

long-list of family and friends. Coach Wilson will be greatly missed by the many that are fortunate enough to speak of the impact he had on their lives.

HONORING RAY KARPE

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ray Karpe, a resident and community leader from Bakersfield, California, for his outstanding and exemplary leadership while serving as the 2007 President of the Bakersfield Association of Realtors®.

After earning a bachelor of science degree in business administration from California State University, Bakersfield, Ray graduated from the Graduate Realtor® Institute, GRI, in 1989. He began his real estate career with Karpe Real Estate Center in 1986 and served as property manager, sales associate, loan officer, project development manager, and vice president before becoming the center's president. He received his real estate broker's license in 1998.

Ray Karpe has been a longtime leader in local real estate matters, reflecting the same success, enthusiasm, care, and commitment to his community as two generations of Karpes before him. He has served the Bakersfield Association of Realtors® in all levels of leadership and served on over 35 committees since becoming a Director of the association in 2002. He became the third generation of the Karpe family to be honored as the Realtor® of the Year in 2005 by the Bakersfield Association of Realtors®, before being appointed president of the association in 2007.

Ray has also ably represented Bakersfield realtors and the Bakersfield community in the State and national association. Since 2003, Ray has been a director of the California Association of Realtors®, C.A.R., and has served as chair and vice-chair of the Taxation Committee. And this year, C.A.R. President Bill Brown appointed him to serve on the 2008 C.A.R. executive committee. Since 2006, Mr. Karpe has been a director of the National Association of Realtors®, a member of the Taxation Committee, and is a "National Golden R" Member—President's Circle.

In his free time, Ray is an active community volunteer serving as a director on the boards of the California State University, Bakersfield Foundation, Mercy Hospitals of Bakersfield, and Garces Memorial High School. He is also a member and past director of the Rotary Club of Bakersfield, the Young Presidents' Organization, YPO, and a member of the 11 Gallon Club at the Houchin Community Blood Bank.

A true mark of leadership is the generosity of time and talents that one gives on behalf of his neighbors and communities. Ray Karpe exemplifies this time-honored tradition. I commend Ray for his service and leadership as president of the Bakersfield Association of Realtors® and wish him and his family well as he continues to serve our community.

IN HONOR OF EDWARD DuBOSE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Edward Dubose, the president of the Georgia State Conference of the NAACP and Second District citizen.

Edward O. DuBose was born in Atlanta, Georgia, the third oldest of 10 children to Carnell and Margie DuBose. He received his early education through the Atlanta public school system, graduating from Harper High School. He then joined the United States Army where he completed 21 years of honorable service.

Mr. DuBose, who also earned a masters degree in clinical mental health counseling, is a licensed professional counselor, anger management specialist, member of the National Board of Certified Counselors, and a member of the Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia. As the owner of Oxygen Mental Health Counseling services, he provides in-home counseling to at risk youth and families throughout the State of Georgia and Alabama.

In addition to his career as a counselor, Mr. DuBose has served his community through leadership in the NAACP. He has served 7 years as president of the Columbus, Georgia, branch of the NAACP, and 5 years as 2nd vice president of the Georgia State Conference NAACP. In addition, he has served as Georgia State NAACP veterans affairs chairman and as the district coordinator for a 9-county area.

Mr. DuBose was elected to the position of president of the Georgia State Conference NAACP on October 2005, and reelected for a second term in 2007. He is the only resident and NAACP member in Columbus history to hold the title of State president.

While serving the NAACP, Mr. DuBose led the organization to achieve several landmark accomplishments, including negotiating the only NAACP radio show in Georgia, helping start the first Black History Month Parade in Columbus, Georgia now in its seventh year, and coordinating the largest protest march in Columbus history by rallying over 15,000 people to call for justice for the shooting death of Kenneth Walker.

Mr. DuBose is married to Cynthia DuBose and they have three beautiful daughters; Cynthia Harris, Casonya Hardaway Glover, and Kimberly DuBose. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to honor this man today for his dedication to Columbus, the NAACP, the Second Congressional District, and to the betterment of his State and Nation.

HONORING ROBERT DUNBAR

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Councilman Robert Dunbar upon his retirement from the Modesto City Council. Councilman Dunbar was recognized at the city of Modesto swearing in ceremony held on December 19, 2007.

Councilman Dunbar was born in Terre Haute, Indiana and attended Indiana University and Indiana State University where he received a bachelor of science degree in speech and drama with a minor in political science. After moving to southern California he attended University of Redlands, University of California in Riverside and California State University, Fullerton and received a master of science degree in public school administration with a minor in political science and urban politics. This was the beginning of Councilman Dunbar's first career as a teacher.

Before Councilman Dunbar was an elected official, he worked in the public school system. He began by teaching high school and junior high school. He moved to Merced, California, in 1972 to pursue a position with the Merced Union High School District. He held various positions within the district, including; dean of boys, vice-principal and learning director. In 1980 he moved to Modesto, California to join the Sylvan Union School District, where he became the principal of Somerset Junior High School. The school was named a "Top 100 Distinguished Junior High School" during his tenure. He was also the principal at Sylvan Elementary School, and was named the "Eighth District PTA Principal of the Year." While working for the school districts, he was also a part-time professor on various subjects at Merced Junior College, California State University, Stanislaus, St. Mary's College, and Chapman University. Councilman Dunbar retired from education in 2001 and moved onto more civic duties.

Councilman Dunbar served on the Planning Commission for the city of Merced for 2 years and on the Planning Commission for the city of Modesto for 7 years serving as the chairman for 2 of those years. He was elected to the Modesto City Council in 2003, and currently serves as vice chair of the Finance Committee. Throughout his lifetime he has served in many capacities; as a baseball coach, Boy Scout leader, Kiwanis leader, member of the board of directors for the Modesto chapter of the Red Cross, member of the Association of California School Administrators and Stanislaus Partners in Education.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Councilman Robert Dunbar upon his retirement from the Modesto City Council. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Councilman Dunbar many years of continued success.

HONORING BRAD L. HARNICK

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today and ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Brad L. Harnick upon his retirement from Michigan State University Extension for Genesee County. A reception for Brad was held on January 11th in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Brad began working for the Michigan State University Extension Service in 1978. He worked as the Genesee County 4-H Youth Development Program associate until 1990. At that time he became the 4-H Youth Development agent and Extension educator.

During his tenure he developed several programs to promote leadership, citizenship, achievement, and community service in young people and adult volunteers. He created the Citizenship Academy, the Adolescent Mentoring Program, and the Genesee After-School Program. He was a significant contributor to the development of the Capitol Experience Program, Exploration Days, and the Great Lakes Environmental Camp.

As the 4-H coordinator for Genesee County, Brad has instilled the four values of 4-H: head, heart, hands and health, into thousands of young people. He has brought the resources of Michigan State University Extension and the 4-H program into partnership with schools, churches, community groups and youth-serving organizations to enhance the advancement of young persons throughout Genesee County.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Brad L. Harnick for his service to our youth. His innovative programs have educated, his creativity has inspired, and his leadership has enhanced the lives of countless children. I am grateful that he devoted his life to giving life skills to the young people of Genesee County and I wish him the best for the future.

HONORING MERCY HOSPITAL CADILLAC ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS PUBLIC DEDICATION

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the founders, administrators, staff and supporters of Mercy Hospital Cadillac as they celebrate the 100th anniversary of the hospital's public dedication.

Madam Speaker, Mercy Hospital Cadillac has helped to ensure that the local community has remained healthy and productive since 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Delos F. and Esther Diggins started construction on a home for the sick in 1907 and entrusted it to the Sisters of Mercy in 1908. It admitted its first patient on January 15, 1908, and it was dedicated to its purpose by a reception to the public on January 20, 1908. It will be rededicated to its purpose during a public celebration on Sunday, January 20, 2008.

From 1908 to 1934 Mercy Hospital conducted a nursing program titled the "Mercy Hospital School of Nursing," which prepared young women for careers as skilled nurses. In 1952 the Mercy School of Practical Nursing was founded, and it educated 1,115 students before closing in 1985. It was ranked first or second by the Michigan Nursing Board in its last 16 years.

The hospital is currently engaged in an \$11 million capital campaign to modernize its facilities and invest in new technologies, which so far has provided it with the means to construct a 1,800-square-foot Obstetrical Unit, a new emergency department and a new radiology department. The initiative will build upon the hospital's successes and ensure that it has the best equipment, expertise and infrastructure.

Mercy Hospital Cadillac provides health care services to more than 60,000 residents across four counties, and with more than 600 employees is one of the area's largest employers.

Madam Speaker, Mercy Hospital Cadillac has contributed greatly to its community by continuing the legacy of Mr. and Mrs. Diggins and is deserving of the recognition of the U.S. House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING THE LEWISVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR RECEIVING AN AA+ BOND RATING FOR 2007

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the City of Lewisville's Independent School District. The Lewisville Independent School District has received an AA+ bond rating for 2007.

District officials apply for the ratings each year, which are granted by Standard and Poor's Corporation of New York. Lewisville is the only district in Texas, and one of three districts in the Nation, to receive such a rating this year.

The Lewisville Independent School District has demonstrated a strong aptitude for increasing fund balances while responding to modifications in State funding policies. The AA+ rating is an improvement from the district's AA rating in 2006.

The Lewisville Independent School District has managed to increase its bond rating from AA- to AA+ in two years, despite statewide school finance issues. State funding policies have been changed multiple times throughout the last decade, and Lewisville has positively modified its spending practices each time in response.

I extend my sincerest congratulations to the City of Lewisville and the Lewisville Independent School District. It is my hope that they will continue to be as fiscally responsible and resourceful as they have proven themselves to be in the past. It is my honor to represent them in the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING GENEVA MAE SMITH

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause and ask you to join me in recognizing Geneva Mae Smith of Gladstone, MO. Geneva celebrated her 100th birthday on January 9, 2008, and it is my privilege to offer her my warmest regards on achieving this important milestone.

Geneva Mae Richardson was born to Lille Mae and Lee Howard Richardson in Kansas City, KS, on January 9, 1908. Geneva was one of eight children born into the Richardson family. On October 11, 1924, Geneva married Chester Melvin Smith. Geneva and Chester had four children: Geneva Mae, Chester Melvin, Georgia Bea, and Frank Cooper. After

Geneva's parents passed away, she also cared for and raised her baby brother Glenn.

Chester and Geneva remained active in the community during their marriage by participating in Chester's Masonic Lodge and American War Dads. For 12 years Geneva was the national pianist for the American War Dads organization. After Chester's death Geneva remained active in American War Dads and other community organizations.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Geneva as she celebrates her 100th birthday. It is an honor to represent Geneva in the United States Congress, and I wish her the best of luck in the future.

HONORING ROBERT CRAWFORD

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Robert Crawford, for his retirement and years of dedicated service to the citizens of Berkeley County.

"Bob," as he is better known to his friends and colleagues, has served as the executive director of the Berkeley County Development Authority since March 1990.

During his tenure, he has experienced the many changes Berkeley County has undergone in the past 18 years as it transformed from a small rural county to a bustling bedroom community of the Washington, DC metro area. Bob has worked tirelessly to assure that all the needs of the county were sufficiently met despite surging growth and infrastructure challenges.

As executive director of the Berkeley County Development Authority, Bob has been involved with the development of the two major industrial parks; Cumbo Yard Industrial Park and Tabler Station Business Park. He also played a major role in recruiting industries to the area that serve as the county's major employers.

It is an honor to congratulate such a distinguished public servant for his years of service and contributions to Berkeley County and the State of West Virginia. I'm proud to call Bob a friend and fellow West Virginian. I wish him all the best in the years to come.

HONORING SAMUEL ARTHUR FRIEDMAN

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Professor Samuel Arthur Friedman for his devotion and extensive contributions to the science and literature of geology.

As a leading authority on coal geology and resources, Professor Friedman developed his passion early on earning his undergraduate degree from Brooklyn College, a master's in geology from Ohio State University along with completing graduate work in geology at Indiana University and the University of Tennessee.