

absorbing an estimated 2 billion pounds of carbon dioxide. They will absorb 5 billion gallons of rainwater as well, and will eliminate or avoid the production of about 61 million pounds of air pollutants. Most important, they will save my constituents millions of dollars in energy costs, and will relieve SMUD from having to purchase expensive and dirty power during periods when demand is at its peak.

Madam Speaker, the benefits of strategically planted trees to the environment, to energy conservation, and even to public health are many, and the Federal Government certainly has a role to play in helping to encourage more utilities to utilize them. With this in mind, the Energy Conservation through Trees Act creates a grant program at the Department of Energy to help residential power providers institute targeted tree-planting initiatives dedicated to reducing residential energy consumption.

In order to qualify for financial assistance under this legislation, utilities must partner with local tree-planting organizations to serve as experts in the siting, planting, and care of the shade trees provided to homeowners. These tree-planting organizations must employ science-based guidelines to ensure that planted trees do not interfere with pre-existing solar panels, wind turbines, septic systems, building foundations, and other essential infrastructure. These guidelines are also meant to ensure that ecologically appropriate trees are distributed to homeowners.

Madam Speaker, the American people are concerned about our Nation's energy policy. They want us to take action to combat global warming. They are demanding relief from energy bills that continually rise year after year. Utilizing strategic planting of trees to increase energy conservation is a proven and reliable way for Congress to take action to address these concerns. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Energy Conservation through Trees Act. Doing so will send a strong signal to our constituents that we are taking steps today to create a more affordable and energy-conscious future for them.

RECOGNIZING SARAI INGRAM

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

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

For her Gold Award project, Sarai Ingram designed and provided a library of books for the Children's Room at the Battered Women's Foundation in Hurst, Texas. In addition, Miss Ingram helped care for the children while their mothers were receiving support at the center for themselves and their families.

The Girl Scouts of America promotes a positive influence for young women of today. I am honored to represent Sarai Ingram 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.

MADDIE HOLMES

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 Maddie Holmes who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Maddie Holmes is a senior at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Maddie Holmes 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 Maddie Holmes for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her high school career to her college career and future accomplishments.

HONORING ANDREW FORTIN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Fortin of Kansas City, Missouri. Andrew 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 260, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF THE BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GARDEN CITY

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share an inspirational story about a community coming together in a time of need. Like Americans across the country, Kansas families are burdened with the rising cost of fuel, healthcare, and other basic needs.

The Bible Christian Church of Garden City raised funds to help reduce the pain many Kansas families are facing at the pump by

lowering the price \$0.40 a gallon at a local Shell gas station. They allowed as many residents to participate in the event in 1 hour as possible. The turnout was so great that the hour was extended for those who waited in line throughout the hour and didn't make it through.

In addition to giving a discount on gas, Bible Christian Church held its third annual Community Day of Service. Many free services were provided in the church's Family Life Center, such as hair cuts for children; hearing, dental, and vision screenings; cancer screenings and bone marrow registry, along with free clothing.

I would like to recognize members of the Bible Christian Church, community physicians, and local residents for their time and efforts in their act of services to the Garden City community.

While Washington remains divided on ways to help the needy, it is small acts of generosity like this that our Nation can be proud of and encourage. Even the smallest deeds are a step in the right direction.

HONORING NORMAN MOORHEAD

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 extraordinary achievements of Mr. Norman Moorhead. Mr. Moorhead is being recognized by the Newtown Township Police Department, honoring his retirement from the force after 40 years of hard work and dedication to his community.

A longtime resident of Bucks County, Mr. Moorhead began his exceptional service to others in 1963. After graduating from Council Rock High School, Mr. Moorhead enlisted in the Air Force and began basic training that following September. During his time in the United States Air Force, Mr. Moorhead was trained as a Power Production Specialist. He used his specialized skills and knowledge and served for 18 months as part of a Vietnam support base in Okinawa, Japan.

Mr. Moorhead was honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1967. After, he returned to Bucks County he continued his work on behalf of our community. Mr. Moorhead joined the Newtown Township Police Department in 1968, beginning his decades-long commitment to improving the safety of Bucks County. Over the years, Mr. Moorhead established himself as an outstanding public servant, undertaking various special tasks necessary to keep the police department running.

Years later, as a sergeant for the Newtown Township Police, he worked to establish the Newtown Youth Aid Panel. The Youth Aid Panel is a volunteer organization established to help police officers with juvenile offenders and other related problems. In 1989, Mr. Moorhead was promoted to Captain and, in addition to his other responsibilities, he undertook the duties of planning various special events in Newtown, such as First Night, First Fourth, and local parades.

As his outstanding work and achievements show, Norman Moorhead dedicated his life to helping those in his community and beyond. Through his extensive efforts, Mr. Moorhead

has worked hard to make Bucks County a safer place. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Mr. Moorhead for his extraordinary accomplishments and outstanding service to his community.

HONORING OUR NATION'S IMMIGRANTS WITH MORE THAN JUST WORDS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, this week New York City does what many in our country should be doing everyday. Across 7 days and more than 100 events, the Big Apple celebrates the culture and achievements of the countless numbers of immigrants—past and present—who have come to our great country.

They come from numerous continents, and countries, in a variety of hues, each with their own distinct histories, descendants of cultures that pre-date our society sometimes four or five times over. Despite the obstacles, they manage to quickly prove themselves and contribute to their communities in a number of ways. They and their children, their lives now woven into the fabric of this Nation, find success and across a number of fields including academia, business, law, music, sports and politics.

Contrary to the hateful and divisive anti-immigration rhetoric that so open poisons our public discussion of the issue, the vast majority of immigrants are not a drain on our government or on our economy. They are in our military, in the reserves and on the battlefield, some even paying the ultimate price for their sacrifice of service. They more than hold their own weight economically by paying, according to the non-partisan Immigration Policy Center (IPC), more than 300 billion in federal, state and local taxes. They fuel our economy as both laborers and employers, locally generating more than 229 billion in New York State alone. That is a figure that represents more than 22 percent of the State's overall GDP, even though they represent a small percentage of the overall population.

I see it every time I walk in my district, every day I am visiting another town or city in our vast land. That their contributions have and continue to positively shape our lives should not come as a surprise. What should be the ways that we continue to treat them, many of them like second-class citizens.

Congress must lead the way in honoring this country's immigrant history by rewarding their hard efforts and their faith in the American Dream. The fact that it can take up to 20 years for a mother to see her brother or her child of more than 21 years is shameful. It's disrespectful to the generations who laid the foundation for American democracy at home and abroad that you could have more than a quarter million people shut out from voting this November, despite increased fees and promises of improved service. And it's an outrage that those who work hard to provide a stepping stone for their children to succeed can be easily deported because notices to appear in court get lost in the mail or because of a long ago misdemeanor that wouldn't even land a citizen behind bars.

The debate over the millions of undocumented immigrants who reside here should not confuse our support of those that we have agreed to welcome with open arms. If we can't do right by those who follow the current broken system, what expectation should we have that anyone would or should follow a reformed one, no matter how liberal or conservative a plan that is devised?

Soaring food prices, unattainable affordable housing, stagnant job opportunities, substandard and unaffordable education—these are issues that every family living in this Nation is facing. Whether they have been here for five generations or one, whether they speak one language or two, or whether it was man's cruelty or economic misfortune that forced them here in the first place.

There are no easy answers or perfect solutions. Yet, if we can remember our past and remember the values that bind us all together, we can overcome these challenges and position this Nation for renewed success. The strength of any nation lies not just in the might of its military, but in the spirit and ingenuity of its people. All of its people.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SMITHTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to rise in honor of a proud and long-serving institution of my district—on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Smithtown Fire Department.

I am privileged to represent the Town of Smithtown, along the western part of New York's first congressional district. Since 1908, this historic town was home to a small but very effective fire department, "The Smithtown Volunteer Hook and Ladder Company". Toward the end of its first year in service, it acquired two fire trucks, a chemical engine, and a hook and ladder truck. This began a century of protecting the people of Smithtown during which their outstanding service record has been defined time and again by bravery and efficiency.

From those humble beginnings grew a proud volunteer fire department that has expanded to its current 168 committed members. The single old firehouse on Bellemeade Avenue has expanded to a much larger main fire station headquarters on Elm Avenue and two satellite stations located on Plymouth Boulevard and Plaisted Avenue that respond to emergencies and keep the township safe.

During the fire department's century of service, Long Island's booming population has intensified the demands on the Smithtown Fire Department members. Still, they remain an all-volunteer and highly skilled force which frequently proves itself capable of heroism and selfless dedication to our community.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me once again in thanking those firefighters who continue to protect our families and communities and to extend our deepest gratitude to volunteers, like those intrepid men and women of the Smithtown Fire Department, on its 100th anniversary.

HONORING MR. DALE JIEH

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Dale Jieh the Congressional affairs chief at Taiwan's Embassy here in Washington.

Dale, like so many others at Taiwan's missions around the world, is among the hardest working diplomats in the world. Given Taiwan's unique position in the international community and the relentless efforts of China to shrink Taipei's diplomatic space, Taiwan's public officials face challenges that their counterparts from other countries do not, making their jobs more difficult.

Dale has been serving his country for nearly 20 years. His service has taken him to Belgium, Thailand, Chicago, and here to Washington, DC. And he will be leaving Washington soon for Taiwan's consulate in Kansas City.

Madam Speaker, I wish Dale and his family the best of luck in Kansas City.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BLUE SHOE PROJECT UPON ITS GRAMMY AWARD

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Blue Shoe Project, which recently won the best traditional blues album at the 50th Annual Grammy Awards Ceremony held on February 10, 2008. The Blue Shoe Project, dedicated to the preservation and advocacy of jazz music in the schools, deserves our congratulations for the Grammy Award and also for passing on the rich history of blues music to future generations.

A Colleyville, Texas based non-profit; the Blue Shoe Project was founded in 2005 by Jeff Dyson and his son, Michael Dyson. The Dyson's shared credit for recording the winning Grammy record, Last of the Great Mississippi Delta Bluesmen: Live in Dallas, performed by four legendary blues musicians: Henry James Townsend, Joe Willie "Pinetop" Perkins, Robert Lockwood, Jr. and David "Honeyboy" Edwards. The album was distributed by the Blue Shoe Project and Jeff and Michael served as executive producers.

The Blue Shoe Project helps spread the history, message and enjoyment of jazz to the schools and community at large. Jeff and Michael have dedicated themselves to the distribution of this uniquely American art form. To date, more than 20,000 students have experienced Blue Shoe Project presentations thus gaining countless followers of jazz music.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the Blue Shoe Project. It is with great pride I offer my congratulations to the Blue Shoe Project for its deserved award and preservation of our nation's heritage and culture.