

Served as Past President and currently serves as a Board member of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), where she focused on major regional concerns, including the establishment of a multi-modal public transportation system for the Los Angeles area.

Implemented the La Brea Green Belt as a major transportation artery in Los Angeles, as well as providing fire, flood, and landslide abatement.

Led on many environmental issues, including joining the City of San Francisco, calling on residents to turn off lights for an hour to conserve energy; urged the use of paper, rather than plastic bags; and pushed for the observance of America Recycle Day in Los Angeles County.

Spearheaded an effort in the County that resulted in a voluntary program for restaurants to eliminate trans fat.

On behalf of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, the State of California, and the County of Los Angeles, I want to thank Yvonne Brathwaite Burke for sharing her tremendous gifts with us for so many years. We believe Mrs. Burke is an impeccable inspiration to all young women who aspire to posts of leadership and public service. We offer our sincere gratitude to Mrs. Burke for her countless contributions throughout her phenomenal career. We join with her many co-workers, family, friends, and associates in wishing her health, happiness, and continued good fortune.

HONORING LENAPE MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker. I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of Lenape Middle School in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. This school has a long and notable history of educating Bucks County's youth as well as helping the greater community.

Lenape Middle School began its service to Bucks County when it opened on September 4, 1957. Originally serving all of Central Bucks School District, Lenape Middle School now educates students living in Doylestown, Doylestown Township, and parts of New Britain Township. Despite being the smallest of the Central Bucks School District's middle schools, Lenape Middle School is proudly one of the most diverse schools in the district.

Lenape Middle School is also home to several important scholastic programs. Lenape serves as the regional school for various district special education programs as well as serving as the host school for all English as a Second Language students. In honor of its notable academic work, Lenape Middle School was named a "School to Watch" by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform in April 2007.

In addition, Lenape Middle School boasts distinguished participation in community service and outreach. Lenape is deeply involved in the 40 Assets project. This program seeks to recognize students for making a difference in the lives of one of their peers, teachers, or

neighbors. Also, Lenape students actively participate in various community service organizations such as Ponds for Kids, the Relay for Life, and Recycle 4 Relay Campaign.

Lenape Middle School is an exceptional example of an outstanding academic institution. The outstanding work of both Lenape's students and teachers significantly improves the Bucks County community. Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent Lenape Middle School and grateful for the opportunity to recognize Lenape's 50th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING SYDNEY SHRUM

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sydney Shrum on achieving the Girl Scout Gold Award. Receiving the Gold Award is a testament to Miss Shrum's leadership, citizenship, and service to her community.

For her Gold Award project, Sydney Shrum designed and painted a map of the United State of America on the sidewalk of Rockenbaugh Elementary School in Southlake, Texas.

The Girl Scouts of America promotes a positive influence for young women of today. I am honored to represent Sydney Shrum in earning the highest award bestowed in Girl Scouts. I commend her commitment and dedication for the betterment of her life, her community, and her country.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE HARLEM COMMONWEALTH COUNCIL AS THEY CELEBRATE 41 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HARLEM COMMUNITY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Since 1967, The Harlem Commonwealth Council has been dedicated to empowering the Harlem community through job creation and ownership of local commerce, industry and real estate. From the time of its humble beginnings, they have embarked in a mission to stimulate the overall economic development of Harlem through the creation of enterprises, generation of jobs, and improvement of services; and

Whereas, Today, The Harlem Commonwealth Council has continued to hold firm on its pledge to serve the Harlem community by implementing successful ventures and programs through the years that promote self-sufficiency amongst its citizenry and create stability in Harlem through economic development projects, academic empowerment, and entrepreneurial support; and

Whereas, Harlem Commonwealth Council has the distinction of having made historically significant contributions to its vibrant multicultural community in many instances without the financial support of governmental agencies or outside entities. Through a team of Harlem

professionals, community and business leaders, it continues to engineer new initiatives that will foster and sustain economic prosperity to Harlem's residents and businesses; and

Whereas, Leading the way towards the future of the Harlem Commonwealth Council is none other than the distinguished Harlem veterinarian Dr. Joseph L. Tait. While pursuing Veterinary goals, he became a Director in the Commonwealth Holding Company, Inc. Board. Through hard work and perseverance he gained the confidence of his peers who elevated him to the position of Chairman of The Council and ultimately the President and CEO. As President, Dr. Tait has shifted the focus to include reaching out to the young people of our community to offer opportunities for growth professionally and educationally; and

Whereas, As the Harlem Commonwealth Council celebrates forty-one years of service to the Harlem community, it is important to note that when the world had given up on Harlem and urban communities like it nationwide, HCC and other community based organizations, business owners and residents did not. They continue to serve as a shining example of what people can accomplish when they are dedicated to a vision and work together to realize it; and

Resolved, That along with all the residents in the 15th Congressional District of New York, I congratulate The Harlem Commonwealth Council on their forty-first anniversary. Through their unwavering efforts to secure the future of the Harlem community, The Harlem Commonwealth Council has contributed to the effervescent Harlem of today.

TRIBUTE TO ANZELLA K. NELMS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to recognize and honor a dedicated public servant, Anzella K. Nelms who is retiring from the position of State District Deputy Superintendent of the Newark Public Schools. Ms. Nelms' journey to this post encompassed many levels including classroom teacher, vice principal and principal. As a result of these experiences, Ms. Nelms was definitely in a position to make a difference in the lives of our most precious resources, our children.

An accomplished student herself, having attended school in her native Raleigh, North Carolina, Anzella Nelms sought to ensure that Newark's school children received a quality education. Her dramatic influence can be seen at Camden Middle School where she served as principal from 1979 to 1989 and helped to develop a national model for school effectiveness. It can also be seen in the 16 "Theme Schools" she began within her School Leadership Team while serving as Assistant Superintendent. Fortunately, for those who had the opportunity to work with her, Ms. Nelms was generous with sharing her knowledge and her significant leadership skills.

As Ms. Nelms retires, she will be remembered for her belief in the needs of the total child along with her other accomplishments. She started a tennis program and encouraged fine arts within the schools. She is an excellent role model as well as the consummate professional. Her elegance and charm are as integral to her being as her love for learning. Ms. Nelms has touched the lives of countless students, parents and administrators.

Quite appropriately, Ms. Nelms has received many awards, accolades and honors for her work in the Newark Public School System. I am truly grateful that she chose Newark as her system of choice because I know she had other options. As a former teacher, I know that to be in an educational environment is to serve with one's heart. Ms. Anzella Nelms has served with her heart since 1964 and in the process has created a memorable legacy.

Madam Speaker, I am sure my colleagues agree that Ms. Anzella Nelms deserves to be feted at a party in her honor on Friday, April 18, 2008, for her many years of dedicated service to the Newark community. I am proud to have had her in my Congressional district and wish her never-ending success in her future endeavors.

HONORING CHRISTIAN ALBERT McGRAIN

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Christian Albert McGrain, the first baby born in New Jersey in 2008. Christian was born 26 seconds after midnight on January 1, 2008 at St. Peters University Hospital in New Brunswick, NJ to proud parents Jacqueline Dempsey McGrain and Michael McGrain. Christian is the pride and joy of his grandparents Albert and Carol McGrain, Thomas K. and Gail Dempsey, and great-grandparents, Tom and Phyllis Dempsey.

Madam Speaker, the birth of Christian Albert McGrain, mere seconds after midnight on New Year's Day, is a cause for celebration. With Christian's timely birth, this is a year his family will always remember. I wish Christian and his family the very best in 2008.

RECOGNIZING SHANNON MICHAEL

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shannon Michael on achieving the Girl Scout Gold Award. Receiving the Gold Award is a testament to Miss Michael's leadership, citizenship, and service to her community.

For her Gold Award project, Shannon Michael organized volunteers from her church, Girl Scouts, and a senior center to donate baby supplies and materials to make baby blankets. Miss Michael then taught younger girls how to sew and knit the blankets which

were given to Metrocrest Social Services to distribute to needy families with babies.

The Girl Scouts of America promotes a positive influence for young women of today. I am honored to represent Shannon Michael in earning the highest award bestowed in Girl Scouts. I commend her commitment and dedication for the betterment of her life, her community, and her country.

JARED BRYAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jared Bryan who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jared Bryan is a student at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jared Bryan 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 Jared Bryan for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

HONORING TARAN RAY WINNIE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Taran Ray Winnie of Kearney, Missouri. Taran 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 397, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Taran has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Taran 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 Taran Ray Winnie for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MICHAEL T. LILLY

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Michael T. Lilly of Boise,

Idaho. Sergeant Lilly was killed on April 7, 2008 in Sadr City, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom when a rocket propelled grenade caused an explosion near Sergeant Lilly's position.

While serving the United States, Sergeant Lilly distinguished himself amongst fellow soldiers as an enthusiastic, patriotic soldier, passionately dedicated to serving his country and defending freedom abroad. Sgt. Lilly embodied high caliber leadership in keeping with the highest traditions and customs of the United States Army, and his guidance will be sorely missed by all of those with whom he served.

Sgt. Lilly was a graduate of Borah High School, a "Borah Lion." At the memorial service held in his honor, one of the speakers, former Boise Airport police chief and Borah grad Mike Johnson said, "Lilly had the heart of a Lion. Tonight, the Lion sleeps." There can be no finer tribute to this sterling young man.

I extend to his wonderful family my most sincere condolences and express my heartfelt appreciation for the brave men and women like Sgt. Lilly who have borne the hardships of battle and perished in the line of fire.

EQUAL PAY DAY

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I rise to call attention to Equal Pay Day.

This is the day when the average wages of a female worker catch up to the average wages of a male worker during the previous year.

That's right, the Equal Pay Act was signed into law by President Kennedy in 1963, yet here we are in 2008 and women still earn only 77 cents to every dollar a man earns.

When women earn less, their entire family suffers. When we allow women to be paid unequal wages for equal work, we as a society are tolerating discrimination. That is why we must take action to close the wage gap, and treat all workers equally.

Further compounding the difficulties that are faced by women and their families due to pay inequity, is the Supreme Court decision last year in Ledbetter v. Goodyear. The Court rules that a worker must file a charge of pay discrimination within 180 days of an employer's initial decision to pay someone less for discriminatory reasons. This clearly went against the intent of the Civil Rights Act and I was so proud that the House acted quickly to pass the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which provides more effective remedies to women who are not being paid equal wages for doing equal work.

This week, the Senate will consider this important legislation—how fitting that it occurs during the same week as Equal Pay Day?

I urge my colleagues in the Senate to pass the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act immediately and urge the President to sign it into law.