

Over his 40-year career in education. Mr. Barnes taught generations of Tampa students about acceptance and understanding, and his efforts are well remembered by them today. As Olga Barnes, his wife of 45 years puts it. "The children fell in love with him, and he fell in love with them." Tampa Mayor Pam Iorio, Mr. Barnes' former student, considers him a role model and appointed him to the Tampa Sports Authority. Carlye Morgan, a member of my staff in DC, is a graduate of Plant and was a member of the Student Advisory Committee, a student club that Mr. Barnes started to promote race relations and leadership at the school. She remembers his capacity to bring students of all backgrounds together to work on common goals. "He gave me the chance to be a leader at my school and taught me the power of mutual respect and acceptance. And students knew he was the type of teacher they could always come to if they needed help."

Outside of school. Mr. Barnes loved to scour flea markets for jewelry. A pocket watch and antiques collector, neighbors and friends rarely saw him without a healthy dose of his latest finds glittering back at them. As a member of First Baptist Church of College Hill, his collection of African artifacts was always a hit with the congregation during Black History Month.

Madam Speaker. Al Barnes will be greatly missed by me and my community. Tampa is a more loving and accepting place because of his dedication to our children. My thoughts are with Olga, his children Alfred and Zane, and his grandchildren, Luisa, Angelita, Andy, Brian, Kayla, and Kelsey.

HONORING GREENE COUNTY

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday April 29, 2008

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Greene County and Greeneville, Tennessee. Both celebrated their 225th anniversary on April 26.

Greene County was originally formed by the North Carolina Legislature on April 26, 1783 and just two years later, it became part of the state of Tennessee during the split of the State of Franklin. Today it still shares the pristine mountains, abundant history, and rich culture that it did 225 years ago.

Greene County has become a thriving tourist destination with its abundant history and the many restorations throughout the county.

Located in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains, Greene County is one of the largest counties in Tennessee and hosts Greeneville, Tennessee's second oldest town.

Our 17th President, Andrew Johnson, who took the presidency after Abraham Lincoln, also calls Greene County home and is where he was finally laid to rest in 1875.

Celebrated hero, American folklore legend, and former Member of the United States House of Representatives, Davy Crockett was born in Greene County.

Tusculum College, which calls Greene County home, was founded in 1794 and is Tennessee's oldest college. Tusculum also is the oldest educational institution to be affiliated with the Presbyterian Church.

Greene County's Civil War ties are abundant and the county played a pivotal role in

the Civil War. The county was mostly made up of Unionist sympathizers and the Greeneville Convention of 1861 was Tennessee's largest and most important pro-Union meeting in the weeks prior to the Civil War. Furthermore, after the Confederate loss at the battle of Knoxville in 1863, General James Longstreet intended to stay the winter in Greeneville.

Greene County's historic production of burley tobacco led to prosperity in the late nineteenth century. After years of being one of the region's most important tobacco markets, the University of Tennessee Extension Service has invested in an experimental farm just outside of Greeneville which provides students with unique learning opportunities.

I would like to honor all who have had a hand in shaping the historic past of Greene County and those who will continue to shape Greene County for many years to come. Madam Speaker, as you can see, history, heritage, and culture are major characteristics of the First District, Greene County, and Greeneville. I ask my colleagues to honor and share Greene County and Greeneville's 225th anniversary celebration here today.

CONGRATULATING BRIDGER HIGH SCHOOL

HON. DENNIS R. REHBERG

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bridger High School of Bridger, Montana for their 2008 Grammy Signature School Enterprise Award. With this prestigious award for academic excellence in music, Bridger High School receives a \$5,000 grant to use for improvement in their music department. These funds will also help this school's music department improve the quality of their program to a level that will allow them to compete for Grammy Signature School status in years to come.

The Grammy Signature School program was created by the Grammy Foundation in 1998. Through a stringent application process that begins in September with notifying over 20,000 schools nation-wide each school year, public high schools from a variety of large, small, urban, and rural districts are encouraged to send information regarding each school's music program. After each application is reviewed, finalists are chosen and then required to submit additional documentation including recordings of school concerts and programs. The Grammy screening committee then reviews each finalist to determine the winners. Bridger High School is the first school in Montana history to win the Enterprise Award.

Bridger, Montana is a small agricultural community of approximately 750 residents located in south-central Montana. Bridger High School is part of a K-12 school with 199 students. The music department has one teacher, Mrs. Michel Sticka. Since Mrs. Sticka joined the staff six years ago, the music department has grown from a handful of students to the exceptional program it is today. The fact that Mrs. Sticka has built this music program from the ground up is phenomenal, especially considering the relatively small size of the school. Her music program consists of a high school

choir, band, pep band, and jazz band, as well as a junior high cadet jazz band, 5th grade band and 6th–8th grade music.

All Montanans can be proud of this outstanding contribution to music education. The hard work and dedication of Mrs. Sticka and her students is certainly well-deserving of the 2008 Grammy Signature School Enterprise Award.

I ask that Mrs. Michel Sticka, Bridger High School, and the high school music students be added in my comments today.

Music Teacher: Mrs. Michel Sticka

Superintendent: Mr. John Ballard

Students: Benton Asbury, Katryna Asbury, Samantha Bobby, Jon Bostwick, Devon Cabellero, Jenny Cooke, Jessica Denney, Karissa DeRudder, Sommer Dykstra, Rebekah Edelman, Hayden Forsythe, Hannah Goetz, Jacey Griswold, Elliott McCarthy, Forrest McCarthy, Kimberly McClurg, Heidi Mudd, Wendi Mudd, Taran Murray, Lenore Pierson, Cole Schwend, Edward Stevenson, Andrea Sticka, Bailee Vaughn, Ryan Witt, Kyla Young, Tyler Young, Brittany Zentner.

RECOGNIZING DARKNESS TO LIGHT OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA DURING NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as you know, April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about an organization in my home town of Charleston, South Carolina that was started just eight years ago to prevent one of the most horrific aspects of child abuse: child sexual abuse.

Statistics show that one in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused by the age of 18. Further, 90 percent of child sexual abuse offenders are in an authority position over the children they are abusing, making it difficult for children to speak out or confront the abuse.

Ms. Anne Lee of Charleston founded Darkness to Light™ in 1999 with the core belief that adults should be responsible for the care and protection of children. Darkness to Light seeks to reduce the incidence of child sexual abuse by shifting the responsibility from children to adults. Their Stewards of Children™ training program teaches adults to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. It was recently named "Crime Prevention Program of the Year" by the National Crime Prevention Association.

This training program is being utilized by youth-serving organizations, as well as individuals and businesses who want to respond to the epidemic nature of this problem. Darkness to Light also offers Stewards program in a fully interactive, on-line format.

To date, over 120,000 adults in 47 U.S. States and territories—as well as nine foreign countries—have completed the Stewards of Children training. I commend Anne Lee and all of her colleagues for creating this important child protection program, and I encourage you all to visit the Darkness to Light website at

www.D2L.org to get the necessary information to protect children from child sexual abuse.

HONORING THE EAGLE SCOUTS OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 10 OF LOWER MAKEFIELD

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 10 recipients who have achieved the rank of Eagle from Boy Scout Troop 10 in Lower Makefield, Pennsylvania. This troop has a long and notable history of improving Bucks County through various service projects and community outreach programs.

On May 4, 2008, 10 members of the Boy Scout Troop 10 will receive their Eagle Badge at the Troop's Eagle Court of Honor ceremony. Becoming an Eagle Scout is the highest honor a Boy Scout can receive and reflects the high expectations the Boy Scouts of America have of their members. Only about 5 percent of Boy Scouts will go on to receive their Eagle Scout rank. This award reflects proficiency in several areas such as leadership and outdoor skills as well as years of dedication and hard work serving one's community.

The dedication of Troop 10 to the principles of scouting is evident in the hard work and dedication the Scouts showed in completing their various Eagle Scout service projects. Max Lee Telsey, Assistant Quartermaster, worked on several construction projects to improve the Cornerstone Church in Philadelphia. Stuart Nyal Taylor, Senior Patrol Leader, restored a historically accurate fence at Pennsbury Manor. Benjamin Lawrence Caggia, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Troop Guide, spray painted house numbers on the street curbs for emergency service responders in the Heather Ridge and Yardley Run neighborhoods. Owen Lynn, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, assembled and delivered 346 meals for Aid for Friends. Jacob Robert Vandenburg, also an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, constructed a shelving unit for the American Red Cross's new Disaster Services readiness storage unit in Lower Bucks County. Jared Michael Slaweski, Troop Guide and Quartermaster, renovated a community nature trail and worked on bridge and sign construction for Lower Makefield Township. Ryan Mathew Bender, Quartermaster, designed and built an outdoor family recreation area at the Bucks County Housing Group. Andrew Maxwell Sing, Quartermaster and Troop Scribe, installed shelves in the childcare supply closet, reconditioned a resident bathroom and organized the donation room for the Levittown American Red Cross Shelter. Robert James Pennington, Troop Guide, reconditioned a community nature trail for Lower Makefield Township. Colin Steuart Johnston, Quartermaster, organized and collected \$1,500 worth of snacks for the healthy snack food drive for the American Red Cross of Lower Bucks County.

Boy Scout Troop 10 of Lower Makefield and its 10 recipients of the rank of Eagle are exceptional examples of how a group of dedicated individuals can truly better the lives of

those around them. The outstanding work of Troop 10 and the Eagle Scouts has significantly improved the Bucks County community. Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent Boy Scout Troop 10 and grateful for the opportunity to recognize those attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF NEW YORK ARTISTS EQUITY ASSOCIATION'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of New York Artists Equity Association (NYAEA), now celebrating its 60th anniversary.

NYAEA's advocacy for legislation on behalf of visual artists is matched only by its dedication to the development of the visual arts in our communities, placing the New York artistic world in the context of the larger society, as a necessary component that enriches all of our lives.

Significantly, the Association promotes emerging American and international artists in its Broome Street Gallery. In 2006, the organization established the Jacob and Gwendolyn Lawrence Awards Fund, which finances solo exhibitions for emerging and under-recognized artists. I had the pleasure of meeting Jacob Lawrence, a renowned artist and past president of NYAEA at their 50th anniversary celebration, when Al Hirschfeld honored me by putting both of us in one of his drawings.

Madam Speaker, I particularly commend NYAEA, under the leadership of its Executive Director, Regina Stewart, for supporting visual artists at a time when they receive no help from the government. The Association provides referrals, legal services, and health care to visual artists in need, helping to ensure economic stability for those artists who might otherwise be forced to abandon their talents due to economic difficulties. New York Artists Equity Association works to preserve endangered visual art work, helping to assure the survival of our rich artistic past.

I am proud that NYAEA is in my Congressional District, and that its work reaches far beyond my District to help visual artists in the larger community. I wish to thank the Association for all it has done to advocate for the visual arts, and I also want to thank one of the Association's Past Vice Presidents, Doris Wyman, who serves on my Arts Advisory Committee, for her tireless advocacy. Because of my on-going work with this fine organization and their leadership, I know of their constant efforts and I commend them.

For 60 years, NYAEA has been a passionate advocate for visual artists. I salute New York Artists Equity Association for helping to assure a stable artistic community—one that is, and always must be, recognized as vital to our heritage and culture.

HONORING THE RECORDING FOR THE BLIND AND DYSLEXIC FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate National Volunteers Week, I rise today to recognize the outstanding efforts of the Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic—a national non-profit, volunteer organization that, for 60 years, has been the leading producer of accessible education materials for students with disabilities. I would like to extend a special note of thanks and appreciation to the Connecticut chapter led by my good friend, Anne Fortunato.

"Education is a right, not a privilege." That was the mantra of Anne T. Macdonald, founder of the Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic. Shortly after the end of World War II, letters began flooding the New York Library's Women's Auxiliary from soldiers who had lost their sight during combat but were eager to move forward with their lives. The new GI bill guaranteed them a college education but among the many obstacles they faced was access to college textbooks. These veterans were hoping for any assistance the auxiliary could provide and they developed a creative solution that continues to benefit others today.

The women transformed the attic of the New York Library into a recording studio where volunteers began recording textbooks for the servicemen. In just 3 short years demand had grown so much the organization was incorporated as the Nation's only non-profit to record textbooks. The following year, Anne Macdonald traveled across the country to organize recording studios in other communities. Today, there are a total of 30 studios nationwide and the organization has expanded its mission to provide education materials for students of all ages coping with various disabilities.

One of those studios is the Connecticut unit located in New Haven which was established in 1959 and has since become a model for other communities. The Connecticut unit has been a leader for the organization since their inception. A testament to the quality of production, shortly after their establishment the Connecticut unit was selected by the national headquarters for a very special and prestigious project—the recording of the complete works of nine American authors including Samuel Clemens, Stephen Crane, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nathaniel Hawthorne, William Dean Howells, Washington Irving, Herman Melville, Henry David Thoreau, and Walt Whitman.

Today, the Connecticut unit specializes in the production of science and technology books. Led by Anne Fortunato, a respected advocate and distinguished leader in education, the Connecticut unit operates a studio with six soundproof booths and utilizes over 160 volunteers along with a small paid staff to record books for hundreds of Connecticut residents and thousands of people across the country. I have been a proud supporter of the Connecticut unit for more than a decade and it is always an honor for me to go to the studio each year to record pieces on their behalf.