

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

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on the following legislative measures on March 31, 2008. If I were present for rollcall votes, I would have voted "yea" on each of the following bills:

Roll No. 147, March 31, 2008: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended: H.R. 3352, To reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act, and for other purposes.

Roll No. 148, March 31, 2008: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended: H.R. 2675, To provide for the conveyance of approximately 140 acres of land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes.

Roll No. 149, March 31, 2008: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree: H. Con. Res. 302, Supporting the observance of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and for other purposes.

HONORING ANNA ETHEL LOUISE MOORE PORTER AND CORDEN PORTER

### HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on April 8, 2008, Anna Ethel Louise Moore Porter will celebrate her 100th birthday. I would like to not only recognize this incredible milestone in Mrs. Porter's life, but also reflect upon all that she and her late husband, Corden Porter, have accomplished in their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Porter have given so much to the Jeffersonville community, and for that, I am eternally grateful.

The young Porter couple moved to Jeffersonville, Indiana, in 1928. Corden Porter's daughter described his life as "spent trying to overcome poverty and racial segregation." And, Mrs. Porter was always at his side, always supporting this mission.

Mr. Porter had a distinguished career as a long-time educator at Taylor High School in Jeffersonville. First a teacher, then a principal, Mr. Porter worked at Taylor High School from 1928–1952. Because of his position at the high school and well-regarded intellect, most of the Porter's friends and neighbors referred to him as "Doc Porter." He was an unparalleled leader in the African-American community of Jeffersonville. Unfortunately, his life was cut much too short when he passed away in 1963.

Mrs. Porter was also a presence at Taylor High School, often serving as a substitute teacher. When not teaching, Mrs. Porter was known to collect donations for the local Red

Cross and give piano lessons. She and her husband were very active in their church—Wesley Memorial Methodist Church. Mrs. Porter has been awarded two Guiding Light Awards as an outstanding person in the Jeffersonville African-American community. What she most often speaks about, however, is her family. The Porters have five children, 16 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and nine great-great grandchildren.

Happy birthday Mrs. Porter and thank you for giving so much back to the Southern Indiana community during your 100 years.

#### TRIBUTE TO THIRD DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNSEL

### SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, last fall I invited high school students living in the Third Congressional District to join the Congressional Youth Advisory Counsel. The goal of the CYAC is to foster civic involvement and to encourage students to unleash their passions for America. Each meeting, they exceed my expectations and make me hopeful for the future.

The students who serve on the CYAC represent the best and the brightest in North Texas. Students are leaders, athletes, musicians, volunteers, and activists. They are the voice of their generation to Congress. They make a difference at each meeting and I'm proud of them.

For this year's community project, students interviewed a veteran and wrote an essay. The summary of each submitted essay follows.

It is my hope that some day the Congressional Youth Advisory Council will be associated with excellence and one of our highest standards of civic pride for young people in North Texas. I commend the students for volunteering their time on the Congressional Youth Advisory Council. Without a doubt, every student will continue to play an important role in our community for decades to come, and that America and North Texas, will continue to benefit from their dedication, smarts, and service.

To the members of the 2007–2008 Congressional Youth Advisory Council . . . Thank you. I salute you; God Bless You and God Bless America.

A twenty-six year old when the Korean War began, Seung Sik Kim was already a member of the armed forces. He had received education at the PoByungGamBoo Artillery School, from which he graduated as Class President. When the Korean War began, Kim was a Second Lieutenant who served in the field artillery service branch, and he was eventually promoted to the rank of Captain. His instructors consisted of General Kim Suk Won, Commander Shin In Gyoon, and Commander Kim Kae Won, who would later become a Secretary on the South Korean President's Cabinet. Kim and his unit played major roles in the incident at Ohdae Mountain in North Korea, where he starved for three days, and in the fight against the Chinese in the city Dukchun of the North Korean state Pyongnamdo. Although his unit was pushed back at first, he and his fel-

low soldiers participated actively in strategically combating the North Koreans. This experience of interviewing a veteran and collecting and preserving his story has opened my eyes to and greatly increased my respect for the honorary members of our community who served for a cause and acted for remoter ends, for higher good, and for interests other than their own.—Susie Choi

The purpose of the Veterans History Project is to collect and archive the personal recollections of U.S. military veterans, which is a way of honoring their service and sharing their stories with current and future generations. Veterans of the United States military have demonstrated tremendous courage and heroism and made untold sacrifices in the service of our country to preserve freedom. Each veteran has a story that is unique, and of historical significance. The legacy of these men and women must be preserved. As I interviewed U.S. Army veteran: Specialist Joe White, I realized that veteran's stories must be told and preserved. I have gained the knowledge that the history of our veterans is vanishing rapidly. I have learnt the more eyes and ears we have around our country meeting with veterans, the more of this priceless information we are going to save. Sharing stories and gathering reminiscences had an immediate impact on me and the interviewee. Specialist White took away a sense of pride in his contribution to preserving freedom around the world. His accomplishments while in the U.S. Army will forever be archived in the annals of U.S. history. Like most military veterans, Specialist White may have not been in combat, won a battle or firefight; but his contribution to freedom throughout the world has been immeasurable and lasting.—Derek Guckes

I met Mr. James Marberry through a friend of my father. Previously, I had been taking flight lessons for nearly seven years, and just recently needed a more schedule friendly instructor, and we found Mr. Marberry as the best answer. So, for the past 2½ months, Mr. Marberry has been my flight instructor. I began in Mid-December taking lessons from a laid-back, thorough man that I knew hardly anything about. As time progressed, and he told me stories of experiences he's had in his over forty years of flying, I continually became more intrigued. When I received this project from the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, I could think of only a few individuals that I was truly interested in interviewing and Mr. Marberry was one of them.

This interview is the first time that he and I had a conversation in whose subject was not about flying. He mentioned to me how he thoroughly enjoyed bringing back those old memories, and I likewise was elated to hear of his experiences. Many of the interview questions that one might ask if interviewing a combat seen veteran didn't apply here, but I can personally assure that even the men such as Mr. (Private) Marberry who never saw combat will forever remember their times serving our great nation. Military service is an unforgettable part of one's life and we should continue to hold the men and women of our military in the highest honor, respect, and esteem.—Brandon Maso

Mr. Ridgell M. McKinney was living prosperous. He had an amazing wife, owned and lived on his own chicken farm and had a great job managing McKinney's downtown general store. He had all he wanted or needed. Then World War II came about, and in 1942 Mr. McKinney gave up his more than satisfactory life to go fight for our country. Mr. McKinney voluntarily joined the United States Air Force as a private and fought for three honorable years on a B-24 Liberator. Mr. McKinney trained all over the United States to be part of the ten man crew that

flew the largest war aircraft of that time. During those three years Mr. McKinney and his squadron successfully completed over 50 bombing missions. This was a major help in the winning of World War II, but if you ask me his real accomplishment was joining the armed forces in time of war and coming home alive against all the odds.

Interviewing Mr. McKinney has flipped my view on things inside and out. He is a remarkable man with many life lessons to teach. I have learned several. For example, he had no selfishness. Even though life was going great for him, he looked at it as his patriotic duty to leave all of it behind and go fight for his country. Because of this, I now have even more respect and admiration for all of those men and women who have served in the past or are currently in the service.

"And so, my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country." John F. Kennedy—Corbin Dowell Ringley

My name is James Garrett Tollette and I interviewed Captain Ralph Peter "Pete" Langenfeld on January 26, 2008. Pete enlisted with the Air Force in the summer of 1942 and saw active duty in January 1943 as a 2d lieutenant. Pete was assigned to the 785th Bombardment Squadron of the 466th Bombardment Group of the 8th Air Division stationed in England as a bombardier for a B-24 Liberator. His last day of service was on December 19, 1945. For two years, Pete also flew B-29 Bombers during the Korean War. He held the rank of Captain when he was discharged on April 14, 1951.

On August 24, 2006 he received the Distinguished Flying Cross with valor for his heroism on January 2, 1945. On his 31st combat mission over Remagen, Germany, one of the live 2,000-pound bombs on his B-24 Liberator did not release. Pete removed his parachute and oxygen mask so he could move to the open bomb bay and manually release the weapon. Interviewing Captain Langenfeld has been an incredible experience. To listen to the thrill and patriotism in his voice is contagious. It makes one realize how important history is and we do not want to lose these experiences.—Garrett Tollette

#### SUNSET MEMORIAL

#### HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

MR. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this body with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is April 2, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand—just today. That is more than the number of innocent American lives that were lost on September 11th, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,854 days since the travesty called Roe v. Wade was handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of our own children.

Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over their vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common.

They were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone. Each one of

them died a nameless and lonely death. And each of their mothers, whether she realizes it immediately or not, will never be the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever.

Yet even in the full glare of such tragedy, this generation clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims to date, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it is important for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves again of why we are really all here.

Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government."

The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says: "No state shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Mr. Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here. It is our sworn oath.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is that clarion Declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core self-evident truth. It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. It is who we are.

And yet Madam Speaker, another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection that we should have given them.

Madam Speaker, let me conclude in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard this sunset memorial tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies, that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express, and that 12,854 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that the America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust, is still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their babies than abortion on demand.

So tonight, Madam Speaker, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of the innocent unborn. May that be the day we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect the least of these, our tiny American brothers and sisters, from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is April 2, 2008—12,854 days since Roe v. Wade first stained the foundation of this nation with the blood of its own children—this, in the land of free and the home of the brave.

BROOKE KING

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

MR. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brooke King who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brooke King is a student at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Brooke King is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Brooke King for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING MYKEILA MAST FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

#### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

MR. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Mykeila Mast showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Mykeila Mast was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Mykeila Mast always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Mykeila Mast on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

#### HONORING TAYLOR HALL

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 2, 2008*

MR. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Taylor Hall, 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 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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