and Delano Thomas, two of our country's elite athletes who will represent the United States in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. Both Kara and Delano reside in Sacramento, California's fifth district. I hope that my colleagues will join me in wishing these two athletes, as well as all of our country's amazing Olympic talent, the absolute best of luck.

Kara is a star member of the Sacramento Monarchs WNBA team, a team which has seen its fair share of success. Lawson was a key member of the Monarch's 2005 championship team. She is widely known in the WNBA as one of the league's smartest players. In addition to her on court career, Lawson has been involved in sports broadcasting during the WNBA off-season, doing commentaries for men's and women's college basketball games and Sacramento Kings games. In fact, Kara was the first female to serve as a nationwide broadcast analyst for an NBA game. Kara is a continuing inspiration to Sacramento's young women and we are honored that she will represent not only the United States but Sacramento as well, next month in Beijing.

Delano Thomas has been a member of the U.S. volleyball team since May of 2005 and has proven himself as a team leader and points producing force. This well rounded athlete toyed, for a time, with the idea of playing football for the University of Hawaii, and got his start with volleyball, basketball and soccer at Sacramento's John F. Kennedy High School. He pursued collegiate volleyball to become a freshman All American and member of the U.S. junior national team. According to USA Volleyball, "Delano was the United States leading server at the Pan American Games in 2007 with an average of 0.56 aces per set. He was the fourth-leading U.S. scorer at the Pan American Games with a total of 42 points on 27 kills, six blocks and nine aces." I am confident that he will help to push the U.S. to another astounding medal count.

Madam Speaker, while controversy understandably surrounds this year's Olympic games, I applaud our athletes for their accomplishments, pure of political influence and for sheer enjoyment of their sport. I also know that Kara and Delano, along with all our outstanding athletes, will be model ambassadors of America's world leadership and our coun-

try's foundational philosophy in a country where such freedoms aren't as readily available.

I applaud both of these individuals for their hard work, dedication, athleticism and achieving their goals. I thank them for serving our country as ambassadors and shining examples of American unity. I call on my colleagues to share in recognizing Kara and Delano, and to wish all of our 2008 Olympians a safe, fun, and successful experience.

MARIN MORRISON OF SAMMAMISH

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an extraordinary young woman from my District whose unyieldingly positive spirit in the face of a horrendous challenge is a true inspiration at any time, but especially leading up to the Summer Olympics in Beijing.

Marin Morrison, 17, of Sammamish, Washington, was one of the top swimmers in the country as a 14-year-old. She was just 1.5 seconds away from qualifying for the Olympic time trials. She received recruiting letters from some of the top schools in the country. She was a natural and earned medal after medal. However, fierce headaches and double vision turned her world upside down. An MRI revealed a tumor on her brain and doctors gave her 4 to 6 months to live. As a result of surgery in 2005, she was left partially paralyzed. She was forced to relearn some basics such as reading, writing and walking. It appeared her Olympic dreams were dashed.

Although she sometimes struggled mightily, she swam nearly every day. She refused to give up and started a new type of Olympic journey. She battled fatigue and her other physical ailments like a heavyweight boxer and never stopped fighting. Classmates at Eastlake High School, family, friends, former Olympians and countless others rallied around her. Then in April, Marin flew to Minnesota for the paralympic trials and earned a spot on the 37 member swim team, realizing her Olympic dream.

Marin's story is beyond inspiring. The circumstances she has overcome are truly humbling. She is a true American hero and we wish her all the best in Beijing and in the future.

THE ANIMAL DRUG USER FEE
AMENDMENTS OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of inclusion in this legislation of a technical fix to an important provision in the Federal Drug Administration Amendments, FDAAA, that I authored with Congressman WAXMAN.

When the FDAAA was signed into law last September, it included a drafting error that

had the effect of exempting medical devices from the requirement in the FDAAA that adverse events occurring during clinical trials must be reported to the registry and results data bank created by the bill.

There is bipartisan agreement that this exemption resulted from a clerical error, not a deliberate change of policy. The data bank created by the bill is intended to provide patients with comprehensive information about clinical trials that are being conducted so they can consider enrolling in a trial and also learn about the benefits and problems associated with the drugs and medical devices that are being tested.

The drafting error has the effect of only requiring drug companies to report medical problems that surface during clinical trials, exempting device companies.

Everyone agrees that it was not the intent of Congress to exempt devices from reporting adverse events in their clinical trials. Both drug companies and device manufacturers were required to report to the database according to the agreement reached by Members on both sides of the aisle.

I am pleased that this legislation fixes this clerical error.

35W BRIDGE COLLAPSE DISASTER
MEMORIAL

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. RAMSTAD. Madam Speaker, I rise to take a moment to remember the tragic event that occurred 1 year ago today when an eight-lane bridge on Highway 35-W in downtown Minneapolis collapsed and took the lives of 13 people.

No Minnesotan will ever forget the night of August 1st. No Minnesotan will ever forget the horrifying image of the school bus, barely hanging onto the edge of a piece of concrete. We all wondered how many children were on the bus and how they could be rescued.

But all those children made it off the bus to safety, thanks to the kindness of strangers. And that is what people will remember the most—the brave first responders and ordinary men and women who risked their lives to save others.

Madam Speaker, our thoughts and prayers are still with the victims and their families, and we must do everything possible to assure a tragedy like this will never happen again.

Minnesota has done a lot this year to improve the quality of its infrastructure. I am proud to say that after a year of hard work and dedication, the bridge is expected to reopen in 2 months, ahead of schedule.

Madam Speaker, my deepest gratitude goes to my colleagues who responded so quickly during Minnesota's time of need, and to every person who responded to this disaster, saving lives, caring for the injured, comforting victims and their families and making our bridge whole again.