

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

**HONORING ESSIE MAE REED
DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Essie Mae Reed of Tampa, Florida. Ms. Reed devoted her life to the poor and underprivileged in Tampa. She became their voice.

Born in Savannah, Ms. Reed moved to Tampa as a child. For decades she was the representative for Central Park Village housing project families. Ms. Reed's eagerness to help others stretched beyond her closest neighbors. Her role as Central Park Village's spokeswoman began in 1967 when she created the Tenant's Association to represent the nearly 4,000 families in public housing in Tampa. She served the Association without pay and worked as a housekeeper to make money for her family. She fought for a Boys & Girls Club in the housing complex. She took children to Hillsborough Community College on the weekends for enrichment activities. She publicized the unsanitary conditions and had hot water heaters installed in the apartments so residents could shower in warm water. She ensured children received lunch at school. But her biggest accomplishment was overturning the policy excluding single mothers from being allowed to live in public housing.

In 1971, Ms. Reed ran for Tampa City Council. She was the first black woman ever to run, and when they charged her a substantial qualifying fee, she sued the city to have the fee waived. The federal district court ruled that the fee was unconstitutional because it excluded some candidates on the basis of socioeconomic status.

Madam Speaker, Essie Mae Reed is a Tampa treasure. She stood up for so many that didn't have a voice and improved lives throughout my community. She is an example that people, individuals, are capable of performing enormous feats. Ms. Reed didn't learn to read until she was 40, and she said it best: "People thought we was nobody because of living in the slums, but we could all be something given an opportunity."

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS, A MEMBER OF THE 2006-2007 PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of North Texas for being recognized as a member of the President's Honor Roll for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Launched in 2006, the President's Honor Roll recognizes institutions of higher education

all across the Nation that support innovative, effective, and exemplary community service programs. Honorees for the award were selected based on a series of factors, including scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers service-learning courses.

In congratulating the winners, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings said, "Americans rely on our higher education system to prepare students for citizenship and the workforce. We look to institutions like these to provide leadership in partnering with local schools to shape the civic, democratic and economic future of our country."

The Honor Roll is jointly sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service, through its Learn and Serve America program, and the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA Freedom Corps, Campus Compact, and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

It is my honor to represent a university that shows such hard work and dedication to their local community. I strongly believe in the philanthropic efforts of those who volunteer and give their time and resources to help others. I extend my sincerest congratulations to the University of North Texas, as well as their fine students, faculty, and staff. It truly is an honor to represent such extraordinary citizens in the 26th District of Texas, and I look forward to the positive impact these students will inevitably have on our Nation's future.

PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF H. RES. 979, RECOMMENDING THAT HARRIET MIERS AND JOSHUA BOLTEN BE FOUND IN CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS, AND ADOPTION OF H. RES. 980, AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY TO INITIATE OR INTERVENE IN JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS TO ENFORCE CERTAIN SUBPOENAS

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday February 14, 2008

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 982, yet I feel a great sense of disappointment that Congress has been put in the position to take such action. This resolution recommends that the U.S. House of Representatives finds White House Chief of Staff Joshua Bolten and former White House Counsel Harriet Miers in contempt of Congress for refusal to comply with subpoenas issued by the Committee on the Judiciary. Furthermore, H. Res. 982 authorizes the Committee on the Judiciary to initiate or intervene in judicial proceedings to enforce certain subpoenas.

Over the past year, Congress has been investigating the firing of U.S. Attorneys by former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales based on what appears to be purely political grounds. Congress has been investigating with the intent of exposing any wrongdoing and to restore integrity and transparency to the Jus-

tice Department. Clearly, Congress and the American people will not tolerate an Attorney General, our Nation's top law enforcement officer, politicizing the conduct of the Department of Justice. Congress and the American people have the right to know what role Bush administration officials have played in the dismissal of these Federal prosecutors—including the former U.S. Attorney for Minnesota.

In July of 2007, Congress subpoenaed Mr. Bolten and Ms. Miers after previous requests for information from them had been denied. At the direction of the White House, Mr. Bolten and Ms. Miers refused to comply with the Congressional subpoenas. They cited executive privilege in an apparent attempt to avoid answering questions under oath as to their involvement and their knowledge of the involvement of others in the firing of the U.S. Attorneys.

Now, Congress has decided it must hold Mr. Bolten and Ms. Miers responsible for their failure to appear. A subpoena from Congress is not to be ignored. Their decision to dismiss the Congressional subpoena like a piece of junk mail is regrettable and has serious consequences as H. Res. 982 demonstrates.

The Executive Branch—regardless of occupant of the White House—must be held accountable by both Congress and the American people. The Bush administration too often forgets that Congress is a co-equal branch of government and deserves open and honest cooperation when conducting oversight duties. H. Res. 982 reflects the House of Representatives' frustration with the conduct of this White House in impeding legitimate oversight and I strongly support the passage of this resolution.

HONORING PATSY AND FRED PATTERSON FOR THEIR SERVICE TO DENTON, TX, AND TEXAS WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Patsy and Fred Patterson of Denton, Texas, for their exceptional service to the community of Denton and to Texas Women's University. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have been awarded the 2008 Texas Women's University Founders Award.

With a more than 50-year history of community activism in Denton, Patsy and Fred Patterson have established themselves as committed leaders in promoting the city, its events and organizations, and its universities.

Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have had leadership roles with several Denton community organizations, including the Denton Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Denton Arts Council, the Denton Community Theatre, the Denton Public School Foundation and the United Way of Denton.

One of my heroes, President Ronald Reagan, often spoke about the importance of community service to everyday life in America. He once said voluntary service is like "a spirit that flows like a deep and mighty river through the history of our Nation." Patsy and Fred Patterson and their tireless work are part of this rich history.

The Texas Women's University Founders Award was first presented in 1998 to honor organizations and individuals who have supported Texas Women's University. Patsy and Fred Patterson are more than deserving of the Texas Women's University Founders Award and I am honored to represent them in the 26th District of Texas. I am proud to recognize these exceptional individuals who have given so much back to their community.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN TOM LANTOS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I insert in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a statement by former Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Stuart Eizenstat in honor of our late Chairman Tom Lantos.

STATEMENT OF STUART EIZENSTAT

I first met Tom Lantos during the 1976 Jimmy Carter presidential campaign for which I served as policy director, when Tom took a leave of absence from his teaching position in California to volunteer with the campaign. He was a great asset in helping develop our foreign policy, particularly on the Middle East. His brilliance, his intellectual integrity, and honesty made an immediate impression on me.

His Holocaust experience, as a Holocaust survivor, created an indelible link between us. From our first meeting in 1976 throughout his public career, he was a passionate and unwavering supporter of Israel and the need for peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors. He saw Israel as a Jewish State created out of the ashes of the Holocaust and the best guarantor against threats to the Jewish people. During the Clinton Administration, in which I held a number of senior positions including Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State on Holocaust-Era Issues, no Member of Congress was a stronger supporter of my efforts on behalf of the Administration to bring justice to survivors of the Holocaust and to the families of its victims.

Tom was also one of the earliest and strongest supporters in Congress for freedom for Jews in the then Soviet Union.

His Holocaust experience was reflected in a number of additional activities. He was one of the strongest supporters of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, which we created with bipartisan support at the end of the Carter Administration. He was personally responsible for naming the street on which the Museum sits as Raoul Wallenberg Place, named after the person who saved his life and his wife Annette's, following the Nazi occupation of their native Hungary in 1944. He never forgot what Raoul Wallenberg had done for them and for thousands of other Jews, and was an indefatigable champion of trying to get the Soviet Union and later Russia to provide an honest accounting of the circumstances around Wallenberg's death.

His Holocaust experience also taught him the importance of human rights around the world. He was the founder and co-chairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, shining a spotlight on human rights violations around the world, most recently in Darfur.

Tom's legacy of support for human rights, his strong opposition to regimes which

threaten western values, the numerous actions he took to strengthen U.S.-Israel relations mark Tom Lantos as one of the most influential and important Members of Congress in our generation. He was a dear friend and a great and good man.

HONORING THE DENTON, TEXAS
LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN
AMERICAN CITIZENS COUNCIL
#4366

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the League of United Latin American Citizens Council #4366 in Denton, Texas. This group is being recognized by Texas Women's University as a 2008 Texas Women's University Founders Award recipient.

The Denton LULAC Council #4366 was established in 1981 under the leadership of charter president Frank Devila and 10 other Denton community leaders. Today, members serve on a number of Denton boards and committees, including the Denton Hispanic Chamber of Commerce as well as the committees for the Cinco de Mayo, Cena en el Barrio and Fiesta on the Square celebrations.

For more than five years, the Denton LULAC Council #4366 has partnered with Texas Women's University to award scholarships to deserving Hispanic students in the North Texas area. Since 2002, the organization has awarded scholarships to 13 Hispanic students at Texas Women's University.

Chancellor of Texas Women's University, Ann Stuart, has said that the university is fortunate to have partners such as Denton LULAC join them in their mission of educating the State's future leaders.

The Texas Women's University Founders Award is presented to honor organizations and individuals who have supported Texas Women's University. I am proud to honor the Denton LULAC Council #4366. This group of dedicated and service-oriented individuals is very deserving of this award, and I am proud to represent these citizens in the 26th Congressional District of Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE TEXAS ACADEMY OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young students of the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science team, one of five finalists in the Junior Engineering Technical Society/AbilityOne National Engineering Design Challenge. The team, coached by Scott Grant, consists of students participating in a two-year program through the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas.

At the final competition, which took place in Washington, DC on February 15 and 16, 2008, the five finalist teams were allowed to present their refined prototypes. The Texas

Academy of Mathematics and Science team's invention was the "Ergonomic Spool Assembly System," or eSAS, which is a table that combines adjustable height and incline to allow workers in wheelchairs to manufacture spools easily.

The eSAS was one of two second place finishers and received the award for "Outstanding Assistive Technology Design." Second place finishers won \$1,500 to go towards their school's sponsoring departments. The team received two other awards for the eSAS, "Best Presentation" and "Best Application of Rehabilitation Engineering Design Principles."

The Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science team was one of 250 teams who initially entered the competition in September of 2007. The annual competition offers high school students an opportunity to improve the lives of people with severe disabilities through assistive technology.

The Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science is an early-admission program that provides an accelerated education for bright, motivated Texas high school students who have demonstrated an interest in pursuing careers in mathematics and science. Students in this two-year program complete a rigorous academic curriculum of college coursework at the University of North Texas.

Madam Speaker, I believe these students should be recognized not only for being participants in this prestigious program, but also for their outstanding accomplishments in the Junior Engineering Technical Society/AbilityOne National Engineering Design Challenge. I am proud to represent these talented and accomplished young men and women in the 26th District of Texas, and I look forward to the positive impact these students will have on the North Texas community.

IN MEMORY OF WAYNE FERGUSON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give tribute to Wayne Ferguson, a former mayor, council member and land developer from the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for his lifelong contributions to his community and to his fellow citizens. Mr. Ferguson passed away at the Medical Center of Lewisville on February 25, 2008.

Mr. Ferguson served on the Lewisville City Council and also as Mayor of Lewisville, Texas in the late 1970s and early 1980s. He went on to serve as the board chairman of the Medical Center of Lewisville, working tirelessly to constantly improve the hospital to meet the needs of the growing community. His never-ending devotion to the city of Lewisville led to his service on multiple other boards and committees, including the city's Tourism Committee and various advisory boards for the Lewisville Police Department. He was a strong supporter of the Lewisville Chamber of Commerce, maintaining close personal and professional relationships with many of the city's leaders. Mr. Ferguson was voted Citizen of the Year in 1989.

Mr. Ferguson has been a constant ally and advocate of the Lewisville Economic Development Foundation. He was extremely influential