

regulations, which have reduced the Tibetans' economic opportunity and have eliminated their cultural identity.

On March 10, 2008, Tibetan Buddhist monks staged peaceful demonstrations in recognition of the 49th anniversary of Chinese rule over Tibet and the forced exile of the Dalai Lama. In reaction to the protests, the Government of China used excessive force that resulted in the death of hundreds and detention of thousands of Tibetans.

It is time for the Chinese Government to talk with the Dalai Lama to reconcile their differences so that the Tibetans will no longer resent the Chinese and they can live peacefully together.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, had I been present for the vote on H.R. 5472 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2650 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, as the "Julia M. Carson Post Office Building," I would have voted in the affirmative.

TRIBUTE TO SANTINE FARACI CATALINO ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Santine Faraci Catalino on her 100th birthday on April 13, 2008. 100 years is quite an accomplishment!

Santine Catalino has lived an extraordinary life. As a child, Santine worked countless hours on her family's fruit farm. During World War II, she was a welder in a defense plant. For 30 years she managed the family construction business. A fantastic cook, she lives in her own home, and attended bingo three times a week with her younger sister, who is 94, until just three years ago.

Santine is sharp as a tack. She enjoys family around her and telling stories of her youth.

Santine attributes her longevity to eating freshly prepared food all her life, a great deal of chocolate, and never drinking. She even quit smoking 50 years ago!

Madam Speaker, please join with me in congratulating Santine Catalino on her extraordinary 100 years. I wish her many more wonderful years with her family.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF KATHLEEN HUDSON GAUT

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with the Honorable MIKE ROGERS of

Michigan to recognize the life of Kathleen Hudson Gaut of St. Joseph, Michigan who passed away on January 7, 2008.

Kathleen was a loving, selfless woman who will be greatly missed in her community. Nothing made Kay happier than being with her large family who is spread out from coast to coast. Kay also had the enviable ability to make the life of anyone she encountered about town a little bit better that day.

Born March 12, 1926, in Kalamazoo, Kathleen completed grade and high school at Western Michigan (then) College. Recognized in grade school for her athleticism, her interest in high school focused on music, culminating as drum majorette and band master. She completed her education at Kalamazoo Business College, and then went on to a career at Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment (KVP) Corp. In 1970 she was married to a childhood friend, and with her children they came to Stevensville, to be near the lake she had loved as a child. In 1983, Kay and her husband moved to Baroda where they created Senior Life Manor, a foster care home. Retiring 10 years later, they returned to Stevensville, and later to their present home in St. Joseph Township. Kay is survived by her husband of 37 years, Dell; five children. Susan (Robert) Vandervliet of Mineral, Virginia, Thomas (Rhonda) Rabbers of St. Joseph, James (Mary) Rabbers of Stevensville, Jodi Rabbers of Arlington, Texas, and Daniel (Diana) Rabbers of Peoria, Arizona; a step-son, Dale (Jackie) Gaut of Hudsonville, MI; 12 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Kay's mother and father, Harold and Doris Hudson, preceded her in death.

Therefore Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life of Kathleen Gaut. May she rest in peace in heaven.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING CODY DENNISON FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION I STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Cody Dennison showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Cody Dennison was a supportive team player; and

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

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Cody Dennison on winning the Boys' Division I State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING JAMES THOMAS, JR.

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize James Kevin Thomas, Jr. of Liberty, Missouri. James is 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 1374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

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

A TRIBUTE TO BM1 ROBERT M. FLICKINGER

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor BM1 Robert M. Flickinger, recently named the 2007 Coast Guard Enlisted Person of the Year. Since the start of his Coast Guard career, he has risen through the ranks, attaining the rank of Boatswain's Mate 1, BM1, in June of 2004. During his course of duty, he has also served as a training petty officer and the Executive Petty Officer of Aids to Navigation Team Baltimore.

In the Coast Guard, it is said that the most versatile members of their operational teams are the boatswain's mates. BMs are capable of performing almost any task in boat operations and navigation, and supervise all personnel assigned to a ship's desk force. BMs can be found in nearly every duty station available throughout the United States and various locations overseas. They serve on every Coast Guard cutter, from harbor tugs to sea-going icebreakers. Additionally, BMs will often act as Federal law enforcement officers. BMs are officers-in-charge of many patrol boats, tugs, small craft, and small shore units including search and rescue stations and aids to navigation teams. BMs use their leadership and expertise to perform the missions of the Coast Guard, at sea and on shore.

As Executive Petty Officer of Aids to Navigation, ATON, Team Baltimore Boatswain's Mate First Class Robert Flickinger has continuously provided exceptional leadership and guidance to the crew he oversees. While engaged in over 100 ATON missions in the past year, his professionalism and assertive leadership have led to his unit's zero operational mishap rating. Boatswain's Mate First Class Flickinger is often described by his superior officers as "recruiting poster quality" due to his unsurpassed uniform appearance, military presence, and overall demeanor. His superiors

routinely rely on him to supervise or solve difficult problems and demanding situations. Boatswain's Mate First Class Flickinger consistently seeks to improve the quality and enjoyment of Coast Guard life with an uncommon commitment to the morale and welfare of others. These exceptional qualities are likely the reasons lie was given the title of 2007 Coast Guard Enlisted Person of the Year.

In addition to the prestigious Person of the Year Award, Boatswain's Mate First Class Flickinger has received several additional military awards. He is the recipient of the Commandant's Letter of Commendation, three Coast Guard Good Conduct Medals, and two Coast Guard Achievement Medals. He has also been presented with the Transportation 9–11 Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Medal.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor BM1 Robert M. Flickinger. His legacy as compassionate yet assertive leader will be remembered by his crewmates and superiors for years to come. It is with great pride that I congratulate Boatswain's Mate First Class Flickinger on his exemplary service to our Nation in the United States Coast Guard.

120TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TWIN OAKS ESTATE

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 29th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act and the 120th anniversary of the Twin Oaks estate in Washington, DC, a National Historic Site and the former residence of nine ambassadors from the Republic of China.

The Twin Oaks estate, located on Woodley Road in Northwest Washington, DC, is considered the largest privately-owned estate in the District of Columbia. The land upon which Twin Oaks rests belonged originally to Uriah Forrest, an American general in the Revolutionary War, a member of the first Continental Congress, and one of Maryland's first delegates to Congress. In 1888, the property was sold to Mr. Gardiner Green Hubbard, founder and first president of the National Geographic Society. Mr. Hubbard commissioned one of America's leading architects at the time, Richard Allen, to design and construct a 26-room house in the early Colonial (Georgian) Revival style. Mr. Hubbard's son-in-law, telephone inventor Alexander Graham Bell, once lived at the estate.

In 1937, the Twin Oaks estate was rented to the Government of the Republic of China, and in 1947 the property was formally sold to that Government. The estate remained in possession of the Republic of China Government after it moved to Taiwan at the end of the Chinese Civil War in 1949. From 1937 to 1978, the Twin Oaks estate was the official residence of nine Republic of China ambassadors, who used the estate for social gatherings and business meetings with senior members of the U.S. government and members of the diplomatic corps.

In late 1978, President Jimmy Carter announced that the United States would shift

diplomatic relations from the Republic of China to the People's Republic of China on January 1, 1979. Fearing that the People's Republic of China would claim ownership of all its assets in the United States, the Republic of China government in Taiwan asked Thomas G. Corcoran, Sr. to help arrange for the sale of the Twin Oaks estate to a private American civic organization, the Friends of Free China Association, co-chaired by Senator Barry Goldwater.

However, the passage of the Taiwan Relations Act, signed into law on April 10, 1979, rendered the transaction unnecessary and ensured that Twin Oaks would remain under ownership of the Republic of China.

Twin Oaks is an invaluable symbol of friendship between the peoples of the United States and Taiwan. Today let us honor the 120th anniversary of the Twin Oaks estate and the 29th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CAREER OF HAZEL HALEY

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of Polk County's beloved educator, Hazel Haley, who died on April 7, 2008.

Holding the record for the longest tenure of a Florida teacher, and thought to have been the longest-serving teacher in the country as well, Miss Haley dedicated 69 years of service to the classroom and to multiple-generations of Polk County families, including Florida Governor Lawton Chiles.

Polk County, and especially Lakeland High School—where Hazel taught for 67 years—has not only lost a dear friend, but an advocate, a mentor, and a community leader. Her legacy and memory lives on through the thousands of students lives she impacted. It is estimated that she taught 13,500 students, proving that one person can touch many lives. In addition, Florida Southern College and Polk Community College both award scholarship funds in her name.

A fan of crossword puzzles, episodes of "Law & Order," and all things Shakespeare, Hazel also had a passion for traveling. Living life to the fullest, in 1973 at the young age of 57, Hazel made it a goal to take two international trips each year. Hazel even managed to physically travel around the world, not just once, but twice. She considered herself the biggest Anglophile in the USA, and always found a way to work London into her itinerary.

Known for her sharp wit, frankness, and big heart, Hazel will long be remembered in the halls of Lakeland High School. Classroom 106—where she taught from 1953 to 2006—will forever retain the many lessons Hazel instilled in students of American and English Literature. In 1984, the Polk County School District honored Hazel's steadfast commitment to education officially naming the wing where her room was located as the "Hazel H. Haley Building."

There is no arguing the multitude of contributions Hazel conveyed to her students, her community, and her profession. Hazel's life is not one that we should mourn, but one that

we should commemorate for her genuine love of life she bestowed upon so many lives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ARMY SPECIALIST GREGORY B. RUNDELL

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember and honor the life and courage of U.S. Army Specialist Gregory B. Rundell. The 21-year-old, a native of North St. Paul, MN, was killed by hostile fire on March 26, 2008 while guarding a U.S. military base in Taji, north of Baghdad.

Specialist Rundell joined the Army in 2005 after graduating from North St. Paul High School in 2004. His expected year-long deployment to Iraq began last December for a tour of duty as a member of a Stryker armored vehicle unit. He was assigned to B Company, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

Rundell served his nation and his fellow soldiers with honor and with courage. His commitment to this noble service earned him the Bronze Star for meritorious service in Iraq, a Good Conduct Medal, a Combat Infantry Badge, and the infantry blue cord.

Rundell's desire to serve his nation and his State is an inspiration to his community. After his career in the U.S. Army, he planned to become a police officer because he wanted to help people. His mother, Joanne, describes her son standing "tall and brave" for others, and his sacrifice exemplifies his family's remarkable commitment to military service. His grandfather, uncle, and brother have all worn the uniform in service to our nation.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying the highest respect to Specialist Rundell and his family. He is a Minnesotan and American hero. His courage and sacrifice honors our nation. Specialist Rundell's parents as well as his brothers and sisters, Kyle, Wayne, Desiree, Andria, his many friends, and his comrades in Iraq have my deepest sympathies for their profound loss.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING LAVELLE SPIVEY FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION I STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

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

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

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Lavelle Spivey on winning the Boys' Division I State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous